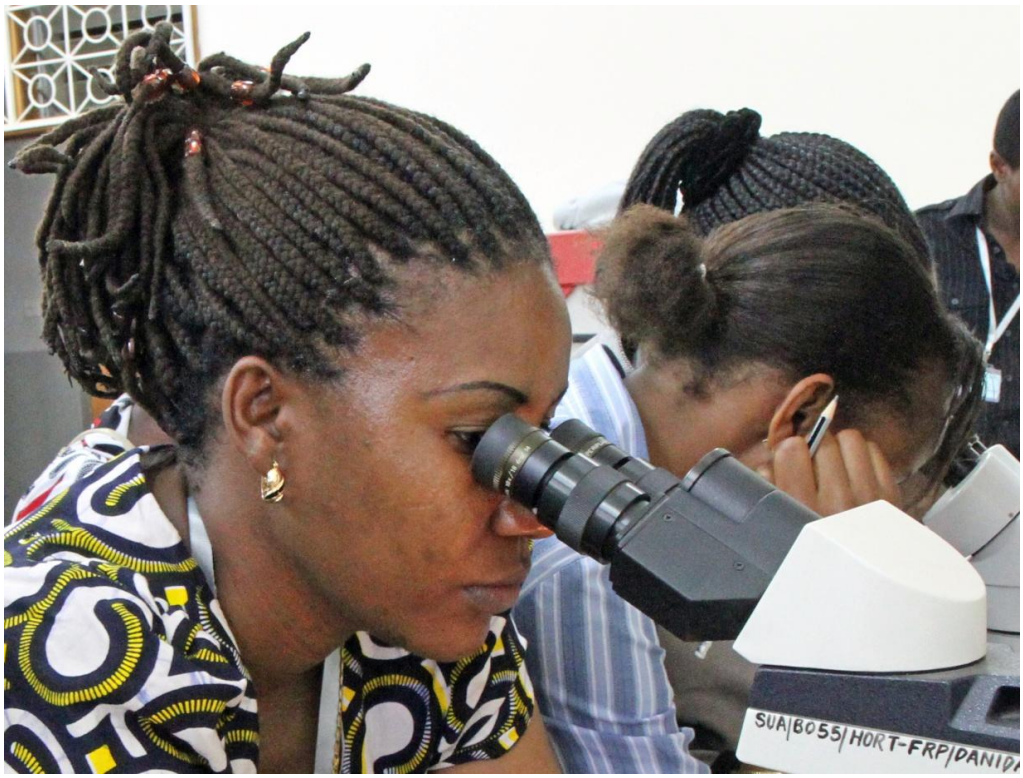

Annual Report

October 1, 2011 - September 30, 2012

submitted by

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)

October, 2012

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

iAGRI Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative

The Ohio State University
www.osu.edu

Office of International Programs in Agriculture
113 Agricultural Administration Building
2120 Fyffe Road
Columbus, OH 43210
Tel: (614) 292-7252
Fax: (614) 292-1757

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)
P.O. Box 3114, Sokoine University of Agriculture
Morogoro, Tanzania

Tel: +255 23 260 0743 (landline)
Tel: +255 763267934 (mobile)

Cover photo: Hellen Mbinje uses a microscope to inspect a diseased leaf at an iAGRI-supported workshop on Plant Disease Diagnostics at Sokoine University of Agriculture.

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Executive Summary

Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 witnessed the consolidation of iAGRI at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and in Tanzania in general. iAGRI is designed to strengthen and increase interactions among SUA and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC) in order to better address long-term food security. The four principal dimensions to iAGRI are to: (1) provide long-term degree training to 120 individuals, much of which is to take place in the U.S.; (2) promote collaborative research among staff from the principal beneficiary institutions in Tanzania and U.S. and Global South institutions; (3) strengthen the capacity of SUA and MAFC to contribute to food security in Tanzania; and (4) strengthen their linkages with Global South institutions.

Initially, iAGRI conducted a needs assessment which identified trends in the Tanzanian agricultural economy and gaps in current SUA and MAFC programs related to their mandate to address food security needs. These were principally defined as human resource and research capacity gaps. A major workshop was convened in October, 2011 at which the results of this assessment were presented and a program of action to address them was prepared. Eight principal thematic topics were identified at this session. These have guided much of the human resource training and research which has been conducted over the past year.

Training – Emphasis has been given to the placement of long-term training participants in the U.S., at Sokoine, and at other Global South institutions. Identification of areas for training has been guided by the results of the needs assessment mentioned above. Over the past year, iAGRI has placed 29 long-term trainees at Ohio State University Consortium (OSUC) institutions, 20 trainees at SUA, and 10 trainees at other Global South institutions. Placements in the U.S. required adequate performance on the GRE and TOEFL examinations. To prepare students for them, a two day workshop was held via video-conferencing with the participation of instructors from OSU. This workshop was a big success and resulted in exam scores that were measurably higher than those achieved by training candidates the previous year who had not received this training. Emphasis was given to placing PhD students because they will need the full remaining four years of iAGRI to complete their programs. In order to place trainees at Global South institutions, the OSU Management Entity (ME) entered into a sub-agreement with Regional Universities Forum (RUFORUM) for student placement at other universities in eastern and southern Africa. It will also monitor student programs. In response to a USAID/Tanzania request to place more students from Zanzibar, 10 students were placed at SUA in its BSc program. And an additional 10 students were placed at SUA in MSc and PhD programs. Thus, half of the 120 students scheduled for long-term degree training under iAGRI had been placed by September 30, 2012.

Research – Eight priority topics for intervention in the Tanzanian food security system were identified by the needs assessment. Studies of each topic were commissioned which included a review of relevant literature and priority research needs related to each. These studies were done by teams consisting of representatives from SUA, MAFC and OSUC. SUA representatives took the lead in undertaking each review. The results of these studies were presented at an August 2012 workshop which included participation of representatives of the three institutions involved. The workshop resulted in further refinement of the content of the review papers and an outline of how a competitive collaborative

research process to address priority gaps identified in the papers. This process will be implemented in FY2013.

Five students completed their post-graduate coursework in the U.S. and returned to Tanzania where they initiated their thesis field research. This research has been guided by the process outlined above. In addition to the advisors assigned to them at their OSUC host institutions, students are being advised by co-advisors in Tanzania. This structure facilitates development of long-term collaborative linkages between Tanzanian and U.S. researchers.

Capacity Building – iAGRI also focused on capacity building at the associated institutions. This took several forms. First, several short courses, designed to strengthen research capacity, were offered. These included short courses in plant disease diagnostics, research methodology, and randomized controlled trials. They were well attended by researchers at SUA and the MAFC. Second, attention was given to strengthening video-conferencing capabilities at SUA. Several video conference stations were created, furnished and made accessible to students and their advisors. Attention was also given to ways to improve the classroom instruction being provided to SAU students. iAGRI is supporting a program I quality assurance which focuses on the quality of teaching being provided on the SUA campus. This has included improvements in the classroom teaching infrastructure and teaching methods.

October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012

Introduction:

This iAGRI Annual Report covers the period from October 1, 2011 to September 30, 2012. The previous Annual Report covered the initial seven months of the program. The official title given to the iAGRI Agreement is "Collaborative Research and Capacity Building of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the National Agricultural Research System (NARS).

