



FEED THE FUTURE NIGERIA AGRICULTURAL POLICY PROJECT

Quarterly Report

Second Quarter – January 1- March 31, 2016

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Associate Cooperative Agreement Number: AID-620-LA-15-00001

Activity Start Date and End Date: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020

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1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

Program Name:	Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project
Activity Start Date And End Date:	July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2020
Name of Prime Implementing Partner:	Michigan State University
[Contract/Agreement] Number:	AID-620-LA-15-00001
Name of Subcontractors/Subawardees:	International Food Policy Research Institute
Major Counterpart Organizations	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Geographic Coverage (cities and or countries)	Nigeria
Reporting Period:	January 1, 2016 – March 31, 2016

1.1 Program Description/Introduction

USAID’s Feed the Future activities facilitate the attainment of the goals under the Nigerian Agriculture Transformation Agenda (ATA) (or other agenda for agriculture expressed by the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN). In order to achieve the outcomes outlined in these strategies there is a need for the FGN, Nigerian institutions, and other key stakeholders in the policy process to:

- Strengthen Information and Knowledge Management Systems: Generate adequate data to inform policy dialogue, formulation and implementation. As research generates knowledge which is necessary for policy formulation, the challenge is for national institutions to determine and develop organizational practices, principles, and approaches on how knowledge can be created, harnessed, shared, tracked, and distributed among government agencies, research communities, and the public.
- Identify and fill key knowledge gaps: Nigeria’s agriculture is predominantly a smallholder activity and therefore suffers from many constraints such as limited use of improved technologies for production, processing, storage, and transportation. These constraints are exacerbated and compounded in the Nigerian context by the extensive ecological diversity, which generates substantial knowledge gaps in production processes and marketing outlets.
- Strengthen strategic planning through promoting participation: A planning process requires the formulation of strategies, which involve a time-bound prioritization and selectivity, with the participation of all stakeholders. Stakeholders in Nigerian agriculture have expressed frustration with the lack of adequate consultation on the process determining what is to be done and in the making of strategic choices.

- **Build networks:** Investigate options for creating linkages among key stakeholders. A multi-disciplinary approach is necessary to address the production, processing and marketing constraints.

The project is implemented by Michigan State University (MSU) in partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). The Associate Cooperative Agreement between USAID/Nigeria and MSU is a five year project running from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020. The budget over the life of the project is US\$ 12.5 million.

The major expected outcomes of the project, categorized by objective, are:

1. Strengthened national capacity for greater evidence based policy processes in agriculture exhibited by increased capacity of Nigerian analysts to undertake and make widely available relevant evidence-based policy analysis.
2. An informed policy dialogue promoted and fostered among all stakeholders in the agricultural sector by means of an inclusive, transparent, and sustainable process at the country level, building blocks for a well-integrated and developed national policy system.
3. Improved federal and state governments' ability to plan and implement effective policy analyses and programs, as well as improved demand to absorb policy research in their policy process.

This progress report summarizes the key activities undertaken by the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project for the second quarter of fiscal year 2016.

1.2 Summary of Results to Date

The Project team has made tremendous effort since the beginning of the project (and in particular during the 2nd quarter) in implementing its planned activities. The summary of results to date in Table 1.2 of the quarterly report demonstrates that by the end of the second quarter, we have achieved beyond 60% of the annual target in 7 of the 11 indicators being monitored for the project. For example, a cumulative 65% of the annual target on the number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term technical training in agricultural sector productivity or food security policy analysis training has been achieved. We have achieved 90% of the annual target for number of collaborative research teams to be established with 5 additional teams added within quarter 2 alone to the four formed during the first quarter. By the end of quarter 2, we have already attained 100% of the annual target for the number of graduate students to participate in the short and long term training at Michigan State University and surpassed the annual target for the number of participants attending project organized events. The project has achieved 183% of the annual target with 366 participants (283 of which participated in successful project activities in quarter 2). Although this is a rather phenomenal progress since the project started, we envision even greater effects when the publicity ban is removed and the innovative communications and outreach strategy for the project is fully unleashed, disseminating broadly the activities and output emanating from the project.

There are only 4/11 indicators where less than 25% of the annual target had been met by the end of quarter 2. These rates are not due to delays in project activities but rather a reflection of the structure of several planned activities (like research) in the approved work plan. Research activities are underway (see component 2 of the activity implementation progress of the quarterly report) and it is expected that research output will become available in quarters 3 and 4. Similarly, there are upcoming activities in quarters 3 and 4 (e.g. the climate change workshop and first project conference) related to these

indicators. Thus the project team is quite confident that the project activities and expected results for the first year of the project will be met and likely surpassed.

Indicators	FTFMS Indicator ID	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target	Q2 Jan-March 2016	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
1) Number of policy research and best practice papers generated.	Custom	0	7	1	14%	Y
2) Number of stakeholder learning forums (national or global) held where findings/best practices are presented.	Custom	0	10	6	80%	Y
3) Number of participants attending project organized events.	Custom	0	200	283	183%	Y
4) Number of formal, informal or ad hoc meetings held with key government or private sector partners where project outputs and findings are discussed.	Custom	0	60	42	90%	Y
5) Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: 1. Analysis 2. Stakeholder consult/public debate 3. Drafting or revision 4. Approval (legislative or regulatory) 5. Full and effective implementation	4.5.1(24)	0	7	0	0%	Y
6) Number of collaborative research teams involving local partners formed and undertaking policy research and analysis.	Custom	0	10	5	90%	Y
7) Number of technical training courses offered to build technical skills and capacity for policy analysis.	Custom	0	16	3	25%	Y

8) Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term technical training in agricultural sector productivity or food security policy analysis training. FTF 4.5.2(7)	4.5.2(7)	0	100	23	65%	Y
9) Number of individuals who have received USG supported long-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training FTF 4.5.2(6)	4.5.2(6)	0	1	1	100%	Y
10) Number of Nigerian graduate students who have received support for skill enhancement training in the US through the project.	Custom	0	2	2	100%	Y
11) Number of organizations/entities assisted to participate in various roundtable and stakeholder meetings, seminars and conferences focused on agricultural policy issues.	Custom	0	10	1	10%	Y
12) Index (or scorecard) of quality of agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	Custom	0	Positive	NA	NA	NA
13) Index (or scorecard) of quality of the institutional architecture for agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation survey to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	Custom	0	Positive	NA	NA	NA

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Progress Narrative

This narrative will highlight progress made on the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project Year 1 work plan which was approved by USAID/Nigeria on November 2, 2015. The work plan is broken down into three main components: 1) A Strategy for Enhancing National Agriculture and Food Security Capacity; 2) Policy Driven Collaborative Research and Analysis; and 3) Strengthening evidence-based policy process and promoting impact.

