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[Michigan State University](#)



*Maize storage in Nkhokwe, Malawi
Photo taken by: Jacob Ricker-Gilbert*



*Farmer preparing his field.
Photo taken by: Jacob Ricker-Gilbert*

Michigan State University's Food Security Group is pleased to share with you the second in a series of five policy briefs:

[The New Generation of African Fertilizer Subsidies: Panacea or Pandora's Box?](#)

Valerie Kelly, Eric Crawford, and Jacob Ricker-Gilbert. Number 87. May 2011.

Kelly, Crawford and Ricker-Gilbert argue that, in spite of the renewed popularity of fertilizer subsidies and some evidence that they have contributed to improved production and food security, fertilizer subsidies represent a Pandora's Box of policy challenges such as conflicting objectives and skyrocketing costs. Although direct donor financial support for subsidy programs is not recommended, six complementary investments are identified that can contribute to improved subsidy program outcomes.

RELATED WORKS

- Analyse de la filiere engrais au senegal et de son evolution sur la periode 2000 A 2010. Mamadou Faye, Jean Pierre Ndiaye, Amadou Abdoulaye Fall, and Valerie Kelly.
 - [Report](#) funded by USAID/Senegal via the Projet Croissance Economique, implemented by International Resources Group, Ltd. Juillet 2011.
 - [Synthesis](#) prepared by Technologie Développement Consultance (TDC) and funded by USAID/Senegal via the Projet Croissance Economique, implemented by International Resources Group, Ltd. Juillet 2011.
- [Panacea or Pandora's Box? Fertilizer Subsidy Impacts and Recommendations for Improving Subsidy Performance](#). Valerie Kelly and Eric Crawford. Food Security III Symposium: *Applying a Quarter-*

Century of Food Security “Lessons Learned” to Implementing the Feed the Future Initiative. Presented by the MSU Food Security Group. USAID Washington D.C. October 4, 2010.

- [Rapport Annuel 2009](#). Section 2.1, Gestion de l'«Initiative Riz», vérification financière et vérification de performance (pages 44-49). Bureau du Vérificateur Général. Bamako, Mali. 2010.
- [Private Sector Responses to Public Investments and Policy Reforms: The Case of Fertilizer and Maize Market Development in Kenya](#). B.J. Ariga and T.S. Jayne. 2009. IFPRI Discussion Paper, prepared for the Millions Fed project. Washington, D.C.: IFPRI.
- [Input Use, Input Market Development and Natural Resource Management](#)

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