Substantial progress was made in placing students graduate degree programs in U.S. and African universities, as well as undergraduate students from Zanzibar at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). Substantial progress was also made in putting a collaborative research program into place and identifying major capacity strengthening needs at SUA. These accomplishments were facilitated by the hiring of a full complement of staff for the Project Management Unit at SUA. This enabled core staff to direct their energies to implementation of core elements of the program.

The original Agreement document provided $500,000 to initiate pursuance of program objectives beginning on March 1, 2011 and ending on February 28, 2012. An initial $2,000,000 obligated to the program was provided on August 2, 2011 toward the end of the USAID Fiscal Year 2010/2011. And an additional $4,500,000 was provided in June, 2012. The latter amount was necessary to cover additional costs associated with staffing increases and placement of 58 additional Tanzanian students in long-term degree training programs.

Description of Program

iAGRI will strengthen the training and collaborative research capacities of SUA and NARS. This purpose is aligned with the themes and road map of the USAID Feed the Future Initiative and the Government of Tanzania Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program Compact and the Agricultural Sector Development Program. Major objectives of iAGRI are to:

- Establish a program of collaborative agricultural research with SUA and NARS;
- Provide advanced degree training in agriculture for 120 Tanzanian graduate students (PhD – 20; MSc – 100);
- Strengthen the capacity of SUA to develop and implement instructional, internship, and outreach programs in agriculture; and
- Promote cooperation between SUA, U.S. universities, and Global South universities.

iAGRI is a partnership of Tanzanian institutions and The Ohio State University Consortium (OSUC), a group of six major U.S. land-grant universities, including The Ohio State University (SSU) as the lead institution, Michigan State University (MSU), University of Florida (UFL0; Virginia Tech (VT), Tuskegee University (TU), and Iowa State University (ISU). The OSUC partners have many years of experience in human and institutional agricultural capacity development in Africa, including a history of collaboration

with SUA and NARS institutions in Tanzania. Other U.S. land-grant institutions and Global South institutions, such as Punjab Agricultural University (India) and EARTH University (Costa Rica) may provide training and technical assistance inputs as called for.

iAGRI draws on successful development approached to agricultural and nutrition-related research, extension, and education, building on participant institutions' experiences with the U.S. land-grant model. These approaches may reduce training and technical assistance costs, increase program relevance to development needs, and engage stakeholders, including the private sector, NGOs and civil society representatives. The project is designed to be responsive to Government of Tanzania and donor priorities.

iAGRI Highlights

Return of Cohort I students to Tanzania to complete M.S. thesis research – Five students out of six from the first cohort to be placed in the U.S. returned to Tanzania after completing one year of classroom studies. They will be expected to complete thesis research associated with their degree during the year and defend their theses by the end of August, 2013. Provisions have been made for their U.S. advisors to visit them during this period to assist them with their theses development. Similarly, the iAGRI Project Management Unit has identified and contracted five Sokoine Univeristy of Agriculture faculty to serve as local advisors to these students. Even though the U.S advisors visit students only once during the research period in Tanzania, video conferencing facilities assure the US advisor's continued supervision and interaction with both the local advisor and student. The arrangement is to hold one video conferencing workshop per month among the student, the local advisor and the US advisor.

Student Placements of Cohort 2 for Fall Term, 2012 – iAGRI was able to place an additional 59 students for programs beginning in fall, 2012. Twenty-nine students were placed at OSU Consortium member universities, including 17 PhD candidates and 12 MSc candidates. In addition, ten students were placed by RUFORUM at member universities in eastern and southern Africa. iAGRI also directly placed 10 graduate students at Sokoine University of Agriculture, including 2 PhD candidates and 8 MSc. Candidates. In response to a request from USAID/Tanzania, the project also placed 10 undergraduate students form Zanzibar at Sokoine University of Agriculture.

Needs Assessment and Priority Setting Workshop - Needs Assessment was a major activity conducted during the initial months of the program. It culminated with a workshop held to review findings and shape the direction of the program by key stakeholders in a participatory manner. Participants were drawn from iAGRI, USAID, SUA, MAFC, including NARS, and the private sector. The workshop also marked a formal launch of iAGRI and a major opportunity for David Kraybill, Program Director, to present iAGRI objectives and anticipated iAGRI modus operandi to the larger audience.

iAGRI Collaborative Research Stakeholder Workshop – The workshop at which the content of the Research Background Papers was discussed was held on August 3 in Morogoro at Sokoine University of Agriculture. It included the principal authors of the eight thematic papers that were commissioned by

iAGRI. Several OSU Consortium member contributors to these papers were also present at the workshop. Each theme paper included a literature review of the theme, but with a special focus on the topic as it relates to Tanzania and to Tanzanian agricultural and rural development. Given this context, each paper then identified major research gaps that need to be addressed in order to increase agricultural productivity, rural livelihoods, and rural development. These research gaps were further discussed at the workshop. An outcome of this workshop was the formation of some tentative thematic research working groups to address subsets of the topics on which Research Background Papers have been prepared. The workshop also provided input into the preparation of a competitive research grants program that is designed to address the research gaps identified in the background papers and refined in the workshop setting.

RUFORUM Sub-Agreement - In line with the fourth iAGRI objective, namely, to promote tripartite linkages among SUA-USA Universities and South-South universities, the project signed an sub-agreement with RUFORUM in April. Under the sub-agreement, RUFORUM agreed to place up to 30 students in MSc graduate degrees programs at its affiliate institutions in eastern and southern Africa – 10 in 2012; 10 in 2013 and 10 in 2014. RUFORUM placed then students at its member institutions in 2012. Their programs began fall term. Under this agreement, RUFORUM will also monitor the progress of these candidates, including their thesis research and report back to the ME on it. RUFORUM will also administer seed grants of $5,000 which are to be allocated to each degree candidate to pursue research on FTF priorities. RUFORUM will also use the research being conducted by degree candidates to facilitate collaboration among SUA, MAFC and thesis advisors at other Global South institutions at which the students are enrolled. RUFORUM will also be responsible for advising the ME and PMU about how to improve its graduate degree training programs.

Collaborative Research Thematic Papers - Eight papers were developed on themes identified at the priority setting workshop which reviewed results of the initial iAGRI-related Needs Assessment. Themes addressed by them were (a) crop Improvement; (b) value chain management; (c) climate change; (d) gender and agricultural productivity; (e) water resources management; (f) policy analysis focused on agriculture-related issues; (f) extension systems; and (h) nutrition and food science. The papers defined the scope of the thematic area; identified actual and potential research needs on the topic in the context of Tanzania's on-going agriculture sector development initiatives; provided an original, comprehensive literature survey and critical analysis of existing research on the topic in Tanzania; reviewed leading international academic papers on the topic and assessed their relevance for Tanzania; identified research gaps; and proposed innovative research agenda on the respective theme. These papers have three primary functions, namely (1) to refine the priority areas identified in the Needs Assessment report and by stakeholders at the priority-setting workshop; (2) to guide the scope and content of the competitive research grants under iAGRI; and (3) to guide iAGRI-sponsored MSc and PhD students and their advisors in their choices of thesis and dissertation topics in order to ensure that they are relevant and demand driven. In addition, the process worked as a capacity building for SUA researchers as well facilitating collaboration among SUA, MAFC and OSUC.

