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| <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 October – December 2010

January 2011

This report was prepared by John Staatz, Nango Dembélé, Abdramane Traoré, Abdoul Karim Murekezi, Duncan Boughton and Steve Longabaugh

Contacts:

In Mali: BPE 2906, Bamako, ACI 2000, Mali:
Niama Nango Dembélé (dembele@msu.edu; tel. +223-2022-3419)
Abdramane Traoré (draatra@msu.edu; tel. +2023-222-3419)

In the USA:

Dept of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan, 48824-1309
John Staatz (staatatz@msu.edu; tel. +1-517-355-1519)
Duncan Boughton (boughton@msu.edu; tel. +1-517- 432-6659)

Michigan State University
Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics
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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, October – December 2010

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

PROMISAM II, 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.

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 October – December 2011, by objective as well as by cross-cutting management, administrative, and outreach functions. **Major highlights** of the quarter included:

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

During the period October-December, 2011, PROMISAM pursued this project objective through the following activities:

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

- As part of the implementation plan for the CSA communication department, PROMISAM began running a number of activities including those related to public information on the National Food Security Strategy. Thus, November 29, 2010, a contract covering the implementation of an information campaign on the concepts of food security was agreed upon between PROMISAM and the CSA communication department. A 3.45 minute skit (in the national language Bamanan) was produced and aired 39 times on national television during the month of December 2010.

B. Marketing studies:

- A workshop was held in Segou on the 11th and 12th November 2010, to discuss the methodology for a rapid response survey on grain marketing flows in Mali. This workshop brought together the Regional Directors of Planning and Statistics, who are hired to complete the investigation, CSA representatives and PROMISAM, aiming to review the implementation of the reconnaissance survey plans. Thus, after the workshop, the proposed terms of reference were amended, the interview guide was developed, as well as the sample frame.
- In partnership with the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER), PROMISAM II continued the implementation of its farm-level production and marketing surveys, covering 450 households in three zones in Mali. During the period October-December 2010, PROMISAM II undertook the following activities with respect to farm-level surveys:
 - Continued to revise the working paper on cereal production and marketing patterns using RuralStruc dataset (covering the 2006/07 crop year) and the first round IER/MSU (covering the 2008/09 crop year) data;
 - Finalized data cleaning of the second round, covering the 2009/10 crop year of agricultural production survey;
 - Conducted data entry and develop cleaning techniques of round 3 of the survey that include the agricultural marketing and household income data for the 2009/10 cropping season;
 - Started preliminary analysis of the second round and third round of the farm-level production and marketing surveys.

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

- December 6, 2010, a workshop was held in Kayes to present the results of the monitoring and evaluation exercise reviewing the Kayes Region commune level plans.

The following key results were achieved by the municipalities:

| SUMMARY OF COMMUNE LEVEL RESULTS | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Commune | Implementation Rate (%) | | Reasons for Failure |
| | Physical | Financial | |
| Bema | 59 | 47 | Insufficient resources, over and under estimates of cost, etc... |
| Gomitradougou | 68 | 10.3 | Insufficient financial resources; non-compliance of some partners |
| Djidian | 75 | 11 | Insufficient resources, changed strategies, low PTF support |
| Troungoumbe | 86 | 26 | Insufficient resources, weak enforcement of road works |
| Krems | 66.67 | 142 | The undervaluation of the cost of: water supply (multiplied by 3.07), market garden wells (multiplied by 5.1) and the cereal bank (8.64 times), the overwhelming support from KFW |
| Commune Total | 69 | 34 | |

The feedback workshop held in Kayes on December 6, 2010, under the chairmanship of the Economic and Financial Affairs Adviser (representing the Governor), together with:

- Representative of the President of the Kayes Regional Assembly;
- Sous Préfets of the said communes;
- Advisory Councils Presidents of the concerned Cercles;
- municipal representatives including Mayors and General Secretaries;
- representatives of five women's organizations in Kayes;

At the end of workshop the following conclusions were reached:

1. The municipalities agreed to take into account all the shortcomings identified in the formulation of new food security plans, to further enhance awareness, participation, training/capacity building, and also putting emphasis on the budget framework.
2. The following recommendations were made:
 - strengthening the mobilization of internal resources;
 - enhanced allocation of resources consistent with food security objectives;
 - capitalization of all food safety interventions;
 - Given the very low PSA evaluation result of about 34% and major shortcomings observed concerning the pillar of “availability and accessibility”, the workshop recommends establishing an "Equipment Project and Building small scale food security infrastructure in the Kayes region." It will enable communities to mobilize more resources to support equipment, small processing units and management of hydro-agricultural and pastoral systems.
 - Collaboration with the CSA and its partners in developing new food security plans.