2.2 Implementation Status

Component 1: A Strategy for Enhancing National Agriculture and Food Security Capacity

Formulation and Operation of the National Advisory Committee

In order to facilitate further the involvement of key national stakeholders in the decision-making process as well as the implementation process for the project, a National Advisory Committee (NAC) will be created (and in line with the revised proposal submitted to USAID-Nigeria on April 29, 2015). The central goal of the NAC would be to provide strategic guidance and advice on program activities, including in particular research priorities for each year of the project, towards achieving the overall goal of strengthening the national capacity for evidence-based agricultural policy process in the country. It is envisioned that the NAC will meet formally at least once a year to review progress of various aspects of the project and provide further advice and guidance where appropriate. Having said that, the Management Team fully understands that engaging properly the Advisory Committee in the implementation process is crucial for successful implementation and thus we are committed to make a huge effort in that direction by having regular consultations with NAC members during the life of the program and not only during the formal meeting of the NAC at least once a year.

During this quarter, USAID/Nigeria approved the revised ToRs submitted by the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Project Management Team on December 4, 2015. The initial plan was to contact proposed members of the Committee to join the NAC following receipt of the final approval from USAID/Nigeria. To date, proposed members of the Committee have not been communicated following the postponement of the project launch by USAID/Nigeria.

Dissemination/Outreach

Plans for the launch of the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project are ongoing. Following postponement of the project launch in January (earlier scheduled for January 26, 2016), it was proposed by USAID/Nigeria to hold the event towards mid-April 2016. USAID/Nigeria expressed interest in signing an MOU between the United States Government and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development at the launch event. However, since the meeting between the United States Ambassador and the Honorable Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development has not yet taken place, the launch was postponed until a new date is scheduled by USAID/Nigeria. A draft agenda for the planned launch event was also shared with USAID/Nigeria in December 2015.

As contained in the award agreement and current work plan, we are committed to dissemination of research/study findings. Avenues for dissemination of findings would include conferences, workshops and seminars, organized under the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project. In addition to these dissemination events, where appropriate, NAPP would partner with relevant institutions/associations such as the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economics and the Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria during conferences hosted by them. In this regard, we are already exploring the hosting of special sessions during relevant partner associations/institutions conferences in 2016 and 2017.

Under the Nigerian Agricultural Policy Project, we proposed to establish and fund a Policy Communications Unit (PCU) based in IFPRI Abuja office. The Unit has since been established and staffed (Q1 Report has further details). Relevant to dissemination under the NAPP, the Unit is engaged in frequent discussions with the NAPP Management Team on enhancing dissemination strategies under NAPP. This includes revamping or possibly creating a distinct website for NAPP (the website would be a key resource host of material produced), production of research bulletins on a more regular basis and coordinating the online interaction activity with the general public on research/studies carried out by young Nigerian researchers collaborating with senior Nigerian Professors, IFPRI and MSU Researchers. These online interactions will be primarily driven by young Nigerian researchers but fully coordinated by the NAPP Management Team with the Communication Specialist managing the process. In addition to all these, the Policy Communications Unit will play a lead role in training relevant Nigerian policy analysts and researchers on communicating (written and oral) results of analysis conducted. This is important given that policy briefs and presentations are key to dissemination of research/study findings.

Further, the team is strengthening its interaction with the media in Nigeria: local, state and national. Several informal discussions with media organizations in the country on delivering on publicity of activities, research findings etc. under NAPP is ongoing and will be implemented once full publicity is possible.

Thus, once the publicity embargo by USAID/Nigeria is lifted, it is expected that these efforts and their potential will be much clearer. In the meantime, we continue to mobilize our own vast network of researchers and policymakers in Nigeria in order to disseminate existing policy relevant research work. The seminars organized so far have provided a platform to disseminate some research findings to the public domain (a good example is the seminar organized by the project at the IFPRI Abuja Office in February 2016 on preliminary findings emanating from project's work on the drivers of public agricultural expenditures in Nigeria, which was attended by senior representatives from FMARD, think tank directors, ADWG members and the broad donor community; Xavier Preciado from USAID also attended). Again Q2 report has relevant details (see page 8 on drivers of agr. public expenditures research topic of the project).

Component 2) Policy Driven Collaborative Research and Analysis

Climate Change and Agricultural Resilience in Nigeria

Progress continues for the climate change and Agricultural resilience work in Nigeria. The main activities proposed for this quarter were the compilation of the literature review on climate change in Nigeria and the proposed climate change consultation.

The research team has compiled an initial draft of a literature review on climate change and agricultural resilience studies across Nigeria. The initial draft is currently being revised to address some identified gaps. Secondary data has been identified to provide some background data on agriculture and food security in Nigeria and hopefully tie it to climate change.

The proposed stakeholder consultation on climate change is intended to bring together various stakeholders (researchers, farmers, private sector, extension workers) to brainstorm and discuss various issues surrounding the experience of climate change, coping mechanisms to feed into the systems dynamics modelling that will be used to identify the perceptions and drivers of climate change in Nigeria. The research team initially planned to have the workshop around the project launch to save some costs and maximize participation. However, with the postponement of the launch, the research team decided to proceed with the activity. A date was set (June 1, 2016) and the venue for the activity determined (i.e. Ibadan). A list of invitees and their contact information was compiled and agreed upon.

Exploring how the implications of climate change on cropping systems interact with the broader food system in Nigeria (particularly poultry and/or, fish and/or livestock production)

The proposed activities under this research activity were the continued development and completion of the sampling frame to inform the collection of data for the stacked surveys planned for 2016. Due to limited information on village and ward lists at various government offices, the survey team has had to organize for the necessary listing of various sub state entities to facilitate the development of the sample frame and is still working on this. During the gathering of data for the poultry value chain, it was recognized that there were some gaps in understanding of the key concepts and methods that needed to be addressed first before continuing with data collection for the success of the project. This was confirmed to be a topic of broader interest among other researchers and thus a training on value chain concepts and methods as to be applied in this project is planned for the next quarter to be organized by the project. Data collection efforts will then resume fully after the training.

The list of grain markets in Northern Nigeria was completed. A draft report of the interaction with traders was also written and is being revised and also used to plan for potential field work in the North.

Potential for the generation and diffusion of modern and improved seed varieties

Progress continues to be made on the research work on generation and diffusion of modern and improved seed varieties. During the second quarter, the research team planned to increase interactions with local researchers and students so as to refine research questions as well as methodologies to be pursued in the study. Additionally, more information related to the indicators of the levels of varietal technologies (i.e. the extent of varietal transfers from abroad to local breeding facilities) was to be collected in collaboration with local researchers and students. It was planned that information on rice seed systems outside Nigeria would continue to be collected and used for informing the Nigerian rice seed sector stakeholders.

The project is on track in terms of both overall progress for the year and the current reporting period. The research team has also continued the literature review of rice varietal development and rice seed systems in Nigeria and other comparable countries in Asia or Latin America. Compared to other countries, the difference within Nigeria in rice varietal development is not a result of the in-flow of germplasms from abroad but rather the low utilization of such germplasms for further domestic adaptation. While the government of Nigeria has focused substantially on supplying certified rice seed

under the ATA, its effect is relatively unclear due to the fact that the varieties that are certified and distributed may be relatively old. This is partly due to insufficient domestic efforts in developing new varieties.