Preparation of the theme papers was important for several additional reasons. First, they represented a capacity building exercise at SUA. Principal authors were SUA staff. Second, this was an excellent way to identify the strongest research staff at SUA. The fact that SUA, MAFC and OSUC staff ere engaged in the process facilitated collaboration among these institutions. And the papers helped to link SUA and MAFC to the USAID-funded Feed the Future Initiative in Tanzania.

Visit by Prof. Gerald Monela, Vice-Chancellor, Sokoine University of Agriculture – Prof. Gerald Monela visited the Ohio State University from June 4-9. During that period he met with lead officials at OSU including E. Gordon Gee, President, Bobby D. Moser, Vice-President for Agricultural Administration, Pat Osmer, Dean, Graduate School, William Brustein, Vice Provost for Global Strategies, Steven Slack, Director of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster, Ohio, and other representatives of the academic, research and extension staff of the college. These visits, coordinated by the Management Entity (ME) at OSU, provided Prof. Monela with an overview of the land-grant program for the state of Ohio and consolidated institutional relationships between the partners. Subsequently, members of the iAGRI Management Entity accompanied Prof. Monela to Washington, D.C. where he met with staff of the Association for Public and Land-Grant Universities, leadership of the USAID Bureau for Food Security, including Rob Bertram and Julie Howard, and leadership of the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, USDA, including Sonny Ramaswamy, NIFA Director, and Hiram Larew, Director NIFA Center for International Programs. These visits gave Prof. Monela a broader overview of the Feed the Future Initiative, its linkages to iAGRI in Tanzania, and linkages of the USDA with U.S. land-grant universities.

OSU President Gordon Gee and SUA Vice Chancellor Gerald Monela at OSU

OSUC Workshop at OSU - In order to achieve greater OSUC member participation and better coordination of their inputs to iAGRI activities, the Management Entity at OSU organized a one day workshop on iAGRI. This workshop was attended by representatives of the six member universities,

including Ohio State, Michigan State, Virginia Tech, Tuskegee, Florida and Iowa State. Project Management Unit staff in Tanzania, led by Dr. David Kreybill, AGRI Director Director participated in the entire program though a video link. Bobby Moser, Vice President for Agricultural Administration, welcomed the participants and encouraged all to seek ways to effectively support accomplishment of iAGRI objectives. Content discussed included an overview of iAGRI objectives and an update on activities; the Performance Management Plan; long-term degree training activities; the collaborative research program; SUA institutional strengthening activities; relationship building with Global South universities; and communication among OSUC partners. Participants amply discussed each of these topics and sought clarification of some of the proposed objectives and activities and how Consortium member institutions might be involved more effectively in achieving them. Major workshop outcomes were (1) increased understanding by OSUC representatives of their roles in iAGRI and how they might best participate in it; (2) a shared sense of program by the participants; (3) clarification of appropriate communication channels among Consortium members; and (4) understanding of roles and responsibilities among those present regarding inputs to iAGRI.

Agricultural Policy Seminar Series - Based on several interactions with SUA, MAFC and the private sector, iAGRI confirmed a need to strengthen SUA engagement in agricultural policy process in Tanzania. The seminar series has been developed considerably over the past year. Emphasis has been give to applications of policy recommendations. iAGRI has joined with SERA in developing this program and has coordinated activities with it.

Results – Project Management

Local Staff Hired for Project Management Unit – One of the first major activities to be undertaken was the hiring of local staff for the Project Management Unit (PMU) located on the SUA campus. Consistent with the number of positions in the original iAGRI proposal, seven positions were filled locally, including a Research, Education and Extension Specialist, an Education Specialist, a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, a Gender Specialist, an Operations Manager, an Administrative Assistant, and a Program Support Manager.[1]

The Operations Manager and Administrative Assistant positions were filled through a sub-agreement between the PMU and Kilimanjaro International Corporation (KIC). Use of the local consultant firm was determined to be consistent with USAID Forward and the associate decision to contract directly in-country for USAID project inputs. Use of this outside firm was consistent with SUA's preference to avoid hiring individuals for these specific positions given their organization and the complexities that this hiring would imply. KIC assumed responsibility for dealing with issues such as the determination of reasonable cost, related litigation, etc. in the event of termination during probationary employment periods and consistent with prevailing Tanzanian laws; paying the selected individuals and providing them with termination-related severance pay, including any salaries, severance and other payments related to employment beyond the probationary periods; and paying for any relocation costs involved in

[1] Position descriptions are found in the Appendix.

their employment in Morogoro. It was originally envisioned that these costs would be paid under the SUA sub-agreement, but it was eventually decided to have the PMU reimburse KIC directly for all of these costs, administrative fees, and indirect costs.

Individuals initially hired into these positions are listed below. The initial Administrative Assistant was replaced after three months by another individual provided through KIC.

Mr. Japhet Nyang'oro, Operations Manager
Ms. Shangwe Bujiku, Administrative Assistant

In addition, part-time SUA staff members were hired through SUA sub-agreement to work on specific areas of project need at the PMU. These staff members are:

Prof. Amon Mattee, Training, research, and Outreach Advisor;
Mr. Emmanuel Rwambali, Training Specialist;
Dr. Carolyne Nombo, Gender Specialist; and
Dr. Flavianus Magayane, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.

In addition, during the last quarter, it was decided to hire an additional staff person to fill a Program Support Manager Position. This person has been assigned numerous support tasks including serving as an implementation troubleshooter for program activities; assisting with workshops convened by iAGRI; contributing to iAGRI media outreach efforts; providing IT support; and serving as the iAGRI project webmaster. Nathan Mishler was hired into this position.

iAGRI Office Facilities - iAGRI invested considerable resources in the rehabilitation of an edifice that was originally intended to serve as the headquarters for the Africa Seed Health Centre at SUA. The building provides excellent offices for all of the iAGRI staff. Initially it was necessary to bring adequate electricity to the building which has enabled iAGRI to install air conditioning in the offices. Additional electricity is also generated through solar panels that have been installed at the location.

Video-Conference Facilities - Video-Conference facilities were established within the iAGRI complex. They have been used to link with the ME at OSU as well as to other OSU Consortium members. It is anticipated that these facilities will be widely used to support collaboration among student advisors at SUA and other Tanzanian institutions and U.S. advisors. Similarly, they will be used to facilitate exchanges between U.S. and Tanzanian collaborators on research programs funded through iAGRI.

