

FEED THE FUTURE AGRICULTURE POLICY SUPPORT PROJECT (APSP)

QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT (JANUARY-MARCH 2016) FISCAL YEAR 2016, QUARTER 2





Contract No. 641-C-14-0001

Cover Photo: MoFA staff and District Agriculture Statistics officers at a training of

trainers session using 3G tablets with GPS for mobile data collection.

Photo: USAID/APSP

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ACRONYMS

ACET African Center for Economic Transformation

ADVANCE Agriculture Development and Value Chain Enhancement

ESD Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate

ASWG Agriculture Sector Working Group
AGRA Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa

APD Animal Production Directorate

APPDF Agricultural Public Private Dialogue Forum

APSP Agriculture Policy Support Project
ASWG Agriculture Sector Working Group

BUSAC Business Sector Advocacy Challenge Fund

CEPA Center for Policy Analysis

COP Chief of Party

CSD Crop Services Directorate
CSO Civil Society Organizations

CSIR Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DUS Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability

FAGE Federation of Associations of Ghanaian Exporters
FASDEP Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization

FBO Farmer-Based Organizations

FTF Feed the Future

GoG Government of Ghana

ISSER Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research

ISU Iowa State University

LAP Land Administration Project (II)

METASIP Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan

MOF Ministry of Finance

MOFA Ministry of Food and Agriculture

MOFAD Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development

MOTI Ministry of Trade and Industries NAFCO National Buffer Stock Company

SADA Savannah Accelerated Development Authority
SAKSS Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
SRID Statistics Research and Information Directorate

TOR Terms of Reference

USAID United States Agency for International Development

VCU Value for Cultivation and Use

WIAD Women in Agriculture Development

Executive Summary

Chemonics International Inc. is pleased to submit this second quarterly report to USAID/Ghana, covering the period of January to March 2016. The main goal of the Feed the Future (FTF) Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP) is to improve the food security enabling environment for private sector investment by increasing the capacity of the Government of Ghana (GoG), the private sector, and civil society organizations to implement evidence-based policy formation and implementation, research and advocacy, as well as perform rigorous monitoring and evaluation of agricultural programs implemented under the Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (METASIP).

The Project has three components:

- a. <u>Policy formation and implementation</u>, which is aimed at improving Ghana's agricultural sector policy process for evidence-based decision making related to food security
- b. <u>Policy research</u>, aimed at increasing rigorous policy analysis the capacity for evidence-based policy making, and;
- c. <u>Policy advocacy</u>, aimed at strengthening the institutional and technical capacities of private agribusiness organizations, civil society organizations, and the media, to enable these entities to increase their participation and amplify their voices in the public policy process.

During the second quarter, APSP continued implementing its Y3 work plan. Significant accomplishments included the following:

- Completed a stakeholder consultation on strengthening the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA)'s Policy Unit and trained the 14 MoFA officers selected as core staff for the Policy Unit. These activities are steps toward the unit's restructuring and in increasing its effectiveness as a tool for policy analysis and advice.
- Trained and built the capacity of 28 METASIP/SAKSS (Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems) members in agriculture policy analysis. This training advanced METASIP/SAKSS members' ability to identify research and policy needs and improved their capacity to advise policymakers.
- Validated and finalized the Crop Variety Evaluation and Release Manual and the Accreditation and Seed Certification Manual. These manuals will be used by MoFA's regulatory authorities to implement the Plants and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803) and strengthen the enabling environment for increased private sector participation in Ghana's seed industry.
- Completed institutional licensing policies and seed licensing contracts development training for four national research organizations: Savannah Agriculture Research Institution, Crop Research Institution, University of Cape Coast, and University of Ghana. This training will assist researchers in establishing, adapting and/or improving their licensing policies, thereby enabling them to sign seed licensing contracts with private seed producers, scale up production of foundation seeds, and increase the availability of improved seed to farmers.
- Assessed nine proposals from five Ghanaian institutions and completed negotiations for grant awards. The proposals comprise three high quality research papers, four policy studies, and two PhD thesis dissertations. The grantees are as follows: Crops Research Institute, Science & Technology Policy Research Institute, African Center

- for Economic Transformation, University of Cape Coast, and the University of Development Studies. The nine research grants will be responding to the following policy priority areas of the GoG: marketing of agricultural products in local and international markets; increased income growth; food security and emergency preparedness; application of science and technology in food and agricultural development; and agricultural sector coordination.
- Convened two district-level public-private dialogue forums in the Central Region and trained members of the Volta Rice FBO Networks, totaling almost 300 participants in the three activities. These events create opportunities for public sector officials and civil society organizations (CSOs) to jointly identify key areas for policy reform and agricultural program implementation.
- The Pan African Organization for Sustainable Development (POSDEV) completed its grant activities. The fisheries groups that received training from POSDEV have improved their knowledge on Ghana's fisheries policies to deepen social accountability in the development of this sector and to advocate for recognition and participation in the fisheries and aquaculture policymaking process.
- FMSL Multi Media (Rite 90.1 FM), a project grantee, is using radio to advocate increasing awareness on the importance of agriculture in the region. The grantee's activities have already produced some important impacts; from making it possible that a rice FBO accesses harvesting services, to the establishment of agriculture subcommittees in five of the district assemblies, to increasing budget allocation to their district Departments of Agriculture, to highlighting the predicament of farmers living with disabilities, and to driving the Volta River Authority to remove aquatic weeds at the bank of the Volta River at Kpong to improve fishing.
- The Centre for Research in Efficient Agriculture Technology (CREAT), another project grantee, assessed the implementation of Ghana's Agriculture Sustainable Land Management (SLM) strategy and action plan implementation in five municipal assemblies in the Volta Region. The study will increase high quality research, and the number of dialogue forums, policy briefs, and position papers advocating for policy review and reforms for sustainable land management in Ghana.

A. PROGRESS BY COMPONENT

The narrative that follows is organized by key results areas (KRAs) (Subheadings in bold and italics) and by work plan activities (Italicized text) under each component.

During FY3 Q2, APSP continued implementing its agreed-upon work plan activities as well as other initiatives that contributed to the project objectives.

A1. Component 1: Policy Formation and Implementation

Component I will improve Ghana's agricultural sector policy process for evidence-based decision making related to food security through four main pillars:

- Improve capacity for policy analysis and evaluation by core METASIP-institutions by standing up the SAKSS node;
- Enhance implementation of improved policies, regulations, and administrative procedures as outlined by GoG-endorsed policy documents and agreements between GoG, donors, and the private sector;
- Improve policies that enable private sector development, commercialization, and use of improved agricultural inputs to increase smallholder productivity and incomes; and
- Improve execution of the METASIP.

Ala. Progress to date per agreed-upon work plan

KRA 1.1: Improve capacity for policy analysis and evaluation by core METASIP implementing institutions by standing up SAKSS node and enhancing capacity in policy analysis and evaluation

Build Capacity of METASIP/SAKSS Members [Indicators I, 2, and 5]: In FY3 Q2, APSP trained 28 METASIP Steering Committee members and SAKSS Coordinators on six of 20 training modules developed by GIMPA in FY2. The modules are policy formulation; gender mainstreaming and action planning; investment priority setting in agriculture policy making in Ghana; writing policy proposals and policy briefs for funding the agriculture sector; knowledge and practice of leadership and governance as they relate to agricultural policies and their implications; and improved knowledge and practice of policy evaluation approaches. The training, as an ongoing process, will assist members in improving their ability to identify policy needs. In addition, the

COMPONENT I: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Trained and built capacity of 28 METASIP/SAKSS members in agriculture policy analysis.
- Completed tender process and identified three consultants for (i) Development of Agriculture Marketing Policy (ii) Assessment of Methodologies for Agriculture Data Collection and Analysis (iii) NAFCO Assessment
- Awarded consultancy for review of FBO
- Validated and finalized the Crop Variety Evaluation and Release Manual and the Accreditation and Seed Certification Manual
- · Finalized training on development of Institutional Licensing Policies and seed licensing contracts with four national research organizations (SARI, CRI, UCC, and UoG)
- Completed stakeholder consultation on establishing Policy Unit at MoFA and trained the 14 MoFA officers selected as core staff for the Policy Unit

training enabled SAKSS Nodes to identify two priority research topics for funding by APSP, namely, an assessment on access and use of urban lands for peri-urban agriculture, and the other, a study on the use of sustainable land and water management technologies.

Implement Action Plans for METASIP/SAKSS [Indicators 1, 2, and 5]: APSP supported MoFA in QI to reorganize membership of SAKSS Thematic Working Groups and pave the way for implementing the action plan. However, in Q2 SAKSS Coordinators were unable to call member meetings due to their heavy workload. APSP will work with SAKSS Coordinators and the METASIP Secretariat in Q3 to reinstate the SAKSS quarterly meetings. The meetings will help SAKSS Nodes to identify priority policy areas for research and to propose evidence-based recommendations for the formation and implementation of agricultural policies.

KRA 1.1 Collaboration with Other Partners

Mechanism	Members	Objective/Activity
Partnership Agreement	GIMPA and APSP	GIMPA trained 28 METASIP/SAKSS members to improve their capacity
		for policy analysis, monitoring, and evaluation.

KRA 1.2: Enhance implementation of improved policies, regulations and administrative procedures as outlined in GoG-endorsed policy documents and agreements between the GoG, donors, and the private sector

Support Implementation of Relevant JSR Activities [Indicators 4 and 12]: In FY3 Q2, MoFA requested APSP provide logistical support in convening a MoFA staff meeting to finalize preparation of the agriculture sector 2015 Annual Performance Review (APR). APSP's team will attend the meeting to provide technical advice in these discussions. The APR will serve as the basis for sector policy discussions and harmonization at the next JSR, help Ghana to meet its international obligations, and promote broad-based agriculture policy reforms that would improve the food security environment for private sector investment.

Support Drafting and Passage of the Land Act to Improve Access to Agriculture Land [Indicators 4 and 5]: In QI, the project, in coordination with the Lands Commission, agreed to support the development of new land policy initiatives. Accordingly, APSP worked with officials from the Lands Commission to implement in FY3 Q3 two validation workshops on the "Guidelines for Large Scale Land Transactions." Workshop participants will include traditional rulers, who are custodians of land, farmer organizations (FBOs), CSOs, MoFA officials, and private sector operatives. Implementation of the guidelines will contribute to improving land administration in Ghana, strengthen the enabling environment for expanded private sector investments in land ownership, and provide land security by incorporating these guidelines into the legal architecture of Ghana.

Review MoFA's FBO Strategy [Indicators 4 and 14]: As a result of recommendations from the extension policy forum jointly organized by the Modernizing Extension Advisory Services (MEAS) and APSP in FY2, the project has contracted local consultants to review a FBO strategy, which is a component of Ghana's agricultural extension policy. During Q2, APSP consultants made progress in their review and will submit a draft report to APSP in Q3. APSP and MoFA's Directorate of Extension Services will implement two validation workshops in Q3,

one in Northern Ghana and the other in the south of the country, to discuss and finalize the report. The review will serve as the basis for action plans to strengthen FBOs, which serve as natural entry points for agriculture extension delivery, and improve their operational efficiencies in their role as providers of extension services.

Assessment of the National Food Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO) [Indicator 4]: In FY3 Q1, APSP and the Center for Policy Analysis (CEPA) agreed on a framework for commissioning the assessment, which will commence in Q3 following the identification of a consultant. The assessment will examine the evidence-based impact of the policy and address private sector concerns that NAFCO operations distort agriculture commodity markets, thereby discouraging private investments. The recommendations emerging from the assessment will assist MoFA in amending NAFCO's operations, which will further help promote domestic market efficiency. Working on this and other two important studies—Situational Agricultural Marketing Analysis and Alternatives Approaches to Data Collection—CEPA is strengthening its long-term relationship with MoFA and building its portfolio of agriculture-related studies. This is important because APSP has suggested that CEPA plays an active role in providing coaching to MoFA's s Policy Unit.