In the next quarter, the research team plans to continue working on literature review of rice varietal development and seed systems as well as to further interact with local researchers. The development of a simple conceptual framework has been ongoing to illustrate how varietal technology development efforts can affect the effectiveness of other seed policies emphasized by the government of Nigeria (i.e. seed certification, subsidies) and in the next quarter, the research team aims to complete the above conceptual framework. Finally, the research team aims to start documenting insights currently obtained from their research in preparation for completing a draft working paper by the end of the fiscal year.

Potential for expanding and improving irrigation systems

Research on expanding and improving irrigation systems is on track for both overall progress for the year and for the current reporting period. For the second quarter, the research team planned on undertaking more rigorous data analysis using previously compiled data as well as developing a more specific research hypothesis that is testable given the existing data. Additionally, a discussion with the research team on the household welfare impacts of irrigation was expected to shed light on specific Nigerian outcomes.

Preliminary analysis in the current quarter was undertaken using the LSMS-2010 and 2012 survey data as well as various secondary data compiled from other sources to assess the implication on households of various weather events between drainage basins that are located around the large irrigation dams, drainage basins located downstream of the irrigation dams, as well as all the other drainage basins. The relevant literature in India and Sub-Saharan Africa suggests that households located around downstream drainage basins often benefit while those around the dams do not, or sometimes even experience losses. The descriptive statistics in Nigeria suggest weak, indicative evidence that is consistent with this literature. While this is the case, the analysis is still in its infant stage and more rigorous analysis in the next quarter will help to shed more light on household welfare. In addition to the current work, a paper that analyzed the typology of irrigation systems in Nigeria has been published (see Takeshima H. (2016). Understanding irrigation system diversity in Nigeria: A modified cluster-analysis approach. *Irrigation and Drainage*, in press).

In the next quarter, the research team will conduct more rigorous analysis using appropriate econometric methods in preparation for achieving the goal of completing the draft working paper by the end of the fiscal year. A more solid set of preliminary results will be obtained, and will be shared with the research team. Preliminary results will also be shared with relevant local audiences for obtaining their feedback.

Potential for modernizing food processing through agro-industrial clustering

The plan for the second quarter involving research under modernizing food processing through agro-industrial clustering was to correspond with research counterparts from Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) in preparation for a trip to establish a work plan, timeline, and roles and responsibilities among team members for the launch of the rice mill surveys and interviews. Work on the milling cluster survey instruments began actively during the second quarter. Direct correspondence with ABU research counterparts was initiated and a team consisting of a Masters student and junior professor from the Agricultural Economics Department at ABU, and a senior researcher at the NAERLS institute (also at ABU), has now been established.

In the next quarter, a visit to the ABU campus is now being planned for early June to establish a work plan, timeline, roles and responsibilities, among all team members in order to launch the rice mill surveys and interviews by end of the quarter. The visit will coincide with plans to hold a seminar on rice trade.

Land governance and investment - implications for sustainable and more effective land tenure administration systems

The research team working on land governance and investment planned for the second quarter to conduct scoping field work to assess the required flexibility in the proposed Systematic Land Tenure Regularization (SLTR) program impact evaluation design. This would be done to reflect realities during the implementation of the program in Ondo state (i.e. assess if there are any issues of contamination of program subjects and if so, the level of contamination and the necessary required action to cope with such potential contamination issues). As part of the preparations for the follow up survey in Ondo state, several discussions and consultative dialogues took place towards the end of the quarter. These consultative dialogues involved officials and staff of the state bureau of statistics, land record bureau and LGA SLTR officers to: 1) sensitize on the scope and timeline of the upcoming survey; 2) acquire all necessary outstanding administrative data for assessing the compliance of the intervention strategy with the previously agreed impact evaluation design; and 3) obtain state-level buy-in for partnership and collaboration on the implementation of the survey and sharing its outputs. As a continuation from the last quarter, further consultative meetings have been conducted with local service providers (LGA SLTR offices) and the Ondo state Land Record Bureau (OLRB) to reconcile the administrative repository data on beneficiary households in the two pilot LGAs with the baseline survey data of 4000 households.

For the land administration service delivery service component of the land governance and investment research, a draft paper on “Effective Land Administration Services Delivery in Nigeria a Pre-requisite to Economic Development” was presented at the 2016 annual World Bank conference on land and poverty in March 2016 in Washington DC and it was well attended by donor groups, policy makers, development partners, CSOs, and various think-tanks. In addition, data cleaning and organization was undertaken following the launch of a survey questionnaire during the last quarter of 426 stakeholders involved in land administration service delivery in six states (Cross River, Benue, Kaduna, FCT-Abuja, Bauchi and Lagos). The questionnaire was administered to various stakeholders including service providers (land ministries, land record bureau, LGA authorities), professionals (lawyers, surveyors, town planners), and beneficiary groups.

In the next quarter, the research team will continue with the scoping field survey in Ondo state to monitor the program implementation process and solidify state-level buy-in for the upcoming endline survey. As part of the preparation for the survey towards impact evaluation of the pilot SLTR program, a training course on administering “Computer Assisted Personal Interview – CAPI” will be provided to state-level trainees from the Federal College of Agriculture Akure – FECA, Ondo state bureau of statistics and, Ondo state land record bureau. A seminar on Pilot Systematic Land Tenure Regularization (SLTR) in Nigeria: Perception, process and early lessons learnt” will also be organized in Abuja. Additionally, data cleaning and analysis of the data from a survey of 426 stakeholders from 6 states in Nigeria on “land administrative service delivery” will continue during the coming quarter.

Drivers of public agricultural expenditures in Nigeria

The research team working on drivers for public agricultural expenditures planned to undertake qualitative analysis of the empirical material in the second quarter. Preliminary findings at the subnational level would be presented at a seminar at the IFPRI-Abuja office. Another important component of the work was to finalize the interview instrument and list of interviewees for the federal level fieldwork in Abuja following which interviews would be conducted.

The project is on track in terms of both overall progress in the year and the current reporting period. In this quarter, the research team completed coding of the qualitative empirical material and transcribing key informant interviews with agriculture-related government officials (over 100 key informants) in 3 states (Cross River, Niger, and Ondo) and 3 local governments (Akamkpa, Wushishi, and Odigbo). Preliminary results were presented at a seminar “What determines public spending in agriculture? Insights from evidence at the state and local government levels in Nigeria,” held at the IFPRI-Abuja office on February 18, 2016. The seminar was well-attended and well-received by various stakeholders (incl. representatives from the donor community, FMARD and other organizations in Nigeria). To complement key informant interviews that have already been conducted with officials at the subnational level, additional interviews (20 key informants) were conducted at the federal level. These interviews took place in Abuja and targeted key government officials and other stakeholders that either have an influence on or knowledge about the allocation of public resources to the agricultural sector. A local research team consisting of a senior social scientist (PhD), a professor at a university, and a Master’s student was also identified.