Sub-Contracts Established with OSU Consortium Partners, RUFORUM, and SUA – Sub-agreements with OSU Consortium partners were amended as appropriate. For Michigan State University and Virginia Tech, this implied including funding to support substantial inputs through the Project Management Unit. Additionally, no-cost extensions were initially provided to Florida, Iowa State and Tuskegee. All of these sub-agreements were further amended in August to include funding for Cohort II long-term degree students assigned to their respective campuses. SUA sub-agreements were formally signed during the first quarter of the year after protracted negotiation of their terms. SUA subsequently purchased

Success Story

Circumventing the North-South ICT Divide

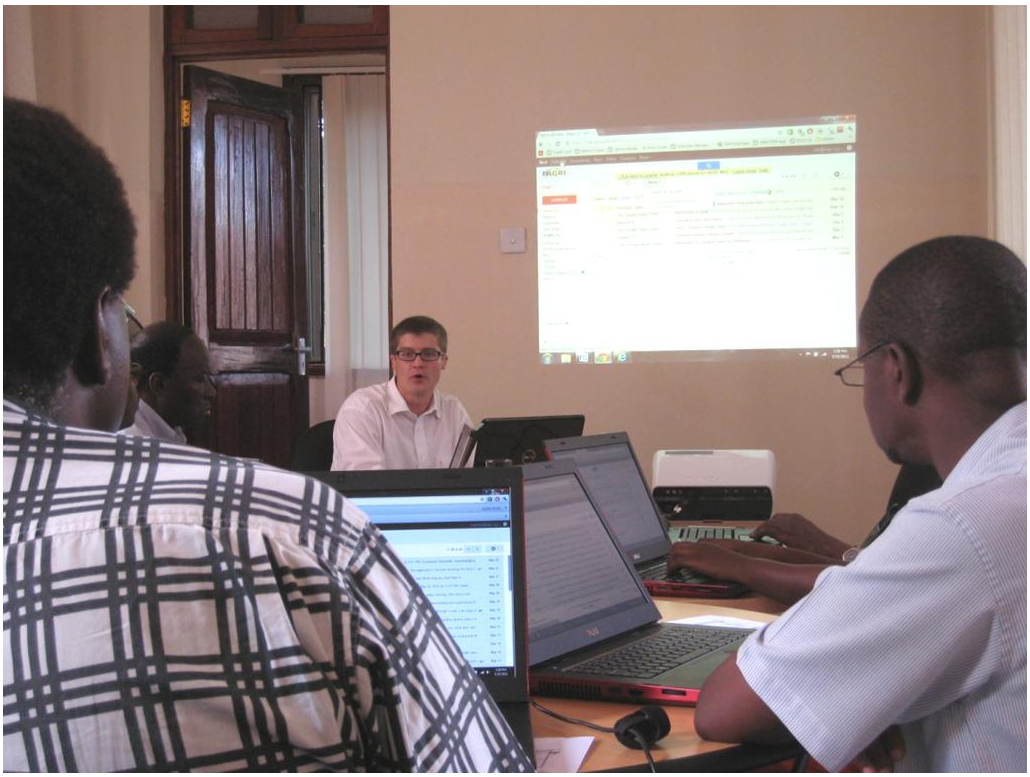
iAGRI is shattering the traditional North-South ICT divide through use of modern communication technologies in the training of scientists. The project is an early-adopter in Tanzania of video conferencing to link local agricultural and nutrition scholars with scholars in the United States for workshops, student advising, and planning and implementing research. As iAGRI trains the next generation of agricultural and nutrition scientists in the foundations of their academic disciplines, it is also training them to use modern communications technologies that slash the cost of international collaboration, shortening the distance between the Global North and the Global South.

In February 2012, iAGRI prepared 43 Tanzanians to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) in a workshop broadcasted live from Ohio. GRE and TOEFL workshop instructors taught from the campus of Ohio State University, interacting in a give-and-take manner with the workshop participants, who were seated before a large screen in Morogoro, Tanzania. No GRE and TOEFL instructors are available in Tanzania, and the cost of bringing instructors to the country temporarily would have been high. Video conferencing makes it possible to prepare the scholarship candidates in a timely manner and at a low cost. The training resulted in higher GRE and TOEFL scores for the Tanzania potential trainees compared to those of the preceding cohort of candidates in 2011. High scores on GRE and TOEFL for potential trainees from Tanzania led to a high rate of success in placing trainees in U.S. universities in 2012.

Trainees studying in the U.S. have both an American and Tanzanian advisor, who serve as an advising team for each student. To make sure that both advisors are "on the same page" with regard to the student's research, the student and his/her American advisor meet by video call with the Tanzanian advisor while the student is doing course work in the U.S. Similarly, when the student returns to Tanzania, the student and the Tanzanian advisor meet with the U.S. advisor by video call. The video calls occur at least once per month. At project headquarters on the campus of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) in Morogoro, iAGRI has created a video conference room and dedicated it solely to use by the returned trainees.

iAGRI has a second video conference room available for use by academic staff members at SUA. Beginning in December 2012, this facility will serve as a "platform" for planning and implementation of collaborative research carried out by teams of Tanzanian researchers and American researchers working together "virtually." The American researchers are faculty members at the six U.S. universities in the iAGRI consortium: Ohio State University (lead), Iowa State University, Michigan State University, Tuskegee University, Virginia Tech, and University of Florida.

The "distance technology experiment" being conducted by iAGRI has demonstrated that video conferencing is much less costly than widely believed. The project has equipped two meeting rooms with videoconference equipment suitable for groups at a cost of approximately $1,500 per room. The result is collaboration that improves the quality and relevance of research carried out by the Tanzanian agriculture and nutrition researchers. Through iAGRI, Feed the Future is helping to bridge the digital divide in the science of food security.



iAGRI is pioneering the use of ICT in tertiary education in Tanzania

vehicles for the project and has paid locally hired SUA staff assigned to the PMU. This sub-agreement has also been used to pay for project office space on campus, graduate student support, thematic working group support and other functions. The SUA sub-agreement was renegotiated to exclude the two staffing positions that were subsequently filled through Kilimanjaro International Corporation.

Performance Management Plan – The PMU relied heavily on Maria Mullei, a consultant provided through the Virginia Tech sub-agreement, to prepare the Performance Management Plan (PMP) required by the USAID Mission for the project. She coordinated these activities with those of the Mitchell Group, a firm contracted by USAID/Tanzania to oversee overall monitoring and evaluation of its Feed the Future efforts. A draft of this document, previous approved by it, was approved by the USAID Mission. Content of the PMP and the monitoring and evaluation activities associated with the iAGRI annual work plan have been coordinated over the period of this report.

Collection of Performance Data – Maria Mullei addressed baseline data gathering in the PMP. Following the procedure outlined in it, she assisted with the gathering of the required data. She was initially assisted in this process by the PMU staff person responsible for this area. Mullei has subsequently been assigned other duties by Virginia Tech, and the PMU staff person has assumed data gathering responsibilities. We anticipate providing additional short-term consulting inputs over the coming year designed to review the PMP, associated indicators and data requirements.

Results - Needs Assessment

The iAGRI Needs Assessment was a major initial activity designed to identify major priorities for the program. It provided basic information needed to define priority inputs to the Tanzanian food system, was a particular focus on strengthening the capacities of SUA and the NARS. MSU was assigned principal responsibility for this activity. Eric Crawford, MSU OSUC campus representative, directed the assessment and Isaac Minde, Deputy Project Director, handled logistics and coordination of activities in Tanzania. Results were presented at a workshop in Morogoro and the Needs Assessment and the Workshop outcomes were eventually published as iAGRI Monographs.[2]

Following are several major highlights of the Needs Assessment:

Changing dynamics of the Tanzanian Food System reflected in urbanization and growing per capita incomes were identified as reasons why marketed volumes of food stuffs would double frequently and why demands for higher value foods, such as dairy, mean and fresh fruits and vegetables would increase significantly These changes imply substantial investments in food processing industries and needed investments to accompany commercial agriculture, such as farm inputs - improved seeds, fertilizers, herbicides, feed and veterinary services. Related to these changes will be increased demands for trained personnel to support farm production, food industries, storage, supply chain management and food processing industries, as well a public investments and regulatory structure to support innovation and agribusiness growth.