Support Education and Sensitization of Bio-Safety Act [Indictors 4, 6, and 11]: In Q2, APSP continued supporting the National Bio-Safety Authority (NBA) for the implementation of the Bio-Safety Act. APSP specifically supported the design of the Authority's logo and will soon contract a local service provider to develop NBA's website. APSP believes that this support to implement the Authority's communication strategy will assist the NBA in promoting the benefits of biotechnology as a driver of agricultural modernization.

Other Emerging Policy Issues: In Q2, MoFA did not engage APSP on any emerging policy issues. The project will continue to consult the Ministry in this regard throughout FY3.

KRA I	l 2 Collab	oration	with (Other	Partners

Mechanism	Members	Objective/Activity
Collaborative Circle	ATT and APSP	Supported the GoG to implement the Bio-safety Act (Act 831)
of FTF Chiefs of Party		Supported implementation of Seed National Development Plan
Marild Barla		Coordinated with the World Bank to assist GoG in developing the Land Bill and
		related policies/regulations to improve access to agric. lands
Technical staff	World Bank, FAO, MEAS,	Coordinated with MEAS, as part of extensive policy review, to revise FBO strategy to
exchanges	and APSP	improve agricultural extension delivery and promote agricultural commercialization to
	aliu Arsr	increase private investment
		Coordinated with FAO to finalize TOR for assessment of NAFCO

KRA 1.3: Improve policies that enable the private sector to develop, commercialize, and use improved agricultural inputs to increase smallholder productivity and incomes

Support for GoG Investment Plan [Indicator 4]: MoFA has completed the development of its METASIP II (2015-2017) with technical and financial assistance from FAO. This document is the continuation of METASIP I, which guided agriculture policy and sectorial investments programs in Ghana from 2011 to 2015. MoFA has not requested any assistance from APSP in this regard; however, the project remains committed to supporting the Ministry in this exercise.

Support to Agriculture Commodity Trading Systems in Ghana [Indicators 4 and 6]: In FY3 Q1 APSP completed the assessments on the Ghana Commodity Exchange. Now the project is awaiting USAID review in order to identify next steps.

Development of an Agriculture Marketing Policy [Indicators 4, 11, and 14]: As indicated above, CEPA will support APSP in developing this policy. A first intervention toward this objective is the implementation of a "Situational Analysis of Agricultural Marketing in Ghana." CEPA has already identified the consultant and a study will commence in Q3. Findings of the study will identify and propose evidence-based policy options and recommendations for MoFA to develop agriculture-marketing policy to promote efficiency in commodity markets, thus creating opportunities for increased private sector investments.

Support for the Implementation of the Seeds and Fertilizer Act, 2010 (Act 803) [Indicators 2, 4, 5, and 14]: With technical assistance from Iowa State University (ISU) in Q2, APSP continued its support to MoFA for the implementation of Act 803 and of the National Seed Plan as follows:

Counterpart	Activity	Objective	Impact
Technical	In Q1, ISU drafted a	To provide MoFA's TVRC with	Both manuals are expected to be
Variety Release	variety evaluation and	guidelines for accreditation application,	approved by the National Seeds
Committee	release manual	initial/periodic audit, training in variety	Council before the end of FY3.
(TVRC)	• In Q2, TVRC members	testing, DUS and VCU evaluation,	The transfer of the
	validated the proposed	variety release, handling of confidential	The implementation of the
CI C I	manual	business information, and appeals	manuals will help introduce standards for the seed industry
Ghana Seeds	In QI, an accreditation	To provide MoFA's GSID with	and facilitate the production,
Inspection Division (GSID)	manual was drafted	guidelines for seed certification, initial/periodic audit, training in variety	distribution, sale, and use of
Division (GSID)	In Q2, GSID staff were	testing, DUS and VCU evaluation,	quality seeds for increased
	trained on the contents of the proposed manual	variety release, handling of confidential	agriculture productivity and
	or the proposed manual	business information, and appeals	production.
Member	In Q2, the project provided	APSP/ISU team visited the Savannah	Adoption of the licensing policies
institutions of	technical assistance to	Agriculture Research Institute (SARI),	and the implementation of
the National	agriculture research	Crop Research Institute (CRI),	licensing contracts between
Agriculture	institutions and trained	University of Cape Coast (UCC) and	research organizations and seed
Research System	them on the development of	University of Ghana (UoG) to explain	companies will help with scaling
(NARS)	institutional licensing	the benefits of establishing licensing	up the production of foundation
	policies and seed variety	policies and signing licensing contracts	seed and increasing the
	licensing contracts.	with private seed companies.	availability of farmers' planting
			materials.
Secretariat of	In Q2, the project facilitated	To improve coordination and	Increasing the operational
the National Seeds Council	the purchase of equipment and furniture for the	administration of the NSC's, as the main Ghanaian body regulating and	efficiency of its Secretariat supports overall implementation
(NSC)	Secretariat of the NSC.	promoting the seed industry.	of Act 803 and of the National
(1430)	Secretariat of the 143C.	promoting the seed industry.	Seed Plan
Support to	APSP's commitment to	To establish a unified private sector	A strong umbrella body will give
Ghanaian Seed	supporting efforts of splinter	organization advocating for policy	seed industry operators a voice
Traders	seed associations in forming	reforms that will enhance the seed	in advocating for policy reforms
Associations	an umbrella body continued	industry in Ghana and promote the	to grow the industry
	in Q2 (Details are provided	strengthening of the public and private	
	in Component 3 below).	linkages along the seed value chain	

Develop New Irrigation Policy [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 11, 12, and 14]: APSP has agreed with MoFA through the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA) to develop a new irrigation policy to promote and increase private sector investments in irrigation infrastructure. Based on agreed terms of reference (TOR), the consultancy will commence work in Q3. The new policy

will help attract private sector investments in the provision and management of irrigation schemes to expand irrigation across the country and overall, lessen dependence on rain-fed agriculture, and enhance farmers' incomes.

Develop Business Plans for Aquaculture Investments [Indicators 2, 4, 5, and 14]. ISU drafted an aquaculture business plan concept paper in Q2, which was shared with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MoFAD) for comments. After receiving MoFAD's comments, APSP and ISU will discuss the way forward in assisting in the development of aquaculture business plans adjusted to local conditions. If promoted, these business plans will attract private investments to increase aquaculture production, diminishing pressure on Ghana's dwindling maritime resources.

Establish a Policy Unit in MoFA [Indicators 1, 2, 4, 5, and 14]. In Q1, APSP and MoFA continued working on the restructuring of MoFA's Policy Unit:

Working sessions to discuss restructuring of	Training of an initial core of Policy	Impact of restructuring
MoFA's Policy Unit	Unit staff	the Policy Unit
Participants at the two-day sessions discussed issues	APSP organized a one-week training	The restructuring of the unit
like unit funding, location, staffing, logistical	for 14 officers, selected by MoFA as	and enhancing staff skills in
requirements, and job descriptions, among others.	the core staff at the Unit. The training	policy analysis will help to
Two prestigious African agriculture policy institutes	was structured to gauge participants'	identify and address the
(Ethiopian Development Research Institute, (EDR)	current skills in undertaking policy	bottlenecks that hinder
and Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute,	analysis, and included the following	private sector investments in
(IAPRI)) and ISU participated, making presentations	topics: Basic algebra and Excel skills;	agriculture. By providing
on their respective activities and discussing what	the basics of final consumer decisions	timely and evidence-based
lessons would be applied to the restructuring of the	and producer decisions (supply and	advice, the unit will improve
Unit at MoFA. The participation of policy experts	input demand); competitive market	agriculture policies, creating
from CEPA, ISSER, and CSIR was important because	equilibrium; policy analysis with price	an enabling environment for
these organizations have agreed to provide coaching	policy interventions; taxes in non-	increased private
to the restructured Policy Unit, as proposed by	traded markets (output and input	investments in the sector.
APSP.	distortions); and import and export	
	policies.	

KRA 1.3 Collaboration with Other Partners

Mechanism	Members	Objective/Activity
Technical staff exchanges FAO, DFID, and APSP	EAO DEID	Discussed content of the TOR for the assessment of NAFCO
	Coordinated and provided technical input regarding the assessment of the	
	and 7 ti oi	agriculture commodity trading system

KRA 1.4: Improved execution of METASIP programs

Support METASIP Activities [Indicators 2, 4, 5, and 14]. In QI, the METASIP Steering Committee (SC) requested assistance from the project in facilitating a dialogue with officials from the Lands Commission to discuss and provide feedback into the Commission's "Guidelines for Large Scale Land Transactions." The dialogue that took place in Q2 provided the opportunity for the METASIP SC to submit a memorandum to the Lands Commission with its suggestions to improve and/or adjust the guidelines. This intervention helped the METASIP SC, as the agriculture sector policy monitoring body, to provide evidence-based recommendations to guide the drafting of the policy and to make inputs to improve the overall land access process.

Commission SAKSS Research. APSP and MoFA have jointly finalized TOR for two prioritized research studies to receive project funding. Details are provided under Component 2 below.

Improve agriculture sector data collection, analysis, management, and reporting

Counterpart	Activity	Objective	Expected Impact
MoFA's Statistics Research and Information Directorate (SRID)	Agriculture Data Validation and Printing [Indicators 2, 5, and 14]: Validation of the "2014 Facts and Figures"	This specific activity took place in Q1 and since then, SRID has not submitted any additional assistance requests to APSP to support the printing of the document.	Stakeholder validation and publication enhance credibility and use of sector data for improved evidence-based policy formation and implementation
	Implementation of Electronic Data Collection System [Indicators 2, 5, and 14]	 In QI, continued developing and testing the Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) data collection system in support of the Ghana Agriculture Production Surveys (GAPS) In Q2, APSP procured 85 3G Android Tablets and other survey collection tools to aid in mobile data collection in the field and to pilot the CAPI, GAPS, and Market surveys. APSP also will assist SRID in upgrading their server room in which equipment for the CAPI System will be installed. 25 SRID staff were trained as trainers and as system administrators In Q3, SRID will pilot CAPI in 10 districts already covered under GAPS and will train 100 MoFA national, regional, and district staff 	The completion and use of the CAPI design will help improve agriculture data collection and analysis. The system will produce reliable sector data to aid in providing evidence-based information, which then is fed into policy-making, improving the overall soundness of agriculture policies. The deployment of the system will minimize human error in agriculture data collection and analysis and improve overall data credibility.

KRA 1.4 Collaboration with Other Partners

Mechanism	Members	Objective/Activity	
Coordination	Re-SAKSS and APSP	Coordinated technical and financial support to empower METASIP to	
		function effectively and efficiently and improve sector policy processes	

Additional activities not originally considered in FY3's annual work plan. During Q2, APSP undertook activities that were not specifically planned, which notwithstanding contributed to the project component goals.

MoFA's Director for Crop Services, when launching the 2016 Fertilizer Subsidy Program indicated that: "MoFA is grateful to APSP and its partners because recommendations from the research partly influenced the design of 2016 enhanced fertilizer subsidy program. It is our hope that this revised subsidy program will achieve desired results and MoFA will begin to experience the full impact of this major government policy initiative."

Activity	Impacts
Dissemination Workshop on Research [Indicators 4, 6, and 8]:	Examining the contents of MoFA's 2016 Fertilizer Subsidy
Teamed up with the Ghana Strategy Support Program/IFPRI and	Program launched in March 2016 resulted in the
with the Agriculture and Agri-business Unit (AAU) of the Ministry	incorporation of three recommendations from APSP's Soil
of Finance (MoF) to implement a one-day workshop to	Fertility Strategy in the GoG's policies:
disseminate the findings of two research studies developed in	• Improve efficiency and cost effectiveness: Subsidy
2015:	program to be implemented through an electronic
• "Towards a Sustainable Soil Fertility Strategy in Ghana,"	platform to improve transparency and monitoring
developed by APSP, GSSP, and others in FY2.	Tackle soil infertility from a holistic perspective: Subsidy
• "Impact of the Fertilizer Subsidy Program," developed by the	program includes organic fertilizer
AAÜ.	