- December 21, 2010, a workshop was held in Mopti presenting the results of the monitoring and evaluation exercise reviewing the Mopti Region commune level plans. See the report at: http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/Synthese_evaluation_psa_mopti.pdf.

The assessment of Commune food security plans gave the following results:

| COMMUNE | FORECASTS | ACHIEVEMENTS | RATE (%) |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------|
| | (CFA francs'000) | (CFA francs'000) | |
| Dandoli | 369 500 | 378 603 | 102,5 |
| Madiama | 440 900 | 563 725 | 127,9 |
| Fatoma | 191 217 | 110 600 | 57,8 |
| Konna | 1 959 335 | 1 209 500 | 61,7 |
| Korombana | 480 500 | 286 600 | 59,6 |
| Commune Total | 3 441 452 | 2 549 028 | 74,1 |

The high rates of implementation recorded are due to large investments made from outside of the programs.

The workshop presenting the evaluation results was conducted on 21 December 2010 in Mopti. It was chaired by the Regional Governor Representative, Mr. Moumouni DAMANGO, Counsellor for Economic Affairs and Finance, in the presence of the Office of Food Security Representative, 1st Vice-President of the Mopti Regional Assembly. The PROMISAM Representative recorded the participation of representatives from the municipalities and cercles concerned as well as civil society organizations including:

- Sous-Préfets;
- Advisory Council Presidents;
- Mayors and Secretaries;
- Representatives of women's organizations in Mopti.

The workshop made the following recommendations:

1. further strengthening the capacities of elected officials and staff development for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of PSA;
 2. the establishment of an operational system of collection, processing and dissemination of municipal administrative statistics;
 3. boosting the Communal Orientation Committee for Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CCOCSAD);
 4. strengthening strategies for mobilizing available financial resources;
 5. the involvement of many actors in the process of developing the next PSA;
 6. wide dissemination of the PSA document;
 7. increased performance and a security of community archives;
 8. wide dissemination of the Food Safety Plan evaluation report with partners.
- December 22, 2010, Mopti, workshop presenting the results of the exercise of monitoring and evaluation plans of the Timbuktu and Gao regions. See the report: http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/Synthese_evaluation_psa_Tbtou.pdf

In the implementation of their food security plans, the following results were recorded by the local tests of the regions of Gao and Timbuktu:

| COMMUNES | FORECASTS | ACHIEVEMENT | RATE |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|------|
| | (FCFA) | (FCFA) | (%) |
| Gabero (cercle de Gao) | 3 643 6800 000 | 453 843 334 | 12,5 |
| Soni Alibert (cercle de Gao) | 4 820 750 000 | 1 053 396 373 | 21,9 |
| Tonka (cercle de Goundam) | 1 544 170 000 | 675 427 800 | 43,7 |
| Bourem Inaly (cercle de Tombouctou) | 2 849 000 000 | 215 826 500 | 7,6 |

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:

A. 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.

B. 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

C. Curriculum revision 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.

D. Preliminary contacts for the program implementation.

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. Some contacts were undertaken to identify agricultural economists who live in Mali and who can provide teaching at the IPR Annex in Bamako. 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.

E. On-going English training of two IPR/IFRA junior faculty members (Jacob Coulibaly and Abdrahmane Berthé). The two continued to take English courses in preparation for starting their graduate programs in Agricultural Economics at MSU. Abdrahmane also made valuable contributions to the Mali Agricultural Sector Assessment (see Objective 6 below). Both appear to be coping well with the Michigan winter.

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

- PROMISAM activities focused on support to CPS for the organization of the Mali Business meeting through the participation of its coordinator on the technical committee on organization. The Business meeting on the financing of the national priority investment in the agricultural sector was held in Bamako, Hotel Salam, 4 to 5 November 2010. The business meeting benefited from the technical and financial support of CEDEAO, the World Bank and USAID/Mali, through the work of PROMISAM.