MAFC and Government Agricultural Training N**eeds** were also prioritized. MAFC needs that were identified by the team include: irrigation engineering; climate change, agricultural marketing, horticulture and value addition, policy analysis and post-harvest technology, seed technology and food safety. Management and administration short-term training were also identified as priority. SUA high priority manpower training needs were related to irrigation engineering, agricultural marketing, value addition to fruits and vegetables, policy analysis, post-harvest technology, seed technology, food safety and sanitary and phyto-sanitary regulations. Other priority areas include soil and water management, including land use, land management and sustainable soil management.

Linkages among SUA, MAFC and Other Government Entities were also identified. These include greater coordination of programs, as well as identification of research priority identification and conduct of extension/outreach activities.

[2] Assessment of Needs for Training, Collaborative Research, and Institutional Capacity Building for Agricultural Development and Food Security in Tanzania, Eric Crawford, Isaac Minde, Kathleen Colverson, Russell Freed, and Steven Haggblade, iAGRI Report Series, No. 1, The Ohio State University Consortium, December, 2011.

[2] iAGRI Priority Setting Workshop Report, iAGRI Report Series, No. 2, The Ohio State University Consortium, December, 2011.

Results – Collaborative Research

The iAGRI Collaborative Research Program is designed to accomplish several broad objectives. The first is to strengthen the agricultural sector of Tanzania by providing important research based inputs to its agricultural production industries, related agribusinesses, and government support entities. The second is to strengthen linkages among research staff at MAFC, other government agricultural entities, SUA, other Feed the Future organizations operational in Tanzania, and U.S. and other South-South based institutions. The definition of this dimension of iAGRI has been built on solid foundations that promise to increase its ability to accomplish its objectives. Major activities associated with this effort are summarized below.

Collaborative Research Grants (CRG) Plan – The PMU, with assistance from the OSU Management Entity (ME) has developed a plan, "iAGRI Collaborative Research Strategy and Process," which outlines the pathway to be followed in implementing the iAGRI research dimension.[3] It has undergone several substantial changes over the months. Collaborative in the context of iAGRI refers to multi-disciplinary and inter-institutional engagement in research within Tanzania. Inter-institutional refers to Sokoine University of Agriculture, National Agricultural Research System (NARS), the Ohio State University Consortium (OSUC), other Global South institutions, other Feed the Future organizations in Tanzania, and the private sector. Multi-discipline in turn refers to involvement of distinct academic disciplines in the research of a particular issue. The expectation is that using multiple lenses – biophysical, social, policy and/or economic - to investigate a problem leads to better solutions. This plan was further modified during the past performance period to meet the expectations for the upcoming workshop to be held in early August.

Research Theme Review Papers – The Priority Setting Workshop in October 2011 at which the iAGRI Needs Assessment study was reviewed, identified eight priority themes for the Collaborative Research Program. These are:

Crop Improvement;
Value Chain Management;
Climate Change;
Gender and Agricultural Productivity;
Water Resources Management;
Policy Analysis – focusing on agriculture-related issues;
Extension Systems; and
Nutrition and Food Science.

Teams were developed to conduct literature reviews on each of these topics and to identify priority topics for additional research based on the needs of Tanzanian agriculture. Teams consisted of a team

[3] The document is found in the Appendix to this report.

leader who was a SUA faculty member, at least one other Tanzanian from MAFC, the Tanzanian Food and Nutrition Centre, and/or a similar organization, and a faculty member from one of the OSU Consortium member institutions.[4]

Several drafts of these papers were prepared. Each (1) defines the scope of the thematic area; (2) identifies the actual and potential research needs on the topic in the context of the on-going agricultural sector development initiatives (ASDP, CAADP, *Kilimo Kwanza*, etc.); (3) provides an original, comprehensive literature survey and critical analysis of the research that has been done on this topic in Tanzania; (4) provides a review of leading international academic papers published on this topic, with emphasis on the past ten years, and assess the relevance of these papers for research in Tanzania; (5) identifies gaps on this topic as it pertains to Tanzania and the clientele of SUA and MAFC; (6) analyzes the existing knowledge gaps on this topic and provide insights on why the gaps exist; and (7) proposes an innovative research agenda on this theme and indicate how the proposed research would contribute to the objectives of Feed the Future and, specifically, iAGRI.

The background papers are intended to serve three functions, namely, (1) refine the priority areas that were identified in the Needs Assessment report and by stakeholders in the Priority-Setting Workshop; (2) guide the scope and content of the competitive research grants that will follow; and (3) guide iAGRI-sponsored MSc and PhD students and their advisors in the choice of thesis and dissertation topics to ensure that the research is relevant and demand driven. OSU Consortium team member inputs have focused on, but were not limited to, definition of the scope of the papers, global literature reviews, and recommendations for future research to emanate from the studies.[5]

Workshop on Research Background Paper Reviews – The workshop at which the content of these papers was discussed was held on August 3 in Morogoro at SUA. Workshop participants included the Tanzanian authors, several OSU Consortium authors and MAFC authors. Each paper included a literature review related to an individual theme, but with a special focus on the topic as it relates to Tanzania and to Tanzanian agricultural and rural development. Given this context, each paper identified major research gaps that need to be addressed in order to increase agricultural productivity, rural livelihoods, and rural development. These research gaps were initially identified at the needs assessment workshop. Workshop participants also discussed input into the preparation of major competitive research grants program that will be designed to address the research gaps identified in the theme papers and refined in the workshop setting.

Collaborative Research Competitive Grants Program Planning – Based on the outcomes of the workshop, the Collaborative Research Grants plan has been further modified to increase the commitment and potential successful collaboration of OSUC member researchers with Tanzanian collaborators.[6] Plans are initially to identify OSUC member institutions and at Tanzanian institutions

[4] The teams for each of these themes are found in the Appendix to this report.
[5] These papers will subsequently published at part of the iAGRI report monograph series.
[6] The latest version of this document is found in the Appendix.

who have the greatest potential to contribute to this research endeavor. Subsequent to this, they will be brought together to prepare concept notes which will then be reviewed. Those selected to continue will then be invited to prepare research proposals on the priority topic areas. This activity will take place during the first quarter of Year III.

Agricultural Policy Seminar Seminar Series (SERA) - Based on several interactions with SUA, MAFC and the private sector, iAGRI confirmed a need to strengthen SUA engagement in agricultural policy process in Tanzania. To date, the involvement of SUA staff and graduate students in contributing and adding value to the agricultural policy environment remains sub-optimal. SERA, a FtF project on policy analysis, has been working with iAGRI to engage SUA staff in policy analysis and dialogue.

In April 2012, iAGRI and SERA jointly agreed to launch an activity called Agricultural Policy Seminar Series (APSS). It was jointly agreed (iAGRI/SERA) that to begin with, this would focus on SUA but with a potential to eventually also include MAFC. The objectives of APSS are to:

- Stimulate interest in agricultural policy research among academic staff at SUA as well as in the key agriculture-line ministries and research institutions;
- Support agricultural policy and develop local capacity for policy research in Tanzania; and
- Encourage informed debate(s) on key agricultural policy areas by involving key policy stakeholders with a view to inform policy processes with good quality science –based knowledge.