	Enhance certainty among stakeholders: Subsidy program was announced earlier to allow timely imports and distribution
Roundtable Discussions of the Baseline Survey on Gender and Agriculture	[Indicators 6 and 7]. See Section C1, Gender
Consultancy on "Assessing Methodologies Used to Collate and Analyze Data on Agriculture Value Chains and Propose New Methodologies" [Indicators 2, 5, and 14]. In Q1, APSP, in response to MoFA's	The study will make recommendations on how to expand and improve agriculture data collection and analysis, which will increase the credibility and acceptability of sector data
request, agreed to undertake this assignment, to examine different approaches to improve data collection across the value chain. CEPA will conduct the assessment in Q3.	and provide the basis for evidence-based decision-making.
Implementation of a Pilot Program to Promote the Implementation of Seed Licensing Contracts [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 11, and 13]. In Q2, APSP developed a Concept Paper for the COR's concurrence to implement this initiative through a competitive grant scheme. The pilot's objectives are as follows:	Implementation of the pilot will assess the use of licensing contracts to scale up the multiplication of foundation seed and increase the availability of certified seeds to farmers.
 Promote licensing contracts between research organizations, members of the NARS, and seed companies Improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in the development and commercialization of foundation seeds 	
 Promote long-term technical and business linkages between research organizations and seed producers for the overall modernization of the seed industry 	

Alb. Identification of specific problems and recommendations for corrective action and reasons why established targets were not met

Established Work Plan Activity for the Quarter	Specific Problem	Reasons for not Accomplishing Established Activity	Corrective Action
Implement METASIP/ SAKSS work plans	METASIP/SAKSS representatives did not convene meetings	SAKSS Nodes representatives were unable to convene meetings due to workload	APSP held discussions with METASIP/SAKSS representatives, who agreed to call meetings in Q3
Support JSR recommendations	No request received from MoFA for this activity	MoFA has been slow in implementing JSR recommendations	APSP is already holding discussions with MoFA to support the preparation of the sector Annual Progress Report (APR)
Provide support for drafting of Land Bill	APSP and WB agreed to wait for specific clarification from the LAP II on the needed TA	APSP/WB received clarifications from LAP II at end of Q2. WB gauged APSP's interest on resuming technical assistance.	In Q3 APSP will engage with the WB to select and contract a consultant to review the Land Bill, redraft it and discuss it with the LAP II and other stakeholders in Ghana
Build capacity of MoFA decentralized departments	As Indicator #2 targets are being met by other project activities, the project suspended this activity to focus on other objectives	The activity was suspended to allow room for other priority activities	Activity may be considered in FY4 if it complements other USAID-funded activities
Facilitate passage of Animal Health and Livestock Production Bill	The sub-sector policy should be approved before the bills are submitted to Parliament for passage	FAO is assisting MoFA with the development of the specific sector policy	MoFA's Directorate of Veterinary Services will submit the policy to the Minister of MoFA in April 2016 for review and Cabinet approval, after which MoFA will submit the bill to Parliament.
Build capacity of Parliament Select Committee members	APSP was informed that Parliamentary Select Committees were being restructured and their mandates might change	Not knowing exactly the new mandates, APSP and the Secretariat of the Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa	APSP will incorporate the activity in the FY4 work plan

	as a result of such process	Affairs decided to defer the activity to FY4	
Train 80 stakeholders on GADS	GoG only launched GADS in January 2016	APSP had to wait for the launch of the Strategy before any training could be initiated	Training to commence in Q3
Train NSC members	It was not possible for MoFA to convene the meeting of the NSC	A new Minister in charge of MoFA was appointed in the middle of Q2; the NSC cannot be convened until this authority is briefed on its objectives and roles	APSP is liaising with the Committee Secretary to plan for the next NSC member meetings and undertake training activities
Support for GoG Investment Plans	MoFA has not requested support for METASIP II; APSP continues to engage with the ministry and seeks collaborative opportunities	MoFA is working on the coordination and full validation of METASIP II before requesting specific support	MoFA advised that the document is being printed and APSP will be contacted when support is needed

Alc. Outcomes of high level meetings

Meeting	Outcome
Met with the Director General of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to discuss seed licensing agreements for the Council's agriculture-based institutes	Agreed to take this up with the relevant institutes and formalize same to promote commercialization of intellectual property
Hosted Mr. Justin Finnegan, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator of the USAID Bureau of Food Security, and presented on the project	The USAID DAA-BFS was satisfied with the overall project vision, purpose, and progress accomplished so far and urged APSP to work closely with MoFA on their prioritized policy matters.
Met with MoFA Director and staff of PPBD post Policy Unit training to discuss the way forward	It was agreed that APSP will share the proposed organizational structure and job descriptions with MoFA, as part of a discussion with the Chief Director on options for restructuring the unit.

Ald. Assessment of the validity and efficacy of progress against the objectives and results

Objectives (annual milestones as established in the Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy of Progress against objectives and results	
Build capacity of METASIP/SAKSS	On track. Additional 28 members from METASIP/SAKSS implementing institutions slated	
members	for training in FY3 have been trained in six of the 20 training modules developed.	
Review MoFA FBO Strategy	On track. Consultant completed field work in Q2 and will submit initial draft report in Q3.	
Passage of Animal Health and	Behind schedule. Drafting of bill is complete but sub-sector policy is still being prepared	
Livestock Production Bills	and needs to be approved by the Cabinet before the bill is submitted for passage.	
Assessment of NAFCO	On track. TOR completed and consultant to be commence work in Q3.	
Support to develop Land Bill/Land	On track:	
Policy	Validation of "Guidelines for Large Scale Land Transactions" scheduled for Q3.	
	Technical assistance to finalize drafting of Land Bill and validation slated for Q3.	
Enhance momentum of New	MoFA made no request to support activities related to the New Alliance. Activities in	
Alliance	relation to this area are demand-driven	
Support education and	On track. Logo developed and handed over to National Bio-Safety Authority. Tender	
sensitization of Bio-safety Act	completed to identify expert/firm to develop website for the Authority.	
Support to Agriculture Commodity	On track. Final report submitted to APSP and forwarded to USAID as an attachment to	
Trading Systems in Ghana	FY3 Q1 report.	
Support for Plant and Fertilizer Act	On track:	

	 Built capacity of seed industry players (TVRC, GSID, and Breeders) Completed manuals for Variety Evaluation and Release and for Accreditation for Seed Certification Trained NAROs to draft licensing policies and seed licensing contracts
Development of irrigation & marketing policies	On track: Consultants to commence assignments in Q3
Establish Policy Unit at MoFA	On track. Brainstorming session on unit and first training of staff done.
Support METASIP activities	On track. SC members held forum with officials from Lands Commission in Q2 to discuss development of land policies.

A2. Component 2: Policy Research

APSP Component 2 focuses on Policy Research which is aimed at increasing the availability of rigorous policy analysis capacity for evidence-based policymaking by enhancing the capacity for high quality policy research.

A2a. Progress to date per agreed-upon work plan

KRA 2.1 Enhance High Quality Policy Research Capacity

The Policy Research component of the project will increase the availability of rigorous policy analysis capacity for evidence-based policymaking through competitively-awarded grants. The development of research studies will contribute to Component I (Policy Formation and Implementation). The research grants program supports creative and unconventional partnerships between the public, private, and/or civil society sectors at all levels. In addition, the grants will assist key public, private, and civil society institutions in improving their policy research capacity.

COMPONENT 2: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Nine research proposals from five institutions assessed and negotiations completed for grant awards
- Developed two TOR to undertake a study on agricultural statistics and seed variety evaluation
- Developed and finalized the TOR for two METASIP priority studies

Operationalize Small-Grants Fund. [Indicators 8 and 9]: In Q2—after a

technical evaluation by a panel of six members comprised of three project staff, two MoFA representatives and a Ghanaian scholar—APSP selected nine of 62 research proposals for funding via small grants. MoFA has fully validated that the research proposals conform to policy priorities as contained in the FASDEP and METASIP documents. Once completed, the research studies will provide valuable advice to policymakers for developing and/or adjusting new or current existing policies and/or programs in the agriculture sector in Ghana. At the end of FY3 Q2 APSP has completed consultations and negotiations with the researchers and their research institutions and the studies will be commissioned in Q3.

The research studies that will receive project funding pending USAID approval are as follows:

No.	Title of proposal	Proposing institution/ Responsible party/ Name of researcher	Category of study	FASDEP and/or METASIP priority area
I	Market standardization, grading and	CSIR-Crops Research	High	Marketing of agricultural
	pricing in the maize market in Ghana: the	Institute (CRI) /	quality	products in local &
	case of Ejura-Sekyeredumase municipality	Dr. Emmanuel Otoo & CRI	research	international markets
		Team		
2	Qualitative Study of Gender Responsive	CSIR-STEPRI /	High	Agricultural sector
	Agricultural Extension for improved	Dr. George Owusu	quality	coordination

	Agricultural Productivity in Northern Ghana	Essegbey, & STEPRI Team	research	
3	A Non parametric evaluation of the impact of contract farming on farmers welfare	African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) Dr. Julius Gatune	High quality research	Increased growth in incomes
4	Upgrading the food processing sector: Linking artisanal processors to urban- based small & medium scale food manufacturers	African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) Dr. Julius Gatune	Special studies	Agricultural sector coordination
5	Rethinking the input provision model: inputs as a service model	African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) Dr. Julius Gatune	Special studies	Food security & emergency preparedness
6	Review and meta-analysis of national food security in Ghana	University of Cape Coast (UCC) Dr. Michael O. Adu	Special studies	Food security & emergency preparedness
7	Analyses of value chain approach by ACDEP / PAS for development	University of Development Studies (UDS) Dennis S Ehiakpor (PhD Student)	Special studies	Agricultural sector coordination
8	Assessing the role & effectiveness of mobile phone technology on agricultural extension services delivery in northern Ghana; the case of Tolon district	University of Development Studies (UDS) Sidick Sulemana, MPHIL Student	Thesis dissert.	Application of science & tech in food & agricultural development
9	Productivity heterogeneity & gender dichotomy of rice production in Ghana: policy implications for farmer & agricultural technology innovations	University of Development Studies (UDS) Franklin Nantui Mabe (PhD student)	Thesis dissert.	Application of science & tech in food & agricultural development

Other research Studies [Indicators 8 and 9]: APSP worked with MoFA and with the Crop Research Institute to develop the TOR for undertaking two special studies. Both studies conform to the overall work plan activities and will be implemented in Q3. These are:

Study	Proposing Institution	Area of GoG Priorities	Impacts
Assessment of methodologies used	Subcontractor,	Agricultural	Study to assist SRID in improving its capacity to
to collect, collate, and analyze data	CEPA	statistics	produce relevant, accurate and timely
on agricultural value chains and			agricultural statistics from the perspective of
propose new methodologies			value chains.
An assessment of the preparedness	Crops Research	Agricultural	Study will generate recommendations to
of national research institutes and	Institute,	inputs, seed	improve the capacity of agriculture research
universities for DUS and VCU	Hillary Mireku	sector	organizations to conduct DUS and VCU testing,
testing under the newly proposed	Bortey		both critical for seed variety release
crop Variety Release and	Research Scientist in		
Registration System	Seed Technology		

Engage with MoFA to Issue Tenders for Specific METASIP Research Studies [Indicators 8 and 9]: In Q2, APSP and MoFA developed and completed the TOR of two METASIP/ SAKSS priority studies. APSP will issue a tender in Q3 to award under competitive basis, the development of these studies.

Research	SAKSS Node	FASDEP and/or METASIP Priority Area
Changing Access and Use Pattern of Land in Urban and Peri-Urban Areas: A Threat to Agricultural Production?	SAKSS Node 2	Increased growth in incomes
Documenting the Various Sustainable Land and Water Management Technologies into forms that can be used for Extension Service Provision by both Public and Private Sector Service Providers	SAKSS Node 4	Sustainable management of land and environment

Follow-up on Research Recommendation: In Q2, APSP implemented dialogue events with MoFA and other relevant stakeholders to review and agree on recommendations from the project-sponsored research study, "Towards a Sustainable Soil Fertility Strategy in Ghana." As indicated elsewhere in this report, MoFA has adopted three recommendations from APSP's research as part of the GoG's 2016 Fertilizer Subsidy Program, as detailed in Component I.