Before the current reporting period, the research team already contained a strong presence of women: One woman at the PhD-level, one woman (Nigerian) who has completed a Master’s degree and is working toward her doctoral degree, and one woman (Nigerian, and based in Nigeria) with a Masters. The expansion of the research team as described by the addition of the two team members above in fact brought more gender balance to this team of women researchers: the senior social scientist and the Masters student are both male. In addition to the expansion of the research team, the research team also conducted several meetings and interviews with a range of key stakeholders. Government stakeholders included individuals from government parastatals, agencies, and arms (Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Federal Ministry of Budget and National Planning, Central Bank, and National Assembly). Other stakeholders included individuals from donor agencies, research institutions, NGOs, farmer associations, the private sector, and regional organizations.

In the next quarter, the research team will use process tracing to test hypothesized causal mechanisms of the drivers of public agricultural expenditures with coded empirical material from the subnational interviews. Following this, results at the subnational level will be written up and a working paper will be developed. In addition, interviews conducted at the federal level will also be transcribed.

Political Economy of Policymaking in Nigeria: Applying the Kaleidoscope Model

In the current quarter, the team lead on the research on political economy planned to collaborate with other colleagues to plan an initial elite survey with Nigerian experts on land tenure issues during their visit to Washington, DC in March 2016 for the annual land conference hosted by the World Bank. This would provide a useful basis for understanding the major land constraints and stakeholders in this arena, as well as facilitate contacts for subsequent fieldwork in Nigeria. During the second quarter, the team lead has been consulting with a Nigerian PhD student and land specialist, Austen Okumo, on the choice of case selection for applying the Kaleidoscope Model of policy change. In particular, it was decided that the team lead will be working at the state level to capture multiple cases of policy reform (or non-reform) related to land tenure. The cases that have been tentatively decided on include Ondo

state (case of donor-driven land reform), Cross River state (case of locally-driven land reform initiative), and potentially either Anambra or Oyo states.

In the next quarter, the team lead and the collaborator will finalize a semi-structured interview template and list of stakeholders with whom to interview towards the end of the third quarter, presumably by late May or early June. In addition, the team will be putting together inventory of drivers of land reform that are related to variation in political party, donor engagement, land tenure issues, and level of public participation in the land reform process.

Component 3) Strengthening evidence-based policy process and promoting impact

Capacity Building – Training Courses

An “Introduction to STATA” training course was held at the University of Ibadan on March 1-2, 2016 for 23 members of the faculty and graduate student body (with a very substantial number of female researchers participated in the course). The training course covered a basic introduction to the use of STATA for data storage, data cleaning, and statistical analysis. Earlier recommendations from a similar course undertaken at Ahmadu Bello University in the previous quarter were taken into account to improve time management. In particular, a trial version of STATA for all participants was provided so that everyone was using the same version. Secondly, the number of participants involved in the training course was reduced to enable the team of trainers to provide support without disrupting the flow of the course. Thirdly, trainers had multiple USB drives with activity files that were prepared for each section of the training in order to quickly bring a participant up to the section that is being taught should they arrive late or have an issue with their files and to combat the issue of viruses, which infected many of the participants’ computers. These steps helped to improve time management and allow for the training course to cover more information.

The training courses organized so far by the project team are demand-driven by our partners (see ABU and Ibadan University) initially on courses related to Stata for policy relevant rigorous empirical work by young researchers and more recently on other courses requested by them, such as on Monitoring and Evaluation methodologies (see training course to be organized at ABU on this in May 2016). We have also received requests from other institutions (the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Oyo State College of Agriculture) for training courses to be organized for them. There is also demand (from ABU recently) for courses related to policy communication and on how to prepare policy briefs and the NAPP project management team is prepared to respond in a very positive way to the above demand for this type of courses. We are open to new demands on training courses from our partners (incl. of course FMARD which has already been contacted on this – see also relevant bullet point on this under your comment in (g) below) during the rest of the year and we are prepared to do the best we can from our side to meet this demand with properly organized training courses.

So far, the participants for NAPP organized trainings are selected by our partners requesting the training course with NAPP encouraging particular emphasis on young researchers and gender balance wherever possible.

The training courses can benefit the project in a number of ways: they can help to implement activities of relevance to the capacity building component of the project, thus addressing directly capacity building gaps on various fronts; at the same time, they gradually provide the base to build a sustainable development process in this area by eventually having the current trainees becoming the trainers in the long term (thus contributing to the sustainability of the project beyond its life).

A survey was sent to all participants after the training course and the feedback showed that while most participants had never used STATA prior to this training course, most found it relevant to their work and planned to use STATA in the future. In addition, the overall feedback on the training was positive with most participants asking for additional courses. The most common response on how we could improve the training was by providing a more conducive environment. At the time the course was provided, the University was experiencing electricity problems and the generators in use were not sufficient enough to power AC units in the training venue. While the length of the training was increased to two full days, a few participants expressed that a little bit extra time would be useful. For the University of Ibadan training course, the training team realized that a significant amount of time on the first training day was spent on installing software. To remedy the problem, the training team suggests that necessary software is sent and installed in advance with only activation to take place on the training day.

Capacity Building of Nigerian Students

Two Nigerian students have been selected to receive training at MSU for the academic year starting in Fall 2016.

Steve Longabaugh visited University of Ibadan during the quarter and met the two proposed students (1 PhD, 1 MS). In the following weeks, arrangements have begun for the students to begin their MSU studies in August 2016. In the course of entering student information into the TraiNet system it became clear that the DO's and IR's did not match the project. It was necessary to contact Travis Walden (USAID TraiNet/VCS Helpdesk | Rivera Group). Now TraiNet has been updated with the DO's and IR's from the most recent USAID Nigeria Country Development Cooperation Strategy 2015-2019.

2.3 M& E Plan Update

The monitoring and evaluation plan (MEP) that was submitted to USAID/Nigeria on December 4, 2015 was approved in the current quarter following revisions that were made by the NAPP team and taking into account comments from USAID/Nigeria for an earlier version that was submitted. In the current quarter, the NAPP team was requested to include in the project MEP an indicator that takes into account the number of individuals who have received USG supported long-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training. The new indicator was in response to a USAID/Nigeria's comment made in relation to the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Projects first quarterly report (October-December, 2015). The only changes made in the MEP were in relation to incorporating this indicator.

A stakeholder baseline survey instrument that was developed in the last quarter was submitted and approved by the Institutional Review Boards of both MSU and IFPRI. The plan was to implement the baseline survey in January but changes in leadership at FMARD and delays in the IRB approval process meant that the launch of the baseline survey was postponed from January to late February. Following IRB approvals, a pretest questionnaire was sent out to a few respondents to allow for the NAPP team to ensure that all kinds of errors associated with survey research were minimized. The main baseline survey was launched on March 11 and questionnaires were submitted to 160 (in line with the survey instrument narrative shared with USAID/Nigeria some time ago) stakeholders including government, development partners, civil society, private sector, and research and academia. So far 73 responses have been received i.e. 46%. The NAPP team is currently following up with the relevant remaining respondents.

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

3.1 Gender Equality and Female Empowerment

The Nigeria Agriculture Policy Project Research teams are composed with particular attention to gender balance and organized training courses make deliberate attempt to ensure that there is equal participation of both males and females. For example the four Nigerian researchers involved in the climate change and value chain research teams include a male and female Nigerian faculty and a male and female graduate student. Furthermore, the research team on public expenditures has expanded due to the addition to the team of two male team members. This addition has improved the gender balance of this strong woman led team. The five member research team now comprises three females and two males.