Business meeting participants were the technical and financial partners, bilateral and multilateral donors, representatives of producer organizations, local authorities, civil society organizations, private sector, and regional technical cooperation institutions.

The objectives of the Business meeting were:

- Enable the Government of Mali to present its National Agricultural Sector Priority Investment Plan (PNIP - SA)
- Allow partners to make funding announcements related to PINP - SA

The opening ceremony was chaired by His Excellency Prime Minister Modibo Sidibe.

Following the commission's work, the following recommendations were made:

- Finalize the PINP-SA document taking into account the relevant recommendations of the ECOWAS technical review;
- Refine the analysis of financing needs, taking into account projects under implementation;
- Refine the estimates of the contribution of the State, Professional Agricultural Organizations and the private sector including the next review of public expenditure;
- Accelerate the implementation of ongoing programs by removing bottlenecks leading to low disbursement rates that delay new financing and development of the Agricultural Development Policy (PDA) and PNISA with the objectives of clarifying many issues of concern (input subsidy policy, land tenure security for agricultural

- use, modalities of implementation and operation of hydro-agriculture, capacity building, modalities of participation of civil society, ...);
- Consolidate the political and technical debate underway on the Agriculture sector in boosting the technical commission envisioned in sector approach plan;
 - Encourage all partners able to do so to now to make their contributions to PNISA and its priority plan the PINP-SA;
 - Improve communication between PNISA partnership: Technical and Financial Partners, Institutions and Regional and International Organizations, between the seats and local offices of the PTF and between national institutions;
 - the roles of stakeholders for effective participation in all levels and in all components: implementation, planning, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation;
 - Establish 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;
 - Managing planned resources and procurement according to national procedures in force in Mali;
 - Enrich the statistical indicators framework relating to improving incomes and reducing poverty;
 - Proceed with the appropriation and distribution of PINP-SA and PNISA.

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

- 7 to 8 December 2010, Kayes, Mali and Senegal organizing committees: preparatory meeting of the Mali - Senegal border conference.

This preparatory border meeting conference, held by the Mali and Senegal organizing committees in Kayes on 7 and 8 December 2010 examined the reports produced by the thematic groups of the two countries on observed constraints, proposed solutions and agreed on the conference time schedule. The meeting set the conference date for the second week of February 2011.

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

Preparation of an agricultural sector assessment to inform the design of the missions Feed the Future strategy was a high priority during this quarter. This assessment seeks to update the 2002 sector assessment undertaken by Abt Associates and expand consideration of new concerns such as climate change. A draft version of the assessment was submitted with an emphasis on constraints and capacity building needs across different value chains. The team continued to flesh out analysis of key value chains and incorporate feedback on the first draft from USAID/Mali AEG team members. A complete revised draft should be ready by end of January 2011.

Cross-cutting outreach and administrative activities

The coordinator of the PROMISAM, in his capacity as a member of the CNRA, received nearly 20 agricultural research proposals to be assessed for funding. The research proposals will study value chains, the management of natural resources, the resilience of production systems to climate change, the development of resistant varieties and management techniques, and conservation of rainwater and soil fertility. The coordinator reviewed 13 research proposals for the CNRA at the end of December 2010.

Anticipated Focus of the Work for the Coming Quarter

With respect to farm-level production and marketing surveys:

- Engage PROMISAM II partners, IER and CSA, by sharing the preliminary results from the cereals working paper mentioned above and get their reactions and feedback;
- Finalize the cleaning of the third round of the farm-level and household income data;
- Continue the analysis of the second and the third round data and integrate the results into the working paper on cereal production and marketing patterns in Mali.
- Conduct preliminary analysis of income data (creation of aggregate EA level variables and breakdowns by gender) and prepare reports of preliminary results using descriptive statistics and crosstabs.

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 original proposal (library resources, bus, remaining computer and other teaching equipment) that will support the agricultural economics program;
- Initiate the process of putting in place an external advisory panel that will provide ongoing inputs by potential employers of graduates from the program;
- Implement the revised curriculum through MSU involvement in teaching at IPR and pursue contacts with potential instructors, particularly from IER and the faculty of economics and management of the University of Bamako;
- 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.

Complete the Agriculture Sector Assessment.

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, 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%).

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.

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%).

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:

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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%).