Collaboration with other DPs and USAID/Ghana FTF Projects. APSP is collaborating with the ADVANCE II Project to conduct a research study on post-harvest handling of farm produce in line with its project goal. In addition, APSP shared with the Ghana Agriculture Insurance Pool (GAIP) a proposal on assessing the feasibility of agriculture insurance in Ghana, which was submitted to APSP for grant support. Representatives of the Market Oriented Agriculture Program funded by GiZ, indicated their willingness to support GAIP to develop this research, which will assist this organization in developing action plans to promote the uptake of agriculture insurance in Ghana.

Building Capacity for Research among Research Institutions [Indicator 9]: In FY2, the project administered a self-assessment tool to assess the agriculture policy research capacity of twelve applicant universities, research institutions, and GoG units. Based on the assessment, the policy research capacity score was determined to be 35%. APSP will be issuing grants to targeted research institutions for limited research capacity development that will help increase capacity with a goal of scoring 60%.

A2b. Identification of specific problems, recommendations for corrective action, and reasons why established targets were not met

Established work plan activity for the quarter	Specific problem	Reasons for not accomplishing established activity	Corrective action
Improving agricultural research capacity in selected public and private universities and CSIR research	Although APSP has undertaken an assessment on the capacities of selected institutions, the project is yet to initiate specific capacity	Project has not yet initiated grant activities with research organizations to allow for capacity building	In Q3, APSP will initiate research grants pending USAID approval. In addition, under the Licensing Contracts pilot program, at least four research organizations will receive support to
institutions	building activities	support	enhance their research capacities

A2c. Outcomes of high level meetings

Meetings	Outcome
Meetings with faculty members and graduate students of	Project will award grants for four high quality research studies
two universities and other research institutions	and two PhD thesis dissertations
Meeting with the Directors of the Council for Scientific and	Two research institutes under the Council will receive grants to
Industrial Research (CSIR)	undertake three research studies

A2d. Assessment of the validity and efficacy of progress against the objectives and results

Objectives (Milestones as established in the Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy of progress against objectives and results
Publish four high quality studies	On Track: APSP will award grants to universities and other research institutions for nine research studies next quarter (see section 2a. above)

A3. Component 3: Policy Advocacy

Component 3 is focused on building the capacity of civil society and FBOs to develop and implement policy advocacy activities, thus amplifying their voices in the agriculture policy process to:

- Improve private sector engagement in food security policy reforms and implementation;
- Improve the capacity of the private sector to advocate for pro-business agriculture sector reforms; and
- Provide civil society support for the policy efforts of other Ghana FTF projects.

A3a. Progress to date per agreed-upon work plan

KRA 3.1 Improve Engagement of the Private Sector in Food Security Policy Reforms and Implementation

Support the Revival of APPDF [Indicators 6, 7, 11, 12, and 13]: In Q1, the project received an unsolicited grant application from the Agriculture Public Private Forum (APPDF) that did not comply with technical and administrative requisites as issued in the project's RFA. After revising the grant application, APPDF resubmitted its proposal in Q2. APSP will evaluate this new proposal in Q3 to enable the project to provide technical and financial assistance for the revival of the Forum. The revival of APPDF will help promote public private dialogues and establish consensus on the needed policy reforms and program implementation to improve private sector investments in Ghana's agriculture.

COMPONENT 3: QUARTER KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Held two district public private dialogue forums for 241 participants (180 males and 61 females) in the Central Region
- Strengthened the policy advocacy capacity of Volta Rice FBO Network comprising 57 individuals (45 males and 12 females)
- Received grant applications from Agriculture Public Private Dialogue Forum (APPDF) and National Seed Trade Association of Ghana (NASTAG)
- 95 individuals participated in the policy advocacy activities of three grantees in the Volta and Eastern regions

Facilitation of Policy Advocacy Activities Strengthening FBO Networks [Indicators 6, 7, 11, and 12]: In Q2, APSP trained 57 members (45 males and 12 females) of the Volta Rice Producers Network. These members were drawn from 13 district FBO networks, decentralized MoFA departments, CSOs, and the private sector in policy advocacy. The training encouraged participants to advocate for increased support for the development of the rice value chain in the region; accordingly, the network developed an action plan to achieve the following milestones:

- Develop a position paper/policy brief on rice development for submission to policy makers at the national, regional, and district levels and for publication in the media by March 2016.
- Create increased awareness through radio discussions and press releases on the potential of rice production in the Volta Region to attract the needed support from development partners, government, and private sector investors.
- Raise funds internally to support the activities of the network.

Expanding Non-State Actors Participation through the Small Grants Fund [Indicators 4,6,7,9,10,11,12, and 14]: In Q2, APSP reviewed 17 concept papers under the Annual Public Statement (APS) (001) which had closed at the end of Q1. The nine approved concept papers focused on policy advocacy, gender-sensitive capacity building, and policy training activities. APSP will evaluate the full applications in Q3 and initiate the award process. The execution of this activity will expand the project's policy advocacy regime and will help develop communication materials for the attention of policy makers and the public. In Q2, APSP issued its second APS to award grants to those NSAs that will assist the project in expanding policy advocacy initiatives to other regions of the country not yet served by APSP's grants. APSP has started receiving concept papers under this public statement and evaluations will take place in Q3.

Strengthening NSA Participation through the Small Grant Fund [Indicators 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14]: In Q2, APSP continued to provide grants for policy advocacy activities. This quarter, APSP selected three organizations to receive grants to strengthen their district-level policy advocacy and advocacy research activities in the Eastern and Volta Regions. Syecomp Ltd. and North Patriots in Research and Advocacy (NORPRA) signed two new grant agreements with APSP, bringing the total of current grantees to five, as below:

Grantee	Activity	Expected Impacts		
FMSL Multi	Grantee is using radio to advocate for increasing	Radio programs about the importance of		
Media (Rite	resource allocation to Departments of Agriculture in	agriculture in the districts and pressure from		
90.1 FM <u>)</u>	six districts in the Eastern region. Grantee has	informed farmers on public policies, compel		
	produced 10 radio programs on agriculture topics,	public officials to increase resource allocation		
	played over 80 jingles to highlight agriculture and	for agricultural programs. An increased		
	produced two documentaries, one of them to call the	awareness of the need to develop sector-		
	attention of public institutions to remove aquatic	specific bylaws motivates district assemblies to		
	weeds at the banks of the Volta River at Kpong in	establish agriculture sub-committees at the		
	order to revive the fishing business	district level		
Centre for	Initiative to assess Ghana's Agriculture Sustainable	Recommendations for research and other		
Research in	Land Management (SLM) strategy and action plan	dialogue forums on the subject matter,		
Efficient	implementation in five municipal assemblies in the	contribute to adopt policy reforms to promote		
Agriculture	Volta region. In Q2 the grantee started the activity	sustainable land management in Ghana.		
Technology	with a two-day inception workshop and the			
(CREAT)	implementation of a survey questionnaire			
Syecomp	Initiative to analyse the challenges and opportunities	Recommendations stemming from the dialogue		
	for mainstreaming gender in Ghana's youth policy and	forums with specific examples on the critical		
	youth in agriculture policies and programs.	role that youth and women play in agriculture,		
	Implementation of this initiative will commence in Q3.	to impact on the livelihoods of youth and		
		women participating in the programs		
NORPRA	Initiative to support grassroots farmers, particularly	Concerns of women, FBOs, and of youth		
	youth and women farmers from the Savannah	related to issues such as inadequate access to		
	Accelerated Development Authority (SADA) zone to	land, extension services, financing, and technical		
	advocate for their concerns and priorities to be	education, will be incorporated in the SADA's		
	incorporated into the new Medium Term	Medium Term Development Plan		
	Development Plan of SADA			
Collectively, thes	Collectively, these grant activities will increase the number of dialogue forums, produce policy briefs and position papers for			
public consumption	on, and influence policy review by policy makers			

In Q2, the Pan African Organization for Sustainable Development (POSDEV) completed its grant agreement. To this end, the organization implemented a workshop to review the outcome and impact of the grant activity, which focused on advocating for reforms to fishery sector policy and regulations. Fisheries groups that participated in the grant activities were trained and informed to contribute to and deepen social accountability in Ghana's fisheries'

sector development regime and to advocate for recognition and participation in the fisheries and aquaculture policymaking process.

District Level Agriculture Policy Education and Sensitization Forums [Indicators 4, 11, and 12]: In Q2, APSP organized two forums for 241 (61 females and 180 males) public and private stakeholders in Abura-Asebu Kwamankese District and Komenda-Edina-Eguafo-Abirem (KEEA) municipality, both in Central region. These forums aimed to understand Ghana's agriculture policy making process and recommend policy reforms. Participants produced three key recommendations geared at district level authorities, as follows:

- i. To press for the establishment of sub-committees on agriculture by the two assemblies
- ii. To lobby for increased resource allocation to the district assemblies for agriculture development (for up to 10% of the total annual budget of the assemblies), and
- iii. To initiate action to develop agriculture development plans as blue prints for increased agriculture investment and development.

APSP will follow-up on the implementation of these recommendations as an on-going activity through the end of the project.

KRA 3.2: Improve the Capacity of the Private Sector to Advocate for Pro-Business Agriculture Sector Reforms in Ghana

Post Training Monitoring and Evaluation of Trained NSAs [Indicators 1, 6, 7, and 13]: In Q1, APSP completed the training of over 40 non-state actors (NSAs) to enhance their management capabilities, enabling them to better advocate for policy reforms to increase private sector investments in the agriculture sector. In Q2, the project developed TOR for a consultant to assess the impact of the training programs in Q3. The assessment will help identify gaps that must be filled to fully empower the NSAs to contribute more effectively to the agriculture policy making process in Ghana.

Strengthening the Capacity of the National Seed Trade Association of Ghana (NASTAG) [Indicators 4, 6, 11, 12, and 13]: In QI, APSP facilitated the formation of the National Seed Trade Association of Ghana (NASTAG), an amalgamation of the Seed Producers Association of Ghana (SeedPAG) and Seed Traders Association of Ghana (STAG). NASTAG—already a registered organization under the laws of Ghana—submitted an application to APSP in March 2016 for grant support to strengthen its institutional advocacy activities. APSP expects to make the award in Q3. A unified seed sector around NASTAG will foster the unification of current splinter groups within the seed value chain and spearhead the agenda to transform Ghana's seed industry as part of APSP's strategic commitment to support implementation of the Plant and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803) and of the National Seed Plan.

KRA 3.3: Provide Civil Society Support for the Policy Efforts of Other Ghana Feed the Future Projects

Collaboration with other USAID/Ghana FTF Projects and other DPs [Indicators 2, 6, 7, 11, and 12]: APSP collaborated with other partners in Q2, as noted below, to strengthen public-private sector dialogue and advocacy, especially within the USAID zone of influence (ZOI). These

collaborative efforts will assist in harmonizing and harnessing resources toward enhancing policy advocacy initiatives.

Collaboration with Other Partners

Mechanism	Members	Objectives/Activity
	APSP, Africa Lead II, and	To support the revival of a well-functioning agriculture public-private policy
	GIZ-Market Oriented	dialogue and advocacy platform (APPDF) in Ghana
	Agriculture Program	
Staff Technical	APSP and ADVANCE II	To expand regional and district level agriculture public-private dialogue
Exchange		forums through capacity building of FBO networks
	APSP, BUSAC, ATT, and	To provide technical and financial support to the National Seed Trade
	ADVANCE II	Association of Ghana (NASTAG) to represent and promote the seed value
		chain in Ghana

Additional Activities not Originally Considered in FY3 Annual Work Plan

During FY3 Q2, APSP did not undertake any activities under Component 3 outside those specifically planned in the Annual Work Plan.