Before this reporting quarter, the research team working on the determinants of public agricultural expenditures already contained a strong presence of women: One PhD-level woman, one woman (Nigerian) who has completed a Masters degree and is working toward her doctoral degree, and one woman (Nigerian, and based in Nigeria) with a Masters. The expansion of the research team as described in the relevant section of this report added one woman (Nigerian, based in Nigeria and affiliated with a Nigerian institution) who is a Masters student. The further addition in fact brought more gender balance to this team of women researchers: the senior social scientist and professor are both male.

Research teams also continue to consider gender as a critical issue in the development of their research questions. The research on land governance for example has had the survey instrument for the planned mid-line study streamlined to have gender disaggregated households to allow for gender comparisons within a given household. Instead of comparing project outcomes from a male-headed versus female-headed household perspective, the survey instrument has been designed to incorporate tailored modules that will enable gender-differentiated program outcomes (husbands versus wives, sons versus daughters, and male siblings versus female siblings) to be captured within the same baseline for both beneficiary and non-beneficiary households. The poultry value chain work continues to explore the areas where gender and age (particularly the youth) are key issues in participation along the value chain. Dynamics of expansion of the value chains and its implications for employment generally and for women and youth particularly is being considered. For the climate change and agricultural resilience, the literature review and preliminary descriptive statistics being explored are being done with particular attention to the gender of the various decision makers about production and/or consumption within the household.

3.2 Youth Development

Although the topic is not strictly part of the research topics of relevance to policy relevant research currently being conducted by the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project researchers in Year 1 of the Project, Dr. George Mavrotas is currently leading policy relevant research on the overall nexus between youth employment and agricultural transformation in Nigeria (currently a policy area of paramount importance for Nigeria) at the IFPRI Abuja Office and a number of policy relevant research papers are expected to be available for dissemination in due course (and which will strengthen further the expected research output to be emanated from the Project). IFPRI-NSSP Working Paper No. 31 entitled “Delving Deeper into the Agricultural Transformation and Youth Employment Nexus: The Nigerian Case”,

co-authored by Margaret Adesugba and George Mavrotas, was published in late March 2016. The poultry value chain work continues to explore the areas where opportunities for youth involvement are possible and could be strengthened along the value chain. This is also being considered in the fish value chain which is very closely linked to the poultry and maize value chains currently being studied.

3.3 Local Capacity Development

Local capacity development in the current quarter included a STATA training course that was conducted at the University of Ibadan on 1-2 March, 2016. The training course was delivered to 23 members of the faculty and graduate student body (with a very substantial number of female researchers that participated in the course). In addition to the training course, the NAPP was actively involved and participated in a workshop for the launch of the implementation of the Knowledge Management framework for the agricultural sector in Nigeria. Dr. George Mavrotas participated in the main panel for the event and emphasized the availability of IFPRI to provide advice and support towards capacity strengthening while building on its experience with collaborative research, innovative approaches, country-based knowledge and regional networks to make a sustainable impact on food policy. As research teams exchange ideas, data and analytical methods, capacity building is ongoing. The students involved in the research teams are already being mentored by the senior researchers on the team and the methods and manner of research development and presentation being shared.

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

Despite the ongoing publicity constraints, the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project has continued to engage actively with various stakeholders in Nigeria. To date a cumulative 65% of the annual target on the number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term technical training in agricultural sector productivity or food security policy analysis training (FTF 4.5.2(7)) has been achieved. Similar achievements were made regarding the formation of research teams (90%) and the number of participants attending project organized events (366 participants i.e. 183% of the annual target achieved by the second quarter). Furthermore, an accumulated 80% of the annual target on the number of stakeholder learning forums (national or global) held where findings/best practices are presented was achieved by the second quarter despite the limitations on publicity. All stakeholder learning forums have had good representation of stakeholders from the government, development partners, civil society, private sector, and academia. In addition, all research activities involved a range of stakeholders in the agricultural sector. A number of research teams have either held meetings or conducted interviews with a range of key informants from various stakeholder groupings for their respective research topics.

The project's partnership with ABU has been very strong from the beginning and ABU is currently very pleased with the whole partnership with the NAPP project management team. There has been very positive responses to the various activities organized there such as the STATA training in Q1 (see Q1 report) as well as ongoing and planned activities in Q2 and Q3 (see list of activities planned for the project in May and June 2016). The recently conducted training course on M&E was requested by the university and consequently organized at the ABU campus on 11 and 12 May 2016. 25 participants selected by the University attended.

A very successful training course on Stata (also requested by the University to fill capacity gaps in this area for their young Nigerian researchers willing to conduct policy relevant rigorous empirical research) was organized at ABU in the previous quarter of the project (see Q1 report for details) attended by 42 participants.

Furthermore, a seminar delivered (again in Q1) at ABU by George Mavrotas of the NAPP project management team on the nexus between youth employment and agricultural sector transformation in Nigeria was enthusiastically attended by 83 researchers, graduate students and ABU faculty members in Zaria. During the same visit George also had the chance to brief ABU senior faculty members about the key objectives and components of NAPP and in order to involve ABU in the implementation process.

See also the relevant paragraph in Q2 report on research-related work for NAPP with ABU researchers and further plans on that front for Q3 by the team lead for that particular policy relevant research topic under NAPP, Dr. Michael Johnson (IFPRI Senior Research Fellow): The plan for the second quarter involving research under modernizing food processing through agro-industrial clustering was to correspond with research counterparts from Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) in preparation for a trip to establish a work plan, timeline, and roles and responsibilities among team members for the launch of the rice mill surveys and interviews. Work on the milling cluster survey instruments began actively during the second quarter. Direct correspondence with ABU research counterparts was initiated and a team consisting of a Masters student and junior professor from the Agricultural Economics Department at ABU, and a senior researcher at the NAERLS institute (also at ABU), has now been established. In the next quarter, a visit to the ABU campus is now being planned for June to establish a work plan, timeline, roles and responsibilities, among all team members in order to launch the rice mill surveys and interviews by end of the quarter. The visit will coincide with plans to hold a seminar on rice trade.

While continually looking for innovative strategies to engage with stakeholders, a tremendous effort has been made by the NAPP team (despite the numerous constraints from the FMARD side) to work closely with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and several state ministries. Some of these were discussed during the meeting at USAID/Nigeria on April 21. For example, a capacity needs assessment was undertaken by FMARD in the first quarter of the project following various meetings George had with senior officials within FMARD during the planning phase of the project and in connection with the capacity building component of the project. Following the above assessment exercise there has been further delay from the FMARD side in implementing capacity building activities in the Ministry due to changes in its leadership (the new HMA was appointed only in November along with the new PS) and new senior advisors were also gradually appointed since then (some of them just a few weeks ago).