Major activities of the APSS would involve concerted groundwork by the core parties (Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness) and thereafter ascertained via brown bag meetings or workshops at SUA, commissioning of the research activities, call and evaluation of concept notes, link if possible with international researchers, aiming at focused on quick studies with tangible findings, facilitating seminar presentations at SUA, pursue and oversee editorial and peer review work of the products, documentation and dissemination of the findings through seminar series papers, local and international journals.

In March 2012, iAGRI in consultation with SERA developed a call for concept notes (CN) to drive APSS. The CN covered the following: major activities of APSS, specific areas of APSS and the processes that the APSS would cover from call for CNs to the dissemination of findings from the studies. Key points in the process worth noting are:

- Steering committee was commissioned to advise and guide the process;
- Maximum of six months allowed from grant award date to submission of final report;
- Maximum of $ 10,000 per grant is allowed;
- Maximum of five (5) grants per period is allowed; and
- SERA and iAGRI would share the total costs equally.

A brown bag seminar was held at SUA in May to launch a call for proposals. A total of 12 concept notes were received. Three were immediately rejected because of missing some basic elements. The remaining nine were reviewed and four were selected for funding. Those that met the required standards then made presentations of their concept notes and received valuable comments which they later incorporated into their policy research proposals. When the papers are completed, they will be presented in an agricultural policy seminar series jointly sponsored by iAGRI and SERA. Research by the four winning teams will conducted in FY 2013.

Results - Long-Term Training

The priority setting themes which were initially identified in the needs assessment and subsequently elaborated further through commissioned background papers influenced the choice of disciplinary areas selected for training. These same background papers will be used to guide the trainees and their advisors in selecting research topics for trainee theses and dissertations.

Cohort I – Training – The original proposal submitted by the OSU Consortium called for long-term training to begin in fall, 2012. However, USAID/Tanzania requested that iAGRI place students for fall, 2011. Because of the lateness of this request the PMU and the OSU Management Entity labored intensively to accomplish these placements. They were facilitated by the good cooperation provided by OSU Consortium member institutions and the U.S. diplomatic mission in Tanzania in regard to helping selected students obtain visas. The OSU Consortium representatives have been very helpful in providing assistance to the students placed on their respective campuses.

Students and location of study - Students members of Cohort I are

Students	Institution	Specialty Area
Asma Bilal Gharib	University of Florida	Food and Resource Economics
Martin John	Tuskegee University	Plant and Soil Science
Stanslaus Materu	University of Florida	Ag & Biological Engineering
Lilian Eliah Mpinga	University of Florida	Horticulture
Frida Albinusi Nyamete	Michigan State University	Food Science & Technology
Respikius M. Gabagambi	Ohio State University	Rural Sociology

The first five students completed their formal classroom training and returned to Tanzania to undertake their thesis research during summer, 2012. Mr. Gabagambi remained on the OSU campus for an additional academic term due to his need to spend his initial academic term in English language training. He will return to Tanzania at the end of fall term, 2012.

Preparation of Research Proposals - Students were required to prepare thesis research proposals prior to returning to Tanzania. These proposals were reviewed by their academic advisors, both U.S. advisor and the Tanzanian advisor, and by PMU and OSU Management Entity staff.

Co-Advisors - Co-Advisors were identified for them, all of whom are members of the SUA staff. These Co-Advisors signed an agreement with the PMU stipulating the expectations of their contributions to the theses of their respective advisees. They have communicated with the U.S. campus based Advisors regarding the research being undertaken. It is anticipated that a similar process will be followed by Mr. Gabagambi upon his return to Tanzania. The U.S. and Tanzanian Co-Advisors will hold joint, monthly meetings by video-conference to plan and review research progress.

PMU Workshop for Students/Advisors – The PMU organized a one day workshop for returned students and their Tanzanian Co-Advisors. At this workshop, students were informed about the nature and amount of support that they will receive for their thesis research and how they were to report on progress to the PMU. Co-Advisors were informed about the expectations for their performance as advisors to the students.

Defense of Theses - Plans are currently underway for U.S. based advisors to visit Tanzania to work with their advisees and their Tanzanian Co-Advisors. It is anticipated that thesis defenses will take place in Tanzania with U.S. Advisors participating through video conferencing.

Cohort II – Training – The PMU and the OSU Management Entity benefited greatly from experiences gleaned from the selection and placement of Cohort I members. Transaction costs associated with Cohort II were much greater due to the fact that the intention was to place 20 PhD students and 35 MSc degree students. The PhD students represent the entire number to be placed under the aegis of iAGRI. The trainees needed to be placed this year to complete their degree programs by the end of the project in 2015.

Training Plan – A long-term degree training plan was prepared for iAGRI with the final version completed in March, 2012. It includes a series of steps, beginning with (1) formal advertisement of open positions in national newspapers; (2) compilation of applicant information and initial elimination on the basis of key criteria; (3) establishment of an iAGRI Trainee Selection Committee to select short listed applicants, interview them and select "semi-finalists"; (4) workshop to prepare students to take GRE and TOEFL exams; (5) GRE and TOEFL Testing; and (6) application to universities for graduate studies.

Call for Applications – Announcement of the iAGRI degree training opportunity for 2012 was run in two of Tanzania's major newspapers in December (*The Guardian*) and early January *(The Citizen*). In addition, SUA and MAFC administrators were made aware of the advertisement and asked to share widely with potential applicants. The advertisement was shared with all Heads of Departments in the SUA Faculty of Agriculture, posted on campus bulletin boards, and posted on the home page of the SUA website. Key individuals in MAFC were also asked to undertake similar advertisement activities. It received an enthusiastic response as over 350 applications were received for the available 55 fellowships. Several expressions of interest were also received from this source.

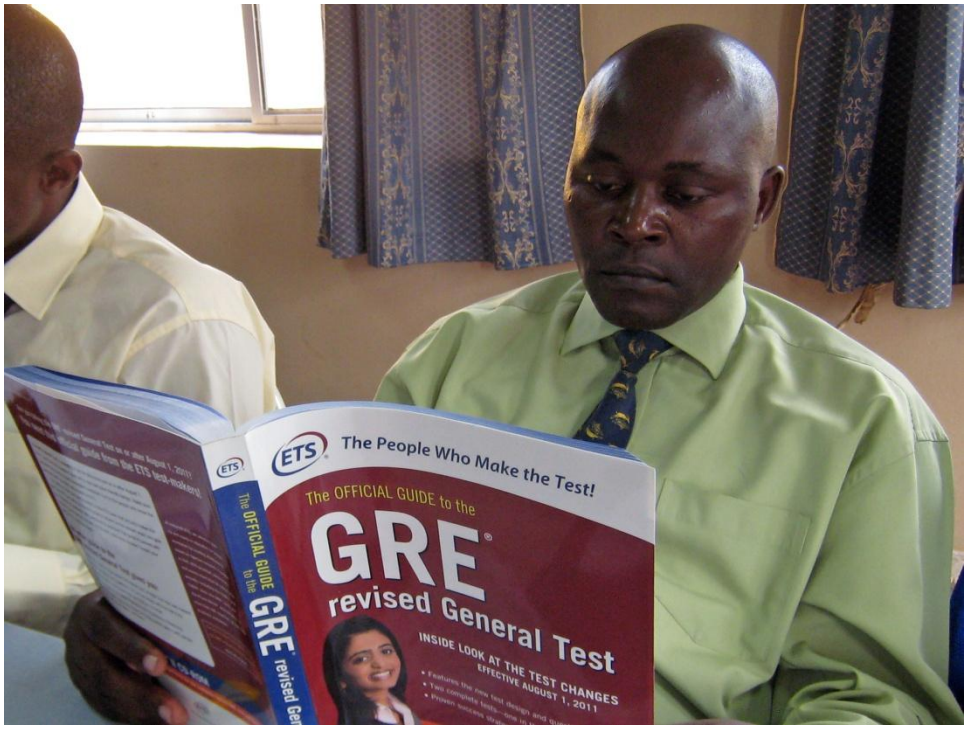
Screening and Selection of Training Candidates for U.S. Placement – Candidates were initially screened in January, 2012. The PMU eliminated applicants who did not meet the minimum criteria – namely, maximum age of 40; appropriate field of training related to Feed the Future, adequate grade point average, etc. The PMU then contacted applicants who met the minimum requirements as per the advertisement and who happened to be on the preliminary short list. They were asked to submit additional missing information needed to give full consideration to their applications. Another short list was then developed of approximately 100 candidates for MSc training and another 50 candidates for PhD training. They were divided into pools according to criteria such as gender, desired location of training, institutional affiliation, and/or subject matter areas of interest.