A3b. Identification of Specific Problems, Recommendations for Corrective Action, and Reasons Why Established Targets Were Not Met

Established Work Plan Activity for the Quarter	Specific Problem	Reasons for not Accomplishing Established Activity	Corrective Action
Development of policy communication materials	Project could not initiate the activity in Q2	The temporally hired Graphic Designer/artist's performance did not meet expectations and his contract was terminated	Recruitment of a new Communications and Media Specialist in Q3 to speed up the implementation of this activity
Revival of APPDF	APSP asked APPDF to resubmit its grant application to conform to APSP's unsolicited RFA	When APPDF finally resubmitted its application, it did not meet project requisites, delaying the assessment of the application.	APSP received a new application in Q2 and an alternative proposal was discussed ad agreed on with APPDF. Support will include a grant and technical assistance.
Support to National Seed Trade Association of Ghana (NASTAG)	Late submission of grant application from NASTAG	NASTAG was obtaining its registration from the Registrar General's Department which delayed resubmission of their grant application	APSP will review the application in Q3 and award the grant before the close of the quarter.
Engaging editors of Media Houses	Project was unable to initiate the activity in Q2	In Q2, APSP completed a tender process for a media agency's engagement to assist the project with implementing its communication strategy and advocacy activities	In Q3, APSP will contract the selected media agency to assist the project in highlighting activities and impacts to the client and stakeholders. It will further improve media reportage of agriculture-related issues in the Ghanaian media.
APSP newsletter	Project was unable initiate the activity in Q2	The Communications and Media Specialist did not complete the development of the newsletter	APSP's Communications and Media Specialist has developed a preliminary format for the newsletter. Implementation will take place in Q3 and will target project stakeholders and DPs.
Supporting MoFA/MoFAD to disseminate policy documents	The activity could not be implemented in Q2	The project could not identify a qualified Graphic Designer for the assignment	In Q3, the project will identify and hire a consultant to produce abridged versions of Selected MoFa/ MoFAD policy documents
Monitor recommendations at policy forum	The activity could not be implemented in Q2	Most district assemblies could not start operations until late in Q1	The activity has been postponed to Q3.

A3c. Outcomes of High Level Meetings

Activity	Outcome
The ADVANCE II and APSP policy advocacy teams met in	The ADVANCE II Project Policy Advocacy Specialist developed a
February to develop a concept paper and identity potential	concept paper for strengthening the FBO networks in the USAID
FBO networks in the SADA region for advocacy capacity	ZOI.
strengthening	

A3d. Assessment of the Validity and Efficacy of Progress against the Objectives and Results

Objectives (Annual Milestones as established in the Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy of progress against objectives and results
Supporting the revival of APPDF	Behind schedule. APPDF's second grant application did not meet APSP's requirements. APPDF and APSP to work together to review the technical and financial proposal for approval.
District Agriculture Policy Education Fora	On track. Two forums carried out in FY3 Q2, One is currently outstanding
2 NSAs received grants for policy advocacy	On track. Two grant agreements signed within the quarter. Disbursement of funds to grantee will start in Q3. Grant activity will increase the number of policy advocacy forums and communication materials developed.
Develop TOR for post training evaluation of NSAs	On track. APSP will directly undertake post training assessment in FY3 Q3
Support to the National Seed Association (NASTAG)	Behind schedule. Interim Executive of NASTAG presented application for financial support to APSP in March 2016. Project to finalize assessment and consider award in Q3
Collaborate with FTF projects and donor projects such as ADVANCE II, ATT, BUSAC, and GIZ-MOAP	On track. Collaboration ongoing between APSP, ATT, ADVANCE II, and BUSAC Fund to establish NASTAG and with GIZ-MOAP to revive APPDF.
Implement media training for at least 20 media persons in March 2016	Behind schedule. Media training will take place in April 2016.
Monitor implementation of recommendations at dialogue forums	Behind schedule. The monitoring of these recommendations should take place at the District Assemblies, which just started working in Q2, after their election, inauguration and actual seating. Project to commence monitoring in Q3 and Q4.
Strengthen 2 FBO Networks in Q2	Behind schedule. One FBO network's advocacy capacity was strengthened in Q2. Other three FBOs will receive support in Q3 and Q4.

B. Planned Activities for Next Quarter by Component

Activity	Component I Policy Formation and Implementation	Component 2 Policy Research	Component 3 Policy Advocacy
High-Level Meetings	 Meet with PPBD to discuss establishment of Policy Unit in MoFA and establish a roadmap to lead to its restructuring Meet with stakeholders to assess a pilot program to promote implementation of Seed Licensing Contracts Conduct periodic meetings with MoFA's Chief Director and Directors on APSP's activities and identification of emerging priorities 	Meet with MoFA management to discuss policy research findings from research activities Meet with faculties/deans of selected research institutions on how to improve their research capacities	Meet with APPDF representatives on their grant application Meet with NASTAG interim Executives on their grant proposals
Technical Assistance, Trainings, and Assessments	 Activate quarterly meetings of SAKSS Nodes to implement action plan Support JSR implementation and ASWG meetings Support validation of land policy on large agriculture land acquisition Support development of website for the 	APSP and selected universities and research institutions to explore providing limited technical assistance to improve capacities for agriculture policy research	 Train 25 media personnel in agriculture communications and reporting Undertake post-training evaluation of 43 NSAs Follow up on recommendations of

	National Bio-Safety Authority (NBA) Commence sensitization on GADS Implement validation workshop on FBO strategy Support drafting of MoFA's Agriculture Performance Review for the JSR Organize forum for commercialization of foundation seed Organize training for NSC and TVRC members and other seed experts Continue training of SRID staff in CAP		agriculture policy forums
Grants, Subcontracts	 CEPA to undertake three assessments: NAFCO, Situation Analysis of Agriculture Marketing and New Methods to collect agriculture data Technical assistance to LAP II on Land Bill 	 Award 11 research grants Monitor implementation of CAPI Train 60 MoFA/SRID staff in 10 districts on CAPI 	 Provide grants to two NSAs Subcontract media agency to support the development of communication materials Award grants for APPDF & NASTAG
Collaboration	Collaborate with ATT and AGRA in implementing pilot program to promote seed licensing contracts	Engage with other FTF projects to fund research proposals relevant to their projects for sponsorship	Strengthen collaboration with policy ADVANCE II Project to discuss support to FBOs networks

C. PROGRESS ON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

CI. Gender

Project Progress in Gender Mainstreaming

In Q2, APSP continued to mainstream gender-sensitive policymaking activities by engaging WIAD and a number of gender CSOs involved in agriculture across the country.

Gender in Agriculture Development Strategy (GADS II)	Incorporating gender disaggregated data
	into policy and development plans
MoFA launched the GADS II in January 2016. APSP supported WIAD to	APSP and WIAD organized a one-day roundtable
develop TOR to recruit a service provider to train MoFA and selected	discussion on the findings and recommendations
gender CSOs in GADS II. The tender process has been completed and a	from the Gender and Agriculture Baseline Survey
service provider selected to commence training in Q3.	Report developed by the project in FY2.
The objectives of the planned trainings are as follows:	MoFA Directorates, local and international NGOs,
a. To assist WIAD to strongly position gender issues in the agriculture	FBOs, other relevant Ministries and Commissions,
policy process	financial institutions, agricultural projects in Ghana,
b. To implement the policy recommendations in the Gender and	and the media, among many others, attended the
Agriculture Baseline Survey Report	discussion. Stakeholders to incorporate the
c. To contribute to ensuring sustainability of WIAD's activities, and;	recommendations in their work; use the
d. To enable gender research institutions to intensify their gender	information for advocacy purposes; and for the
research activities to produce high quality research which addresses	development of projects to bridge the gender gap
gender constraints and opportunities	in agriculture.

APSP Gender Specialist Hannah Nyamekye ended her one-year contract assisting APSP in the implementation of the project's Gender Strategy. APSP staff will continue implementing the strategy and mainstreaming gender issues within the project activities, based on training received from the Ms. Nyamekye.

C2. Environmental Compliance

APSP's activities for the FY3 Q2 complied with basic environmental policy requirements which encourage minimal environmental impacts arising from the implementation of agricultural projects. Many of the project's activities, including those of grantees and subcontractors, involved workshops, trainings, advocacy initiatives, policy research, and stakeholder consultations, all with virtually no environmental impact. They were categorically excluded from the project's Initial Environmental Examination (IEE). The table below shows the activities excluded from initial environmental examination.

Activities under 22 CFR 216 Categorically Excluded	APSP activities in Q2 (illustrative)
Activities involving education, training, technical assistance or training programs, except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (e.g., construction of facilities, etc.)	 Training of MoFA staff in policy and development planning Training of CSOs/FBOs in policy advocacy
Activities involving analyses, studies, academic research or workshops and meetings	 Meetings with universities and research institutions on the review of research proposals Consultations on FBO strategy review

D. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and Evaluation Activities

M&E Capacity Building for staff of MOFA: So far in Q2, 64 MOFA staff (M&E, the Policy Planning & Budget, and the SRID directorates) have received capacity building training in monitoring and evaluation and policy analysis through subcontractor GIMPA.

Knowledge Management and Learning: In Q2, APSP staff participated in FTF Implementing Partners workshop on findings of a second Population-Based Survey (PBS) carried out by the METSS/Kansas State University to track progress of some FTF indicators.

Planned Activities for Performance Monitoring in Q2 of FY3

- Routine performance monitoring of all project, grantee, and subcontractor activities
- Data Quality Assessment of APSP monitoring system and FtFMS standard indicators

ANNEXES

Annex A: Indicator Data Table – FY3 Q2 Report

#	INDICATOR	LOA	FYI6 TARGET	FY16 Q2 ACTUAL	Cumulative Result	Analysis of processes/results against targets				
I	Score, in percent, of combined key areas of organizational capacity among direct and indirect local implementing partners (Outcome)	4	-	-	2.83	Baseline for 45 NSAs (local implementing partners) has been completed using the OCA tool.				
						- Indicator on track.				
	Number of individuals who have received U.S.					Male Female Total				
2	government-supported short-term agriculture sector	5,000	1,500	449	3,214	Subcontractors Training of NSAs 116 35 151				
	productivity or food security training (Output)					Grantees training activities 0 0 0				
						APSP Activities 225 73 298				
						Totals 341 108 449				
3	New Indicator: "Number of organizations focusing on women in agriculture policy advocacy, demonstrating knowledge of sources and use of gender disaggregated data on agriculture. (Output)	10	2	-	0	THIS IS A NEW INDICATOR TO REPLACE THE OLD ONE. 'Percent change of key decision-makers reporting that activity- supported data to inform their decisions related to food security and agriculture policy issues contain gender sensitive data'				
	Component I: POLICY FORMATION & IMPLEM	ENTAT	ION							
	Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance (Output / Impact)					- Indicator on track. Specific project activities are progressing steadily in achieving results in, as shown below disaggregated by stages in the policy process				
4	Stage I: Analyzed	20	5	3	5	 i. Ghana Agriculture Extension Policy (Review of FBO Strategy) ii. Development of an Agriculture Marketing Policy (research and analysis stage) iii. Development of Ghana Irrigation Policy iv. Assessment of National Buffer Stock Company, NAFCO Policy v. Development Plans for Aquaculture Investments MOFAD 				
	Stage 2: Drafted for public consultation	15	4	7	7	i. Fertilizer subsidy policy analyzed as part of Soil Fertility study and presented to GoG. ii. Assessment of the Agriculture Commodity Trading Systems in				