George also mentioned at the meeting on April 21 that following a request from the two Co-Chairs (USAID & IFAD) of the ADWG in May 2015, he prepared a policy brief on the key challenges and priorities for the agricultural sector in Nigeria which was subsequently shared by the ADWG Co-Chairs with the new Minister in late November 2015 to help in setting the agenda for the country's agricultural development plans. The policy brief gave an overview of the status of the agricultural sector and efforts required to ensure improvement and growth. He also talked about the support rendered to FMARD and IFPRI's very active involvement in the development and launch of the Knowledge Management Framework for the agricultural sector in Nigeria in February 2016 (see also submitted Q2 report on this).

Several interactions had been made with the Federal ministry on several occasions, including one meeting in January that was held with the director of the dept. of human resources and planning research and statistics of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture where a very constructive discussion about the needs of the ministry on capacity building for policy analysis was articulated and discussed.

The NAPP team is also currently pursuing a dynamic approach to work also at the state level. As was mentioned by Saweda at the USAID meeting on April 21, numerous meetings and interactions have taken place with the State Government in Oyo State and the Oyo State College of Agriculture and

Technology. The College is funded by the Oyo State Government and is mandated to guide the state government in setting and implementing the agricultural development agenda of the state. A recent workshop was also held at the college to which ministry personnel were invited. Furthermore, the project's ongoing research work on land governance issues which is being undertaken in Ondo State heavily involves the Ondo State Government; a training course is planned for the Bureau of Statistics in Ondo State on administering "Computer Assisted Personal Interview-CAPI" (again the Q2 report has further details).

Finally, we would like to reiterate Saweda's point made during our meeting with USAID that working with academia has been and remains an important strategy to reach out to State Governments. As researchers, one of our strengths is our network and natural connection with other researchers and their networks. Considering that the Governments (both at the Federal and state level) rely on researchers and research institutes or institutions of higher learning for policy analysis and technical assistance, supporting the capacity of these institutions would further enhance the capacity of State Governments and would also serve as a potential entry point to access policy makers eventually. We also believe that capacity building in higher educational institutions and strong research collaborations will help increase the number of Nigerian experts who can be on the frontiers of research, working with international partners, so that they can have maximal effect on policy makers in the ministries and non-governmental agencies. This is a potential avenue to have a great impact.

Along this line, we would like to mention the interaction that has been made with the Nigerian Association of Agricultural Economists and the National Association for Agricultural Extension which are potential avenues to maximize the outreach efforts of NAPP within and beyond academia.

5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Staff Developments

- Candidates were shortlisted and interviewed for the Associate Research Fellow position at the IFPRI Abuja Office (internationally recruited position for which more than 70 applications were received from all over the world). Patrick Hatzenbuehler (Purdue University) was recruited and will join the IFPRI Office in Abuja in August 2016.
- At the end of this quarter, the staff at the IFPRI Office in Abuja include: a Senior Research Fellow & Program Leader (Chief of Party), a Country Program Manager, a Research Analyst, 3 Senior Research Assistants, a Senior Program Assistant, a Program Assistant, a Communications Specialist, a Communications Assistant, and a driver.

6. LESSONS LEARNED

A number of lessons learned from dissemination activities that were undertaken in the second quarter. For example, the policy research seminar held during this reporting quarter on drivers of public expenditures was an instructive experience for the research team. As the research team was preparing for the presentation, they had numerous discussions on how potentially challenging topics such as the political economy factors underlying public spending decisions would be received by the audience, especially by government stakeholders. The research team was delighted to find that all stakeholders, including those from ministries and other public agencies, not only actively participated, but were genuinely interested in the research evidence on these potentially sensitive topics, and took a highly constructive approach in the deliberations. This was an encouraging indication that research on the governance drivers of public expenditure and other public finance phenomena that affect economic

development and poverty reduction can indeed not only be fruitfully carried out in Nigeria, but also can achieve important policy influence through appropriate outreach methods.

Regarding the delivery of training courses, the training team learned a few lessons that could further help with the delivery of the training and time management in due course. For the University of Ibadan STATA training course delivered on 1-2 March 2016, the training team realized that a significant amount of time on the first training day was spent on installing software. To remedy the problem, the training team suggests that necessary software is sent and installed in advance with only activation to take place on the training day.

7. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER/UPCOMING EVENTS

The project team is avoiding any media interaction at this stage until after the project is officially launched and/or receives information from USAID relating to the publicity constraint placed on the project in view of the substantial delay in the launch.

- Introduction to M&E training course at Ahmadu Bello University (requested by ABU), Kaduna State.
 - Dates: 11-12 May 2016
 - Training Delivery: One session over 1.5 days delivered to 25 participants

- Introduction to Stata training course at the University of Ibadan (requested by the University of Ibadan), Oyo State
 - Dates: Second half of May, 2016 (final dates TBC by the University of Ibadan soon)
 - Training Delivery: Two parallel sessions over 2 days delivered to 50 participants (25 max per session)
 - We have very recently been advised by the University that this may have to be delayed a bit due to current serious infrastructure problems (electricity and water supply) at the University of Ibadan and due to which the School of Agriculture is currently closed with no students at the campus

- Seminar/Training workshop on Systems dynamics modelling to be held in the department of Agricultural Economics at University of Ibadan
 - Date: May 31, 2016

- Introduction to Stata training course at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (requested by the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta), Ogun State
 - Dates: June 7-8, 2016
 - Training Delivery: Two parallel sessions over 2 days delivered to 50 participants (25 max per session)

In addition to the above training courses, we also expect a number of activities in Nigeria in May and June 2016 related to various policy relevant research topics under NAPP work plan in Year 1. See below for more details:

- Visit to Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State as groundwork for the land research team to be established by June in line with the work plan for year 1 and to establish relations with faculty and others working with state ministry on ag issues, particularly land related
 - Date: May 4
- Liverpool-Tasie visiting Kwara State. Liverpool-Tasie: Dissemination exercise in Edu and Patigi local government.
 - Dates: May 23-27 (precise dates TBC in due course)
 - This activity is not funded by NAPP but trip will be used to interact with NAPP stakeholders and potential partners in Kwara State before proceeding to Abuja for other meetings with stakeholders and then to Ibadan for climate change workshop on June 1
- Visits/informant interviews with some poultry value chain actors as a follow up to previous visits
 - May 27- May 31 (precise dates TBC)
- Training on CAPIs in Ondo State along with fieldwork, and a seminar in Abuja, as part of land governance research
 - Dates: June 2016 (precise dates TBC in due course)
- Preparation for rice mill survey in Kaduna State and a seminar at Ahmadu Belo University under the NAPP research topic on the “potential for modernizing food processing through agro-industrial clustering”
 - Dates: Second half of June 2016 (precise dates TBC in due course)
- Conduct work on drivers of policy change in the Nigerian agricultural sector
 - Dates: Second half of June 2016 (precise dates TBC in due course)
- Consultation workshop on climate change at the University of Ibadan, Oyo State
 - Dates: June 1, 2016

8. WHAT DOES USAID NOT KNOW THAT IT NEEDS TO?

The ongoing constraint on publicity for the project is causing significant hardship on the project and while we recognize the importance of institutional protocol, it would be helpful if the publicity restrictions could be addressed (particularly in view of the need to proceed fast with other activities planned for the next two quarters – see for example the planned consultation workshop on climate change in Ibadan in Quarter 3 and the first NAPP conference planned at the end of Quarter 4).