Preparation for GRE and TOEFL Examinations – A two-day workshop on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) was held for 43 applicants in February, 2012. Instruction was provided by teleconference. Day I was led by Deborah Morbitt, OSU instructor on GRE. Day II was led by Annette Bouvier, OSU instructor on TEOFL. Evaluations of the workshop by those who participated were very favorable. Later in the quarter, the semi-finalists took the GRE and TOEFL exams at the University of Dar es Salaam. The GRE was computer based and the TOEFL was paper based. As might have been expected, students scored better on the TOEFL than on the GRE because of their limited experience with taking computer based tests, limited familiarity with computers, and lack of testing familiarity.

Application Dossiers for U.S. Placement – The PMU prepared dossiers for individual applicants for application to OSU Consortium member institutions for graduate study. These dossiers included transcripts, letters of intent, letters of recommendation, GRE and TOEFL scores, and background information. The dossiers were forwarded to the OSU Management Entity which had primary responsibility for selecting universities to when they were submitted.

Send-off Ceremony and Workshop at U.S. Embassy - A farewell event was held at the U.S. embassy in Dar es Salaam in July for all degree trainees receiving scholarships from iAGRI in 2012 (postgraduates -- 28 to the U.S., 9 to SUA, 10 to other African countries via RUFORUM; undergraduates -- 10 to SUA). Ambassador Alfonso Lenhardt welcomed the trainees and spoke about the vital role of agricultural research and training in Tanzania's economic development. SUA Prof. Susan Nchimbi-Msola, who obtained her PhD in the U.S. in the 1980s, spoke about the importance of U.S. degree training for the future of Tanzanian agriculture. Deputy Permanent Secretary Futakamba from MAFC and SUA Vice Chancellor Monela also spoke. After the ceremony, iAGRI conducted a workshop at the embassy for the departing trainees to prepare them for travel and for cultural adjustment.

Scholarship semi-finalists in teleconferenced TOEFL workshop in Morogoro



Each semi-finalist received manuals to study between the workshop and exam

Student Placements at OSU Consortium Institutions – In all, 30 students were placed in graduate degree programs at OSU Consortium member institutions. Thirteen of them were at the MSc level and 17 were at the PhD level.[7] Their progress is being monitored by the OSU Management Entity and by the OSUC representatives on their respective campuses. Advisors were identified before the trainees arrived in the U.S. Visas and air tickets were obtained. Housing was arranged for trainees. Trainees were received at welcomed at the host universities. Trainees were introduced to advisors and providers of student services. This required much collaboration among the ME, PMU, USAID Tanzanian, the U.S. embassy, and the OSUC universities.

Student Placements at SUA – The PMU worked with SUA to place an additional 10 students in graduate degree training program at that institution. Eight of them are enrolled in MSc programs and two in PhD programs. These students are being support by the iAGRI project through the sub-agreement between OSU and SUA.[8]

Workshops with OSUC Advisors – The ME held workshops with advisors of three OSUC universities (Michigan State University, Ohio State University, University of Florida) to discuss the iAGRI degree training model and to plan for advising of the cohort II trainees. Two of the workshops were held by video-conference and one was held in person.

RUFORUM (Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture) Sub-Agreement for Student Placement – A sub-agreement with RUFORUM was signed in April.[9] The PMU provided RUFORUM with dossiers of ten trainees for placement in its member universities in eastern and southern Africa. RUFORUM has placed nine students in MSc programs and one student in a PhD program to begin studies in fall, 2012. It also agreed to similarly place 10 students in 2013 and 10 students in 2014. RUFORUM monitors the progress of these candidates, including their thesis research and report back to the ME on it. RUFORUM will also administer seed grants which are to be allocated to each degree candidate to pursue research on FTF priorities. RUFORUM will also use the research being conducted by degree candidates to facilitate collaboration among SUA, MAFC and thesis advisors at other Global South institutions at which the students are enrolled. RUFORUM will also be responsible for advising the ME and PMU about how to improve its graduate degree training program.

Placement of Zanzibar Undergraduate Students at Sokoine University of Agriculture – Based upon a request from the USAID/Tanzania Mission, it was agreed to convert one MSc degree program to 10 undergraduate degree programs for students from Zanzibar. This decision was

[7] See Appendix for a list of these students and their placement.

[8] See Appendix for a list of these students.

[9] The Agreement is for $1,793,677.00.

taken after an extensive search for qualified graduate degree candidates from Zanzibar failed to identify any. Given the importance of training of staff from Zanzibar, it was decided to make this modification in the degree training program. It is anticipated that these students will eventually qualify for graduate degree training once they have completed their B.S. degrees at SUA. Students were subsequently selected by members of the PMU staff and placed at SUA.

Contacts Made to Place Students for Degree Training in India and China – The ME contacted the Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) in India, the China Agricultural University (CAU) and the Hunan Agricultural University (HAU) in China regarding the possibility of placing Tanzanian students in its programs for graduate degree training. All institutions responded positively to this request. However, it was clarified that all graduate degree training in agriculture in India needs to be funneled through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Contacts were further made with ICAR which assured us that it would facilitate placement at PAU. Given the extensive time lags involved, it was decided to delay placement of students at these institutions until 2013. Consideration may be given to placement of a student in rice breeding at HAU and a student in agricultural information technology at PAU.

Results – Capacity Development at SUA

Capacity building beyond degree training focused on investments at SUA, as per the project contract. In FY 2012, iAGRI created a medium-term plan for capacity building for investment in "quick win" activities, and those activities were beginning at the end of the fiscal year. The project has also developed a long-term plan for capacity building activities to be carried out over the the life of the project.

The medium plan for capacity building at SUA focus on equipping the university's new Quality Assurance and Program Bureau with furniture, teaching and learning improvement workshops for junior members of the academic staff, a pilot program for Teaching Assistants, obtaining computer projectors and white boards for classrooms, and launching of a program to regularly assess the physical quality of classrooms.