#	INDICATOR	LOA	FYI6 TARGET	FY16 Q2 ACTUAL	Cumulative Result	Analysis of processes/results against targets		
						Ghana, GCX iii. Guidelines for large scale lands transactions' iv. Establish a Policy Unit at MoFA v. Crop Variety Licensing Policy for NARS vi. Seed Commercialization Agreements for NARS vii. Contract for the Production of Breeder/Basic Seed for NARS		
	Stage 3: Presented for legislation	10	3	0	3	 i. National Seed Policy and Seed Regulation analyzed by public-private stakeholders ii. Animal Health Bill presented for legislation. iii. Livestock Production Bill presented for legislation. 		
	Stage 4: Passed/approved	5	2	2	3	i. National Quarantine Pest List approved. ii. Variety Evaluation and Release manual for TVRC iii. Accreditation manual for seed certification for GISD (TA)		
	Stage 5: Passed for which implementation has begun	3	1	2	3	 i. Bio-Safety Act, 2011 (Act 831). Technical Assistance (TA) to implement Communication Plan ii. Plants and Fertilizers Act, 2010 (Act 803). TA to disseminate policy iii. Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy (GADS). TA to disseminate strategy 		
5	Number of government units or divisions that have received short-term training. (Output)	20	4	4	16	 Indicator under progress and APSP is on track. RADU, SRID, WIAD, VSD, APD, DAES, PPRSD, DCS, PPB, M&ED Technical Variety Release Committee (TVRC) National Seed Council (NSC) and Seed Breeders trained Parliamentary Select Committee Ministry of Lands & Natural Resources (MLNR - Land Commission) MESTI (National Bio-Safety Authority) 		
						Source of Communication Number		
	Number of agriculture policy communications,					GOG 4		
6	developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption (Output)	200	90	48	114	Grantees 44		
						Subcontractors 66		
						Grand Total 114		
7	Number of policy advocacy campaigns that focus on the separate needs of men and women small holder farmers (Output)	20	5	0	10	Indicator is on target and will accelerate as more grantees take on activities One grantee carried out advocacy campaign focused on women - Grantees: RUMNET (2) CRIS, URBANET, SIRDA (3), RUWA (3), carried out Advocacy campaigns focused on special needs of women		

#	INDICATOR	LOA	FYI6 TARGET	FY16 Q2 ACTUAL	Cumulative Result	Analysis of processes/results against targets			
	Component 2: POLICY RESEARCH								
8	Number of high quality research reports published (Output)	6	2	0	2	Two project-sponsored high quality research studies have been accomplished for this indicator: • Towards a Soil Fertility Strategy in Ghana • Report on Agricultural Insurance in Ghana.			
9	Score, in percent, of improved areas of policy research capacity in assisted research organizations and units (Outcome)	4 (80%)	n/a	-	1.75	APSP completed a self-assessment tool of universities and other research organizations for this indicator if FY2. [See September 2015 Research Capacity Assessment Report]			
	Component 3: POLICY ADVOCACY								
10	Score, in percent, of the capacity of the private sector to advocate for pro-business agriculture sector reform in Ghana (Outcome)	4	n/a	-	2.50	Advocacy Capacity measured from ACA results for 45 NSAs [See December 2014 ACAT Report]			
11	Number of public-private advocacy dialogues focused on policy that supports private sector investment (Output)	120	40	4	70	Grantees 50 APSP activities 20 Grand Total 70			
12	Percent of recommendations agreed upon during public-private dialogues that are implemented (Outcome)	30%	20%	50%	50%	9 recommendations agreed upon, have been implemented, out of a total of 18 recommendations			
13	4.5.2-11: Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and agribusiness associations (such as farmer based organizations), and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (Output)	90	20	I	44	Type of food security Enterprise APEX Organizations 4 CSOs Private enterprises (for profit) Producers organizations Women's groups 4 Grand Total			
14	Number of Local Entities receiving performance improvement assistance (disaggregated by type of entity – government, CSO, Private sector) (Output)	110	36	6	61	Grand Total Number has reduced from the last quarter because 12 grantees were double counted for grants and capacity building training in Q2			

Annex B: Agricultural Enabling Environment Policies: Stages of Development

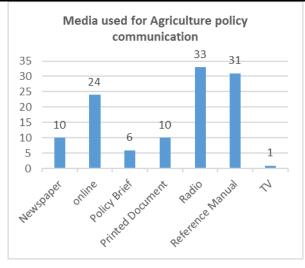
Policy Reform Agenda for the USAID/Ghana Feed the Fut	ture Agriculture Policy	Support	Project for F	Y 3			
		PROCESS/STEPS					
Policies/ Regulations/ Administrative Procedures	Type of Legal Document	Analysis	Stakeholder Consultation/ Public Debate			Full and Effective Implementation	
AGRICULTURAL INPUT POLICIES							
Plants and Fertilizers Act, 2010 (Act 803). Support to dissemination	Policy/ Regulation					X	
2. Redrafting of Seed Regulation for harmonization to ECOWAS Protocols	Policy / Regulation				Х		
3. Fertilizer subsidy policy analyzed as part of Soil Fertility study and presented to GoG.	Policy / Regulation			X			
4. Guidelines for Production of Foundation Seeds by the Private Sector	Administrative Procedure				×		
5. Variety Evaluation and Release manual for TVRC	Administrative Procedure				X		
6. Accreditation manual for seed certification for GISD	Administrative Procedure				×		
7. National Quarantine Pest List	Administrative Procedure					×	
8. Accreditation manual for seed certification for GISD	Administrative Procedure				×		
9. Crop Variety Licensing Policy for NARS	Administrative Procedure				Х		
10. Seed Commercialization Agreements for NARS	Administrative Procedure				Х		
11. Licensing Contracts for the Production of Breeder Seed for NARS & Seed Companies	Administrative Procedure					Х	
ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT	,						
12. Ghana Agriculture Extension Policy: Review of FBO Strategy	Policy / Regulation		Х				
13. Development of Ghana Irrigation Policy	Policy / Regulation	×					
14. Assessment of the Agriculture Commodity Trading Systems in Ghana, GCX	Policy / Regulation		Х				
15. Development Plans for Aquaculture Investments MoFAD: Inputs for implementing Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy	Policy / Regulation		Х				
LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TENURE, RIGHTS, AND POLICY							
16. Redrafting of Land Bill (Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources)	Policy / Regulation			X			
17. Guidelines for large scale lands transactions (Ghana's Lands Commission)	Administrative		Х				

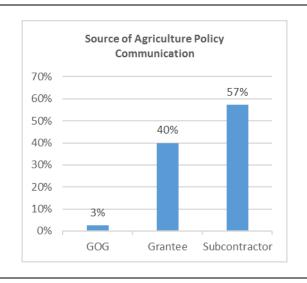
Policy Reform Agenda for the USAID/Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project for FY3								
	Procedure							
INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE FOR IMPROVED POLICY FORMULATION								
18. Restructuring of Policy Unit at MoFA	Administrative Procedure			Х				
19. Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy (GADS). Support to dissemination	Policy/ Regulation					×		
20. Assessment of New Methodologies for Data collection, Analysis and Management:	Administrative Procedure		Х					
AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICY								
21. Development of an Agriculture Marketing Policy: Research on Situational analysis of Agriculture Marketing in Ghana	Policy / Regulation		Х					
RESILIENCE AND AGRICULTURAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY								
22. Assessment of National Buffer Stock Company: Assessing policy on price market interventions and establishment of food buffer stocks	Policy / Regulation		×					
23. Bio-Safety Act, 2011 (Act 831). Technical Assistance to assist implementation of National Bio-Safety Authority's communication Plan	Policy / Regulation					×		
NUTRITION								
24. Animal Health Bill	Policy / Regulation				X			
25. Livestock Production Bill	Policy / Regulation				X			
		I	7	3	9	5		

Annex C: Agriculture Policy Communications Developed

		Policy Area				
Medium of Communication	Capacity Building	Policy Advocacy	Total			
Newspapers	1	9	10			
Online postings	4	19	23			
Policy Briefs		6	6			
Printed Documents	8	2	10			
Radio		33	33			
Reference Manuals	31		31			
TV		1	1			
Total	44	71	114			

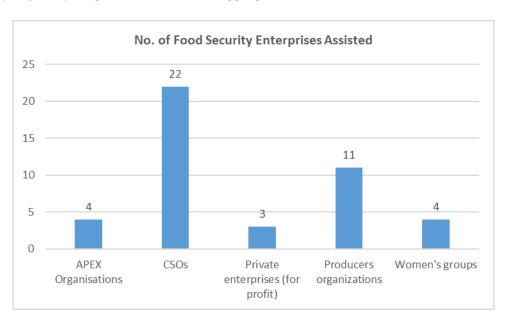
Source of Communication	Number
GOG	4
CSOs	44
Subcontractors	66
Total	114





Annex D: Food Security Private Enterprises Assisted

From FYI – FY3 Q2, APSP has assisted 44 Food Security enterprises comprising: 22 CSOs, II Producer Organizations, 4 Apex Organizations, 4 Women groups, and 3 private (for profit) Organizations. The disaggregation is shown in the chart below:



SNAPSHOT

Advocacy Training Increases Women's Access to Agriculture Extension Services in the Northern Region of Ghana

Building the capacity of women farmers to understand Ghana's agriculture extension policy and the policy process increases their confidence in requesting agriculture extension services, thereby broadening their enormous contribution to the development of agriculture in Ghana.



Women participants at one of the policy education sessions
Photo: SIRDA

"Since last year, we have more women visiting our offices and asking questions that they never asked. The District Assembly has captured our need for fuel for extension this year because of the advocacy meetings and the radio discussions advocating for increased district assemblies' investment in agriculture. It was even an opportunity to train our own AEAs on the FASDEP II and METASIP."

Deputy Director of Agriculture-Osumanu, Nanumba South District

In Ghana, women play a significant role in the agriculture sector, contributing to over half of the labor force and producing about 70% of the country's food stock. Furthermore, they constitute 95% and 85% of those involved in agro processing and food distribution chains, respectively. Despite their importance to the agricultural sector, rural women in Ghana lack access to agricultural extension services, which could improve their farm productivity and incomes and enhance food security nationwide.

The Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project's (APSP) mandate is to strengthen the agriculture policy process in Ghana. The project's Policy Advocacy component assists civil society organizations and private sector stakeholders in improving their advocacy skills, enabling them to voice their demands for policy reforms and participate effectively in the policy-making process.

The Savannah Integrated Rural Development Aid (SIRDA)—a local non-governmental organization based in the Northern Region—received a grant from APSP to improve the advocacy capacity for increased access to agricultural extension services of over 1,500 women farmers in three districts in the Northern Region. The women farmers were trained on how, when, and from whom to access extension services. They also were educated on Ghana's agricultural policies and investment plans to help them better understand the Government of Ghana's vision to develop the agriculture sector.

SIRDA's work has already created noticeable changes in the three districts. Three radio stations have donated airtime to encourage women leaders to discuss agriculture issues and advocate for change. The Nanumba North and South Districts have incorporated funding support to agriculture extension activities in their annual composite budgets, which previously was non-existent. Women farmers in Kpandai District have started mobilizing funds to fuel the motorbikes of the Agricultural Extension Agents (AEAs) operating in their zones, thereby enabling the AEAs to visit their farms.

Isaac Nkansah, an AEA from the Nanumba North district, spoke to the grant's accomplishments: "Since I was sent to Lanja as an AEA responsible for about 18 communities five years ago, it was only last that I visited the farms of 76 women farmers to help them on how to improve their agricultural practices. This is because the women never had the courage to approach me. However, after the support from APSP to SIRDA, the women kept on coming in teams and the number in 2016 will increase highly given the calls I have started receiving since last week."

Telling Our Story
U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, DC 20523-1000
http://www.usaid,gov/results-data/success-stories

SNAPSHOT

Collecting Agricultural Statistics: Moving from Pencil and Paper Interviews to Mobile Technology



District Agriculture Statistics officers at a training session on mobile data collection



Officers using GPS to measure farm size



Officers hold the new data collection tablets
Photos: USAID/APSP

"This application will help change Ghana agricultural data base because it is authentic and can meet international standards." Francis Ahiamatah – MIS Officer, MoFA

Telling Our Story
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In Ghana, agricultural statistics are often poor quality, irrelevant, and therefore of little use in national policy-making processes. In order to address some of these weaknesses, the Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP) is supporting the Statistics, Research and Information Directorate (SRID) of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) to improve the collection, analysis, and management of agricultural statistics, thus contributing to the strengthening of policy-making decisions.

Among the initiatives to support SRID, APSP assisted the directorate with the design and development of a system to conduct interviews using mobile technology; the system has been installed on state-of-the-art 3G Android tablets purchased by APSP. SRID also is getting a high-end computer server to house and aggregate the data received in real time from the tablets. A recent pilot conducted on the new tablets demonstrated that by utilizing digital technology to interview farmers, the survey process is dramatically improved in terms of the time to conduct the interviews, to input the data, and to download it to the main server for data management and analysis.