With the delay in activities at the federal ministry due to the elections and timing of ministerial appointments activities at the ministry have been slower than expected. However, the NAPP team has resorted to think of innovative strategies to create sustainable links with policy makers. One approach has been through leveraging on our strengths and contacts as researchers to identify potential people, departments and institutions with direct links to policy makers and working with them. It is hoped that through this social capital can be built and eventually direct links and access to policy makers will be possible. It is also believed (as mentioned in the proposal) that working with higher institutions of learning (HEI) is one way of producing respected local experts to support the ministries. Capacity building in HEIs and collaboration with MSU and IFPRI will produce local experts who can be on the frontiers of research, working with international partners, so that they can have maximal effect on policy makers in the ministries and other agencies

9. HOW IMPLEMENTING PARTNER HAS ADDRESSED AOR COMMENTS FROM THE LAST QUARTERLY REPORT.

In the previous quarter, comments were provided relating mostly to the format of the report. It was advised that future reporting follows closely the USAID quarterly reporting format. The current closely follows the required reporting format and other comments received on the previous report were also addressed.

ANNEX A: PROGRESS SUMMARY

NOTE: Revisions to the MEP plan were made taking into account USAID/Nigeria's comments and the MEP was resubmitted to USAID/Nigeria on December 4, 2015. The Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project on January 18, 2016 received approval of the MEP.

Achieved progress versus planned for the project year to date.

Table 1(a): PMP Indicator progress - USAID Standard Indicators and Project Custom Indicators

[Strategic Objective]												
Indicator	FTFMS Indicator ID	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2015		Quarterly Status – FY 2015				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
			Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Intermediate Result (IR): 1.1. Increased agricultural competitiveness 1.2 Improved business environment 3.2 Improved responsiveness of targeted government institutions 3.3 Increased capacity for civic advocacy, monitoring, and engagement												
Sub-IR: 1.3 Improved agricultural policy environment												
1. Number of policy research and best practice papers generated	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	7	1	0	1			14%	
2. Number of stakeholder learning forums (national or global) held where findings/best practices are Presented	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	10	8	2	6			80%	
3. Number of participants attending project organized events	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	200	366	83	283			183%	

4.	Number of formal , informal or ad hoc meetings held with key government or private sector partners, where project outputs and findings are discussed	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	60	54	12	42			90%	
5.	Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: 1. Analysis 2.Stakeholder consultation/public debate 3. Drafting or revision 4. Approval (legislative 5. Full and effective implementation	4.5.1(24)	Project records	NA	NA	7	0	0	0			0%	
6.	Number of collaborative research teams involving local partners formed and undertaking policy research and analysis	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	10	9	4	5			90%	
7.	Number of technical training courses offered to build technical skills and capacity for policy analysis	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	16	4	1	3			25%	
8.	Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term technical training in agricultural sector productivity or food security policy analysis training	4.5.2(7)	Project records	NA	NA	100	65	42	23			65%	

9. Number of individuals who have received USG supported long-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training	4.5.2(6)	Project records	NA	NA	1	1	0	1			100%	
10. Number of Nigerian graduate students who have received support for skill enhancement training in the US through the project	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	2	2	0	2			100%	
11. Number of organizations/entities assisted to participate in various roundtable and stakeholder meetings, seminars and conferences focused on agricultural policy issues	Custom	Project records	NA	NA	10	1	0	1			10%	
12. Index (or scorecard) of quality of agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	Custom	Baseline , mid-term and end- line	NA	NA	NA							
13. Index (or scorecard) of quality of the institutional architecture for agriculture and food security policy processes in Nigeria, as measured by stakeholder evaluation survey to capture level of satisfaction and confidence	Custom	Baseline , mid-term and end- line	NA	NA	NA							

ANNEX B: Stakeholder Consultation Meetings Attended by Team Members

- January 7, 2016. Seminar presentation on “Is fertilizer use inconsistent with expected profitability in Sub Saharan Africa? “The case of rice in Nigeria” by Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie to faculty and students at the University of Ibadan. It was attended by 39 people.
- January 7, 2016. Meeting of the NAPP management team (represented by Saweda Liverpool-Tasie) with Prof. M.A.Y. Rahji, the Head of Department, Agricultural Economics at University of Ibadan to discuss NAPP, particularly the capacity building component of the project.
- January 7, 2016: Meeting with Prof. Blessing C. Didia (Acting Vice Chancellor, Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Nkpolu,) to introduce the Objectives of NAPP during which we outlined how NAPP can collaborate with the Rivers State Government through the State funded University to address several capacity gaps including that of policy analysis particularly relevant to the State Governments renewed focus on agricultural development. A follow up meeting with the Vice Chancellor and other relevant Principal Officers is to be scheduled. (NAPP represented by Dr. Oyinkan Tasie).
- January 8, 2016. Meeting of the NAPP team (represented by Saweda Liverpool-Tasie) with Professor, Eustace A Iyayi, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry at University of Ibadan about the NAPP project and capacity building for Nigerian researchers and the need to extend beyond Agricultural Economics (to include other sub- fields in the broader field of agriculture) in planning and thinking about the researchers needing support.
- January 20, 2016: Meeting of the NAPP team (Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, and Mr. John Mazunda) in Abuja to discuss issues relating to NAPP programming and implementation.
- January 20, 2016: Meeting with Faculty of the Department of Agricultural Economics of the University of Nigeria Nsukka at a specially Convened Departmental Meeting to introduce the objectives under NAPP and open up the conversation for Faculty members to collaborate with NAPP in capacity building efforts geared at policy makers at the federal and state level. 13 Faculty of the Department attended.(NAPP team represented by Dr. Oyinkan Tasie)
- January 25, 2016: Meeting with Prof. Placid Njoku, Immediate Past President of the Nigerian Institute of Animal Science, (proposed NAC member) on the objectives under NAPP to elicit his input in attaining them. (The NAPP team was represented by Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie and Dr. Oyinkan Tasie.)
- January 25, 2016: Meeting between Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, and Mr. John Mazunda to discuss NAPP programming and implementation with particular emphasis on selection of NAC members (Abuja).
- January 26, 2016: Meeting with Professor Abubakar of ARCN to enhance NAPP’s discussion on capacity building needs within the Council and relevant supporting role NAPP. (NAPP Team represented by Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie and Dr. Oyinkan Tasie).
- January 26, 2016: Meeting between Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, Dr. Oyinkan Tasie and Mr. John Mazunda to discuss NAPP programming and implementation (Abuja).
- January 26, 2016: Dr. George Mavrotas and Mr. John Mazunda attended the first meeting of Agriculture Donor Working Group (ADWG) for 2016 at the UNDP and Resident Coordinator’s Office in Abuja. The objective of the meeting was to plan for year 2016 and recap on activities that took

place in the previous year. During the meeting George Mavrotas from IFPRI and Xavier Preciado from USAID also briefed the participants about the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project.

