

FOOD SECURITY RESEARCH PROJECT

Agricultural Consultative Forum/Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives/Michigan State University

What is FSRP?

The Food Security Research Project (FSRP) is a collaborative partnership between key Zambian organizations working together in the Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF), the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MACO), and Michigan State University's Department of Agricultural Economics (MSU). The activities aim to improve the capacity for agricultural policy analysis in Zambia through in-service capacity building, applied research and analysis, and policy outreach. The FSRP is co-funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

Objectives

1. *Capacity building*- for local Zambian counterparts, including training in the design, implementation, and analysis of household-level and market-level data collection for policy analysis and priority-setting purposes. This is accomplished mainly through in-service training of public and private sector collaborators.
2. *Applied research*- to provide baseline information on smallholder production patterns and crop mix, input use, marketing behavior, measures of farm productivity, farm and non-farm incomes, food purchases and consumption and other basic household-level information necessary to monitor the impacts of changes in the agricultural policy environment on selected socio-economic and regional groups in Zambia; and
3. *Outreach activities*- to liaise with ACF, MACO, and other public and private policy making groups in Zambia on strategies for promoting smallholder agricultural productivity and income growth and household food security in support of improved agricultural policy making in Zambia.

Research Approach

To carry out its research mandate, the FSRP in Zambia aims to:

- strengthen the capacity of MACO, ACF, and other institutions or government agencies responsible for food security in Zambia to carry out applied research and policy analysis on food security;
- strengthen the capacity of MACO to help coordinate research on national food security issues;
- strengthen the Central Statistical Office (CSO) to carry out surveys, manage and process data, and perform basic analyses useful to policy makers; and
- strengthen MACO's management and implementation of agricultural marketing information services.

Based on the project's semi-annual Advisory Board consultations, an agenda for research, technical support, and outreach activities is identified and approved. Members of the Advisory Board include MACO, ACF, INESOR/UNZA, CSO, USAID, and FSRP.

Cooperating Institutions

FSRP cooperate with a number of institutions which includes the following:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MACO), Economics and Market Development Department: Policy and Planning Branch and Marketing Development Branch
- Agricultural Consultative Forum (ACF)
- Central Statistical Office (CSO), Agriculture and Environment Division
- Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (GART)
- University of Zambia (UNZA), Institute for Social and Economic Research (INESOR)
- Food Reserve Agency (FRA)
- Department of Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University (MSU)

More Information:

If you would like to obtain further information on the project's activities, please contact the In-Country Director, or visit our website at <http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/zambia/index.htm> . Office: 86 Provident Street, Lusaka, Zambia □ Mail: P.O. Box 32481 Lusaka, Zambia : Tel: 260 (0)1 221021/22 & 234539 □ Fax:260 (0)1 234559 □ E-mail: fsrp@coppernet.zm

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