Complementing the purchase of the digital equipment, over 200 MoFA officers responsible for survey data collection are undergoing training in mobile data collection to best leverage this new technology.

Ghanaian agriculture statistical officers say that they are highly motivated by the introduction of digital technology for data gathering. Francis Ahiamatah, a Monitoring & Information System officer at SRID, noted, "Once data collection is completed in the field, the data is automatically uploaded to a secure server in real time. This way the data is immediately available to download, review, and analyze."

Because of having the survey data at their fingertips, Francis added, "We are now able to run analyses and write manuscripts shortly after data collection. This is such a leap from the huge delays we have experienced in the past when collecting data on paper forms. This new system does not require several data entry clerks and a database developer, working over several days as in the old paper-based system."

With the addition of the tablets to its survey tools, MoFA is moving from using pencil and paper interviews to gather agricultural statistics to real-time mobile data collection. This digital transformation, in turn, will enhance MoFA's Annual Agricultural Production and Market Survey and complement the support that SRID is already receiving from the Ghana Strategic Support Program/International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) under a cooperative agreement with USAID.



FEED THE FUTURE AGRICULTURE POLICY SUPPORT PROJECT (APSP)

PROGRESS REPORT ON DEVELOPING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR SEED INDUSTRY GROWTH FOR GHANA (JANUARY-MARCH 2016)

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Contract No. 641-C-14-00001

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A. INTRODUCTION

A1. Overview

Agriculture is an established economic sector in Ghana and produces a variety of crops in various climatic zones which range from dry savanna to wet forest and which run in east-west bands across Ghana. Various crops, including, maize, rice, sorghum, groundnuts, soybeans, cowpea, cotton, pepper, yam, cassava, sweet potato, cocoyam, cocoa, oil palms, kola nuts, and timber, form the base of agriculture in Ghana's economy.

In order to support the further growth of agriculture in Ghana, the five year Feed the Future Agricultural Policy Support Project (APSP) project is being implemented by Chemonics International under contract with USAID. Iowa State University (ISU) is a subcontractor to Chemonics International. The project aims to increase the capacity of the government of Ghana, the private sector, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to implement evidence-based policy formation, implementation, research, and advocacy; and perform rigorous monitoring and evaluation of agricultural programs implemented under the Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (METASIP) and other development frameworks devised by the government of Ghana.

A2. Terms of Reference

Iowa State University contracted the consultants and provided them with the following terms of reference as per the subcontract signed with Chemonics International for the implementation of the Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project:

- a. Strengthen the variety release system in Ghana with the object to operationalize and build capacity for the implementation of the variety release system
 - Breed awareness on the use of the procedures manual and variety evaluation
 - Update and improve the procedure manual to cover variety evaluation, release, and registration
 - Conduct workshops
- b. Develop a seed quality assurance system for seed certification in Ghana
 - Write procedures manual for accreditation of seed inspectors, seed samplers, institutions, and seed testing laboratories
 - Conduct an unofficial audit to determine gaps, review the procedures manual, and update the procedures manual for seed certification
 - Hold workshops in Ghana
- c. Introduce licensing of varieties with the objective of increasing preparedness of NARIs and seed enterprises for licensing
 - Follow up on progress on writing and approval of institutional licensing policies and adaptation of contracts for royalties, seed acquisitions, and NARIs

- Encourage the signing of licensing agreements and basic seed contracts between NARIs and seed enterprises/seed producers
- Conduct workshops in Ghana
- d. Support the NSC Secretariat in becoming fully operational with a functioning Secretariat
 - Prepare draft policy proposal to increase market demand through a small-farmer input access program

B. METHODS

In order to address the contractual objectives, the consultants have so far carried out the following:

- a. Conducted a desk study of the following: Plants and Fertilizer Act, 2010 (Act 803); Draft Regulations to Act 803, and National Seed Policy
- b. Developed a draft manual on procedures for variety evaluation and release in Ghana prior to ISU's February-March 2016 visit to Ghana
- c. Developed a draft procedures manual for Seed Certification Accreditation prior to ISU's February-March 2016 visit to Ghana
- d. Held six workshops in which parts of the law, regulations, and procedures were discussed and made clear to participants. The workshops were: i) Four on Procedures for variety evaluation and release; ii) One on development of institutional variety licensing policies by NARIs to seed enterprises; and, iii) One on Accreditation of seed certification activities.

C. FINDINGS

This report covers four areas of analysis: The variety release system, the seed quality assurance system, licensing agreements, and support to the National Seed Council.

C1. The Variety Release System

Awareness creation on the variety release system in Ghana

The consultants developed a draft manual on procedures for variety evaluation and release in Ghana. This includes procedures for: i) Application for accreditation; ii) Initial/periodic audit; iii) training in variety testing; iv) DUS and VCU evaluation; v) variety release; vi) Handling of confidential business information, and; vii) appeals.

The APSP/ISU team held four workshops each at the following National Agriculture Research Institutions (NARIs):

- Crops Research Institute (CRI) in Kumasi (February 23, 2016)
- Savannah Agricultural Research Institute (SARI) in Tamale (March 3, 2016)
- University of Cape Cost in Cape Coast (February 24, 2016)
- University of Ghana in Accra (February 25, 2016)

The workshops discussed the draft manual of procedures for variety evaluation and release.

The APSP/ISU team along with local scientists and other stakeholders agreed upon on the procedures and the manual contains their submissions collected during consultations in 2015. The exercise created awareness for breeders, agronomists, seed technologists, and other scientists on the use of the procedures manual and on evaluation of varieties. Individuals were encouraged to implement the variety release system.

Workshops of the Technical and Variety Release Committee During the consultants' last visit to Ghana in August 2015, local stakeholders were engaged and they agreed on how variety In order to operationalize the variety release system in Ghana, procedures for variety evaluation and release need to be approved by the Technical and Variety Release Committee (TVRC) and the National Seed Council (NSC) as provided for in the Plants and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act. 803).

evaluation and release would be conducted in Ghana in line with provisions contained in the Plants and Fertilizer Act, 2010 (Act 803). The stakeholders included plant breeders, seed technologists, seed traders, and policy makers. The consultants prepared a manual on the procedures agreed upon to guide the implementation of the variety release system. The manual was presented to the Technical and Variety Release Committee (TVRC) for consideration before being presented by the TVRC to the National Seed Council (NSC) for approval as per Act 803.

At the second workshop with the TVRC held in February 2016, participants went through the manual page by page and provided input. The consultants will incorporate the TVRC's inputs in a new version of the manual which will be submitted to APSP by April 15, 2016. It is envisaged that the new draft will be presented to the NSC when the consultants next visit Ghana.

At this last TVRC workshop, the Chairman—MoFA's Crop Services Director—was insistent that the manual be revised by other stakeholders before formal technical concurrence by this committee. A workshop participants list is included in Appendix 4.

When the consultants submit the new draft manual to APSP, ISU recommends that the project follow-up and facilitate the TVRC's review prior to presenting the procedures to the NSC for approval, ISU recommends that the TVRC meet to approve the procedures prior to the consultants' next visit in May/June 2016. This will set the stage for the NSC meeting in June and set the effective date for implementation of the manual, thus continuing the original plan of having the release system computerized.

C2. Seed Quality Assurance System

The consultants developed a draft manual on the seed quality assurance system for seed certification in Ghana. The manual is based on desk studies and consultations made in 2015. It provides details for: i) Application for accreditation by an entity (e.g., seed testing laboratory) and individuals (seed inspectors, seed samplers, and seed analysts); ii) Initial/periodic audit of applicants for accreditation; iii) training in seed quality assurance, and; iv) appeals.

A five day workshop (February 22-26, 2016) took place in Accra which included seed

For the next consultants' visit, ISU recommends the following:

- A restructuring of the seed certification manual and the development of procedures missing in the current seed certification manual
- Determine if these procedures need to be proposed/approved by TVRC and/or;
- By NSC to consider the approval of procedures for accreditation in seed certification activities during their same session for approval of the variety release procedures of May/June 2016

inspectors, seed samplers, and seed analysts of the Ghana Seed Inspectorate Division (GSID). The GSID examined the accreditation manual for seed certification in Ghana and participants provided input for further improvements. GSID suggestions were incorporated into the document during the workshop. The GSID participants also presented the activities they had conducted ncluding registration, field inspection, sampling, seed testing, market control, and data management, which served as a basis for an unofficial audit and for the identification of gaps in such processes. In addition, the Director of the GSID provided a draft of the Seed Certification Manual, which is being finalized. The lead consultant offered to rearrange and contribute to the finalization of said manual, which was well received by the Director of

GSID. A hardcopy of the manual was provided and a soft copy is to be forwarded shortly by the Director.

C3. Licensing of Varieties Through Agreements Between NARIs and Private Sector Seed Producers

During their previous August 2015 visit to Ghana, the consultants trained the NARIs (CRI, SARI, UCC, and UG) and seed enterprises in the formulation of their respective institutional licensing

policies, variety licensing agreements, and basic seed production contracts for use in licensing of varieties by the institution. The APSP/ISU also recommended the NARIs secure approval of a draft variety licensing policy by their respective authorities.

During their February-March 2016 assignment, the consultants found that none of the NARIs had secured approval. Only one had developed a draft policy and three NARIs were yet to formulate institutional policies on licensing of varieties. The UCC and SARI have since developed the institutional policies and have submitted the same to authorities for approval. The draft institutional policy developed by CRI has neared completion. The University of Ghana has decided that the university's patent office will handle licensing of varieties and the Director of

To ensure progress on licensing of varieties, the consultants have requested APSP follow-up on obtaining the approvals of institutional licensing policies from NARIs. A discussion with APSP's COP led to the initial development of a concept paper on a "Pilot **Program for the Promotion of Licensing Agreements." This** activity is critical to increase momentum for licensing of varieties in Ghana and is highly recommended for implementation. Workshops to create awareness and fill procedural gaps on variety licensing may be held with NARIs and private seed sector meetings during the next consultants' visit in May 2016.

WACCI will lead the development of a policy to detail how licensing of varieties will be carried out.

A workshop on licensing of varieties was conducted on February 15-16, 2016, with the objective of addressing difficulties in writing institutional licensing policies. The consultants advanced awareness of licensing varieties and the need for an institutional policy during a visit to the respective NARIs during the week of February 23-25, 2016 and on March 3, 2016.

The consultants discussed with APSP ways to improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in the multiplication of pre-basic and basic seeds through licensing agreements signed with NARIs. In this case, NARIs will supply the breeder and/or basic seeds to interested private seed producers for multiplication and certification.

The consultants will work with APSP staff to prepare the modality arrangements for the Pilot Program and the consultants will follow-up on this activity during their next visit to Ghana. ISU recommends that the project discusses the proposal with stakeholders to ensure everyone is on the same page, particularly on the volume and price of basic seed of the selected varieties of the three Feed the Future priority crops to prepare the final proposal for USAID approval.

A proposal was made for the project to support the implementation of licensing agreements as a mechanism to both strengthen NARIs' research capacities and strengthen linkages with the private sector, while contributing to increasing the availability of good quality seeds for farmers. Under the proposal, APSP would contribute 50 percent of the cost for the implementation of the licensing agreements, while interested seed producers will contribute the other half. In principle the project accepted the proposal which includes an additional USD 100,000 in funding.

C4. Support to the National Seed Council to be operational with a functioning Secretariat

The NSC/TVRC Secretariat has a lean structure. To increase the performance of the Secretariat, key staff targeted for the same should be practically trained in handling this process, as well as, the implementation of the variety release, accreditation, licensing, and computerizing. The Secretariat will need hands-on training, together with representatives of the Seed Trade Association, GSID, and NARIs in all the above areas. A visit to Zambia for this purpose could be advantageous for building capacity in these areas.

D. PROGRESS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

At this stage in the process of supporting the Government of Ghana in the implementation of the Plants and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803) and improving the enabling environment for facilitating access of smallholder farmers to improved seeds, the APSP/ISU team reports the following achievements and makes the following recommendations:

 By mid-2015, ISU's lead consultant, Dr. Joseph Cortes finalized the review of Ghana's Seed Regulations based on the Plants and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803).