- January 26, 2016: Meeting with Mr. Aziz, Director of DRD/NPC/NPFS Federal Ministry of Agriculture to introduce NAPP and explore possible ways of working with the department within the objectives of the Project. (NAPP Team at the meeting were Dr. Oyinkan Tasié and Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié). Previous work and preliminary findings on Nigeria (e.g. poultry value chain scoping) and the skills available under NAPP were discussed.
- January 26, 2016: NAPP team meeting with USAID/Nigeria to discuss NAPP programming and implementation with particular emphasis on the project launch. Meeting was attended by Mr. Xavier Preciado, Mr. Sabiu Auwal, Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié, Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Oyinkan Tasié, Ms. Elisabeth Douglas, and Mr. John Mazunda.
- January 27, 2016: Meeting with Prof. Philomena Ozo-Eson (proposed NAC member) on the objectives under the NAPP to elicit her input in attaining them. (The NAPP team was represented by Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié and Dr. Oyinkan Tasié).
- January 27, 2016: Meeting between Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié, and Mr. John Mazunda to discuss NAPP programming and implementation with particular emphasis on project launch and conference (Abuja).
- January 27, 2016: Meeting with the Special Assistant to the Minister of Science and Technology to introduce NAPP during which the linkages between the mandate of the Ministry and the Objectives of NAPP were outlined. A follow up meeting with the Hon. Minister of Science and Technology is to be scheduled. (The NAPP team at the meeting was Dr. Oyinkan Tasié and Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié). Previous work and findings on Nigeria (e.g. the value chain findings from the scoping activities) and the skills available under NAPP were discussed here.
- January 28, 2016: Meeting of the NAPP team with Francis Neuman of FMARD on Knowledge Management and other training needs within FMARD (attended by Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié, Dr. Oyinkan Tasié, and Mr. John Mazunda – FMARD Abuja).
- January 28, 2016: Meeting with Special Assistants to the President of the Nigerian Senate on Partnerships and Budgeting (Mr. Innocent Onah respectively) to introduce NAPP during which the linkage between the role of the legislature and the delivery of the objectives under NAPP relevant to enhancing agricultural development was outlined. Further interactions are envisaged. Previous work and findings on Nigerian agriculture and the relevance to the legislature as well as the skills available under NAPP to meet potential needs of the legislature were discussed
- February 4th, 2016: Meeting with Adama and Sheu Salau of the World Bank to discuss previous work done on agriculture in Nigeria, particularly on fertilizer and subsidies and then to discuss some of ongoing work on value chain, particularly poultry, maize and fish. (NAPP represented by Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié)
- February 5, 2016: NAPP team meeting at IFPRI Abuja Office to discuss communication strategies and conference preparations. Meeting was attended by Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasié, Dr. Oyinkan Tasié, Ms. Elisabeth Douglas and, Mr. John Mazunda.
- February 15-19: Dr. George Mavrotas served as a panelist at the Knowledge Management framework for the agricultural sector launch conference held at the Barcelona Hotel in Abuja and attended by more than 200 participants. Workshop was also attended by Mr. John Mazunda, Mr. Hyacinth Edeh, and Ms. Elisabeth Douglas of the IFPRI Abuja Office.
- February 16, 2016: A meeting with an FAO senior representative (Dr. Mohamed Ahmed) to discuss public agricultural expenditures in Nigeria and potential collaboration in public expenditure research. Meeting was attended by Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Tewodaj Mogues, and Mr. John Mazunda (IFPRI Abuja Office).

- February 16, 2016: Meeting between Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima and Ramaiah Venuprasad of the Africa Rice Center in Ibadan to share information about rice breeding and varietal development research in Nigeria as well as other comparable countries.
- February 16, 2016: Meeting between Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima and Adetola Adeoti of the University of Ibadan to share information about the public irrigation systems in Nigeria as well as other comparable countries and discussion on irrigation research issues/methodologies.
- February 17, 2016: Meeting at the IFPRI Abuja Office with the Acting President of APRNet, Dr. Anthony Onoja and the APRNet management team regarding the partnership of APRNet with IFPRI in the context of the new phase of NSSP-IFPRI Office in Abuja and the Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project (attended by Dr. George Mavrotas and Mr. John Mazunda).
- February 17, 2016: Meeting between Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima and Francis Nwilene at the Africa Rice Center in Ibadan to share information about rice breeding and varietal development research in Nigeria as well as other comparable countries.
- February 18-26, 2016: 22 interviews and meetings (with various stakeholders from FMARD, and other relevant ministries and organizations) undertaken by Dr. Tewodaj Mogues and Ms. Tolulope Olofinbiyi regarding drivers of public agricultural expenditures in Nigeria.
- February 19, 2016: Meeting between Dr. Hiroyuki Takeshima and Hiroshi Kodama of JICA to share information about issues on rice seed, irrigation and mechanization sectors in Nigeria.
- February 25, 2016. Meeting of the NAPP team with USAID/Nigeria at the US Embassy to discuss issues related to the first quarterly report of 2016 as well as NAPP implementation (attended by Mr. Xavier Preciado, Mr. Sabiu Auwal, Mr. John Mazunda, and Mr. Steve Longabaugh).
- February 29, 2016: Seminar presentation on “Youth Employment and Agricultural Transformation: The Nexus, with reflections on Nigeria” by Dr. George Mavrotas to the faculty and students of University of Ibadan attended by 79 participants.
- February 29, 2016: Seminar presentation on “Brief Overview of Graduate Education at Michigan State University (MSU)” by Steve Longabaugh to the faculty and students of University of Ibadan attended by 120 participants.
- March 1, 2016: An informal discussion of the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project with Professor, Eustace A Iyayi, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry at University of Ibadan and other faculty members of University of Ibadan (attended also by Professor, Eustace A Iyayi, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry at University of Ibadan, Dr. George Mavrotas, Mr. John Mazunda and Mr. Steve Longabaugh)- with no handouts or pamphlet disseminated in view of the USAID publicity constraints.
- March 15, 2016: A presentation by Dr. George Mavrotas at IFPRI Headquarters in Washington DC on Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project. The presentation focused on the project’s work plan for year 1, key components, expected outputs, and resources.
- March 17, 2016: A presentation by Dr. George Mavrotas at IFPRI Headquarters in Washington DC on youth employment and the agricultural sector in Nigeria at a workshop organized by IFPRI HQs in DC towards the preparation of an IFPRI book on youth and jobs in rural Africa.
- March 21, 2016: NAPP team meeting at Michigan State University in East Lansing to discuss NAPP programming and implementation with an emphasis on communication strategies and conference preparation (attended by Dr. George Mavrotas, Dr. Saweda Liverpool Tasie, Dr. Oyinkan Tasie, and Professor Maredia Mywish).
- March 22, 2016: Meeting of the NAPP Team (Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie, Dr. George Mavrotas and Mr. Steve Longabaugh) with Dr. David Atwood of USAID to brief him about progress made with the project, Michigan State University, East Lansing.

- March 23, 2016: A brown bag seminar presentation by Dr. George Mavrotas at Michigan State University on Youth Employment and Agricultural Transformation in Nigeria.