- 2. Based on this review, APSP has supported the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) with adjusting the Seeds Regulations to ECOWAS Protocols and the Ministry has submitted these regulations to Parliament for enactment. However, in following up, APSP has found that the corresponding Parliamentary Select committees in charge of examining the bill before presenting it for passage have not been able to meet. In order to facilitate the discussion of the Seeds Regulations at its revision stage, APSP has offered MoFA logistical support to enable the members of the Select Committees to meet, but as of now, the process has stalled. APSP should work with MoFA to make sure that the Parliamentary Select Committee undertakes revision of the regulations. It is critical that said regulations are passed by Parliament to give legal validity to the details not explained in the law and to allow for its full implementation.
- 3. A locally generated variety release system in Ghana has been developed with a draft of the procedures manual agreed upon by the country's scientists and other stakholders. However, to operationalize the variety release system, the National Seed Council should approve the procedures for variety evaluation and release as provided for by the Plants and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803). To improve further the variety release system the APSP/ISU team recommends:
 - a. Implementation of a training program for researchers in data collection with respect to DUS and VCU characteristics for specific crops.
 - b. Implementation of a hands-on training program in Zambia on the variety release system for technical staff at each NARI and TVRC.
 - c. Computerization of the variety evaluation and release system in Ghana.
- 4. Seed certification ensures control and inspection of seed of verifiable varieties. Personnel to carry out most of the activities are available and were trained in accreditation procedures for purposes of seed certification. To strengthen further implementation of activities for seed certification, the following are recommended:
 - a. Implementation of the accreditation system
 - b. Hands on training in Zambia on seed accreditation for selected GSID staff
 - Provide technical assistance to the GSID to restructure their administrative organization and procedures for seed certification, including the new accreditation program
- 5. Comments have been received on the first draft of the procedures manual on the variety release system. The project should follow-up with MoFA to request additional comments on the version discussed at the TVRC meeting of February 2016. Also, MoFA should provide the fee structure for the different crops for inclusion in the procedures manual. Once APSP conveys this information to the ISU consultants, the procedures manual will be finalized and will be submitted at the next TVRC meeting for approval.

- 6. The Secretariats of NSC/TVRC will play important roles in variety evaluation, release, and seed certification. The APSP/ISU team has trained targeted staff in the TVRC Secretariat on the theoretical components of activities in evaluating varieties and in seed certification. The secretariat still needs hands on support in the area of variety evaluation. A visit to Zambia for this purpose could be helpful.
- 7. The variety release and the accreditation manual need to be approved by the TVRC/NSC as soon as possible, hopefully in the next quarter of the present fiscal year. APSP will determine if the accreditation manual only requires NSC approval. The approval of these manuals is delaying program activities in this area of support and may need to be pushed to the fourth quarter of this fiscal year. It should be noted that the activities as indicated in 4. a, b, and c above, require that both of these manuals be approved by the corresponding authorities of Ghana, so the next stage of APSP's technical assistance is based on actual and enforceable regulations and procedures.
- 8. Varieties developed by a NARO need to reach the farmer and improve his/her crop production. The APSP/ISU team has trained NARIs in developing institutional licensing policies, licensing agreements, and basic seed production contracts. However, to ensure progress on licensing of varieties, APSP should follow-up on securing the approvals of the respective institutional licensing policies at all NARIs.
- 9. In order to further improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in the seed industry, it has been proposed that APSP partially support the implementation of licensing agreements for the production of pre basic and basic seeds. The project intends to issue a tender to receive grant applications for the implementation of a pilot program to promote the implementation of licensing contracts and to promote the utilization of newer and better varieties through licensing contracts. APSP will prepare a detailed proposal on modality arrangements for the pilot and will send it to the ISU consultants for suggestions before issuing the tender. ISU recommends that the project obtain the prices of basic seeds by variety and by research institution and of the amounts of basic seed as required by the private sector to ensure that the proposal is complete.

The ISU team intends to return to Ghana in May 23, 2016 to continue with planned activities in support of the USAID/Ghana Agricultural Policy Support Project.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Participants at Workshops on Procedures for Variety, Evaluation, and Release of Licensing Varieties

1a: University of Ghana—Accra

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Email	Phone
1	Eric Danquah Prof.	М	Director, WACCI (Breeder)		
2	Pangirayi Tongoona Prof.,	M	D/Director, WACCI (Breeder)		
3	Kwadwo Ofori Prof.	М	Dean, School of Graduate studies		
4	Essie Blay Prof.	F	Breeder		
5	Beatrice Ifie PhD	F	Maize Breeder		
6	Agyemang Danquah PhD	М	Lecturer		
7	Daniel Dzidzienyo PhD	М	Coordinator, Research Programs		
8	Vivian Oduro PhD	F	Snr research Scientist		
9	George Nkansah Prof.	М	Professor		
10	Lemuel Mintah PhD	М	Research Fellow		
11	Ousseini Ardaly Abdou	М	PhD Student/Breeder		
12	Juliana Mariama Vangahum (Mrs)	F	PhD Student/Breeder		
13	Augusta Jebeh Barka (Mrs)	F	PhD Student/Breeder		
14	Luka Atok Opio Awata	М	Breeder		
15	Wendm Ygzaw Gesesew	М	PhD Student/Breeder		
16	Bassirou Sani Boubacar Gaoh	М	Breeder (Pearl Millet)		
17	Nathan Aliel Kachiguma	М	Breeder		
18	Bedasa Mekonnon Dosho	М	Breeder		
19	Tighankouni Jnr. Gmakoba	М	PhD Student/Breeder		
20	Adelaide Pingdewinde Ouedraogo (Mrs)	F	PhD Student/Breeder		
21	Pearl Abu (Mrs)	F	PhD Student/Breeder		
22	Michael Kwabena Osei	М	PhD Student/Breeder (Tomato)		
23	Rosemary Kusi-Adjei (Mrs)	F	PhD Student/Breeder		
24	Kwabena Bediako Asare	М	PhD Student/Breeder		
25	Dans Kiamue Johnson	М	PhD Student/Breeder		
26	Prince Emmanuel Norman	М	PhD Student/Breeder		

1b: Crop Research Institute (CRI)—Kumasi

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Email	Phone
1	Stella A. Ennin PhD	F	Director		
2	K. Obeng-Antwi PhD	М	Breeder		
3	Kofi Dartey PhD	М	Rice Breeder		
4	Emmanuel Otoo PhD	М	Deputy Director		
5	Maxwell Asante PhD	М	Breeder		
6	Stephen Amoah PhD	М	Breeder		
7	Martin Tengan	М	Breeder		
8	Priscilla Ribiero (Mrs)	F	Breeder		
9	Allen Oppong PhD	М	Breeder		
10	Hillary Mireku Bortey	М	Research Scientist		
11	Alimatu Sadia Osuman	F	Research Scientist		
12	Emmanuel Adjei Asamoah	М	Research Scientist		
13	Ruth N.A. Prempeh	F	Breeder		
14	Joseph Manu-Aduening PhD	М	Breeder		
15	J.Y. Asibuo PhD	М	Breeder		
16	Hans Adu-Dapaah		Breeder		

1c: University of Cape Coast—Cape Coast

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Email	Phone
			Head of Department,		
1	K.J. Taah PhD	M	Crop science		
2		М	Scientist, Crop Science		
	J.P. Tetteh Prof.		-		
3	P. Agu Asare PhD	M	Scientist, Crop Science		
4	L.K.Galyuon Prof.	М	Molecular Scientist		
5	P. Otwe PhD	М	Molecular Scientist		
6	A. Tettey Asare PhD	М	Molecular Scientist		
7	Grace C. van de Puije PhD	F	Scientist, Crop Science		
	Evis Asare Bediako				
8	Prof.	M	Scientist, Crop Science		
9	Ivy RoseAkatapo	F	DRIC Officer		
10	Ignitious Otoibu	М	Rep, Ag Director, DISCS		

1d: Savannah Agricultural Research Institute (SARI)—Tamale

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Email	Phone
	Peter Asungre				
1	Anabire	M	Breeder-millet		
2	Alidu Haruna	М	Breeder-Maize		
3	Kwabena Acheremu	М	Breeder-potato		
	Kenneth Opare-				
4	Obuobi	M	Breeder-sorghum		
	Gloria Boakyewaa				
5	Adu	F	Breeder-Maize		
6	Emmanuel Chamba	М	Plant Breeder		
	Emmanuel Amponsah				
7	Adjei	M	Plant Breeder		
8	Gloria Adazebra	F	Research Scientist		
	Francisca Addae-				
9	Frimpomaah	F	Research Scientist		
	Joseph Adjebeng-				
10	Danquah	M	Research Scientist		
11	lddi Musah	М	СТО		
12	Daniel Akovuta	M	STA		
			Principal Technology		
13	Richard Y. Agyaie	M	Officer		
			Principal Research		
14	Wilson Dogbe	M	Scientist		
15	Stephen K Natsugah	М	Director		
16	Robert K. Owusu	М	Scientific Secretary		

Annex 2: Participants at a Workshop on Licensing of Varieties

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Email	Phone
1	K.J. Taah PhD	М	Head of Department, Crop science, UCC		
2	J.P. tetteh Prof.	М	Scientist, Crop Science, UCC		
3	Aliu Mohammed	М	Secretary, SeedPAG		
4	thomas W. Havor	М	General Secretary, SeedPAG		
5	Joseph Bapule	М	Secretary, Seed Trade Association		
6	Janet Gyimah-Kessie	F	Member, Seed Trade Association		
7	Haruna alidu	М	Research Scientist, SARI		
8	R.K. Owusu	М	Scientific Secretary, SARI		
9	Cletus Achaab	М	Seed Advisor, IFDC		

Annex 3: Participants at a Workshop on Accreditation for Seed Certification

No.	Name/Contact Person	Position	Email Address	Contact Number
1	Adi Okutu	Seed Analyst		
2	Peter Nketsia	Seed Inspector		
3	Nathan Biassey	Seed Inspector		
4	Victor Ashigbie	Seed Inspector		
5	Josephine Efua Fosuwah	Seed Inspector		
6	Christopher Manu	Seed Inspector		
7	Annie Zottorgloh	Seed Coordinator		
8	Japhet Asante	Seed Inspector		
9	Yahaya Alhassan	Seed Inspector		
10	Linda Esther Quartey	Seed Analyst		
11	Samuel Essandoh	Seed Inspector		
12	Veronica Nipaah Foster	Laboratory Manager		
13	Joseph Bussum Hackman	Sampler Analyst		
14	Adek Azantillow	Seed Inspector		
15	Denis Adjei	Seed Inspector		
16	Ishmael Amenuveve Kpogo	Seed Analyst		
17	Joseph Agayaba	Seed Inspector		
18	Seidu Abukari	Seed Inspector		
19	Eric Bentsil Quaye	Head		

Annex 4: Participants at the TVRC Workshop on Variety Evaluation and Release

No.	Name	Sex	Position	Email	Phone
	Solomon Gyan Ansah		D/Director, DCS,		
1	PhD	M	MOFA		
			Scientist, Crop		
2	J.P. Tetteh Prof.	M	Science, UCC		
	Pangirayi Tongoona		D/Director, WACCI		
3	Prof.	M	(Breeder)		
			General Secretary,		
4	Thomas W. Havor	M	SeedPAG		
	Lawrence Abonge-Misa				
5	PhD	M	Breeder		
	Emmanuel Asante		Director, Department of		
6	Krobea	M	Crop Services		
7	Eric UAYE	m	D/Director, PPRSD		
8	Kenneth Danso Prof.	М	Director, BRARI		
			Regional Officer, GLDB		
9	Charles Opoka	M	– MOFA		
			Research Scientist,		
10	Adjei Asamoah	M	CSIR-CRI		
11	Patrick Apullah	М	President, SeedPAG		
12	Afia Nyamekyi (Mrs)	F	Ex Veep, GAIDA		
	,		Assistant Director,		
13	George Prah	M	DCS-MOFA		
			Snr Research Scientist,		
14	N.N. Denar PhD	M	SARI		