Teaching

Equipping Quality Assurance and Promotion Bureau (QAPB) – SUA has begun to create a unit to monitor the quality of instruction, classroom facilities, and advising. A Coordinator was appointed and office space was allocated. Unfortunately, the office was not equipped because of budgetary constraints. iAGRI has agreed to equip the office with furniture and equipment. Many of iAGRI's capacity building initiatives will be implemented by QAPB.

Teaching and Learning Improvement Program -- Improvement of human resource entails revival of the University Teaching and Learning Program (UTLIP) to equip lecturers with the necessary knowledge and skills of teaching and implementation and attitude of SUA's Policy on using postgraduate students to support teaching and learning at the University.

Classroom Facilities Improvements -- Plans have been made to equip lecture rooms at SUA with teaching and learning aids, including white boards, video display screens, power point projectors and cordless microphones.

Pilot Program for Post-Graduate Teaching Assistants -- A pilot program for preparing students in post-graduate programs to assist in teaching at SUA will be implemented. This will entail training of graduate students and then assigning them to teaching staff to assist with their classes. Activities to be undertaken in this program will include occasional lecturing, marking of exams and supervision of laboratory classes.

Gender–Focused Activities

iAGRI gender-related activities are based on the view that the men and women face differing opportunities and challenges in both agriculture and society at large and, that agricultural productivity and nutritional well-being can be improved by recognizing and addressing these differences. A Gender Specialist, Dr. Carolyne Nombo, was hired by iAGRI in February 2012 to develop a gender plan and implement a wide range of gender-related activities at SUA

Technical Support for Implementation of Gender Policy - Rather than inventing a new structure for addressing gender at SUA, iAGRI is building the capacity of the existing Gender Policy Implementation Committee (GPIC), which the university has charged with the task of developing and carrying out SUA's gender policy. In FY 2011/2012, the project provided technical support to the GPIC to develop plans that increase awareness of gender inequities, provide support for female members of academic staff students, and seek to kindle the interest of girls in the study of agricultural and nutrition science. The execution of the proposed activities will enable the collection of information/data to inform iAGRI's Performance Management Plan, specifically on USAID/ iAGRI output indicators 9, 15, 16, 17 and 18 (see appendix).

Gender Assessment at SUA - a study was carried out by the project to assess the extent to which gender issues have been internalized, acted upon, and mainstreamed by staff and students at SUA. The study identified challenges and opportunities to be considered in the university's efforts to increasing gender equality in current and future programs, policies, plans and activities. Short and long term strategies for improving the existing gender situations are proposed in this report.

Research Focusing on Gender and Agricultural Productivity - In March 2012, iAGRI commissioned the writing of a Research Background Paper on "Gender and Agricultural Productivity." The paper reviews and assesses existing literature relevant to Tanzania on gender and agricultural production and knowledge gaps related to gender and agricultural productivity. Some of these gaps are thesis-sized and will become the subject of Masters theses and PhD dissertations of iAGRI-sponsored trainees. Other knowledge gaps identified in the paper will be addressed by researchers to be funded under the iAGRI Collaborative Research Grants program.

Revised SUA Gender Policy - The gender policy of SUA was developed ten years ago and needed revamping. In May, 2012, iAGRI sponsored a workshop at which the GPIC updated the policy. The revised policy was subsequently approved by the top administrative committees of the university in June 2012.

Gender-Sensitive Training for Scholarship Candidates - Training and listening sessions were conducted with selected iAGRI trainees to ensure that both men and women candidates were fully aware of the socio-economic and cultural implications of pursuing postgraduate studies within and outside the country for a number of years. Issues discussed with the candidates included preparedness to study abroad, family support and communication, changes in life style, and coping mechanisms. These discussions provided information that led to iAGRI writing a Policy on Dependents of Trainees stating conditions under which female trainees studying in the United States are provided opportunity to return to Tanzania during the summer after their first year of study.

Mentoring Assessment at SUA - iAGRI commissioned a mentoring situational analysis to identify and document challenges, opportunities and needs for strengthening the mentoring program at SUA. This assessment and recommendations emanating from this study will enable SUA to have a functioning mentoring program which will impact both mentees and mentors. Debriefing session on the study findings was done and the final report is expected on 15th November 2012.

During the reporting period the following gender related activities have been accomplished: (i) Finalization of the process of revising the SUA Gender Policy (ii) Carrying out the Gender status study, and (iii) Finalization of plans for carrying out gender activities for FY 2013. Through iAGRI assistance, the Gender Policy Implementation Committee (GPIC) finalized reviewing the 2002/2003 SUA Gender Policy. The plan is to produce and distribute 2000 copies and post the revised policy on the SUA website for more accessibility to a wide range of stakeholders. In addition, the iAGRI commissioned study on gender assessment at SUA was completed. Results will be used to feed into the process of gender mainstreaming into the various activities under the mandate of SUA. Furthermore, plans for carrying out activities under the gender component of iAGRI were completed and details on the implementation of the plans were arrived at. To guide the implementation a gender action plan for FY 2013 has been prepared.

Short-term Training

Plant Disease Diagnostic Workshop - iAGRI worked closely with the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP) and SUA in undertaking a plant disease diagnostic workshop at SUA in April and May. iAGRI sponsored ten SUA and MAFC staff members to attend the workshop. The workshop was supported by USAID through the IPM CRSP Regional Program in East Africa, which includes the International Plant Diagnostic

Network (IPDN) and Plant Virus Global Theme Program in combination iAGRI. A total of 22 trainees (9 females, 13 males) participated in it. They were from Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda.

A participant diagnoses plant diseases

Social Science Research Methods Workshop – Prof. Stanley Thompson, OSU agricultural economist, gave a five-day workshop on research methodology in the social sciences for faculty at SUA. It was well received by the 40 participants who enrolled in the course. A post course evaluation gave it high marks and it has been recommended that Prof. Thompson return the following year to offer a follow up course.

Short course on research methods taught at SUA by Prof. Stanley Thompson, Ohio State University

Randomized Controlled Trials for Social Scientists - Two SUA faculty members who work in the area of social science research methodology presented a five-day workshop to SUA faculty and graduate students on randomized controlled trials in the social sciences. The workshop was a follow up to the workshop presented by Prof. Stanley Thompson and was well received by the participants as reflected in their evaluation of the program. Nine people attended the workshop.

Climate Change Workshop – The OSU Management Entity has discussed the possibility of holding this workshop at SUA jointly with the Agricultural University of Life Sciences, Ås, Norway. The title for it has tentatively been identified as *Agricultural Intensification to Mitigate Climate Change and Advance Food Security in Africa*. We anticipate that it would be undertaken in Spring, 2013. Major responsibility for it would be given to the Soils group at Sokoine University of Agriculture. Funding would come from a number of sources, including NORAD and iAGRI. This will be an effort to directly collaborate with the Norwegian-funded EPINAV project at SUA.

Administration/Management

Executive Visit by SUA Vice Chancellor - Prof. Gerald Monela visited the Ohio State University from June 4-9. During that period he met with lead officials at OSU including E. Gordon Gee, President, Bobby D. Moser, Vice-President for Agricultural Administration, Pat Osmer, Dean, Graduate School, William Brustein, Vice Provost for Global Strategies, Steven Slack, Director of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and other representatives of the academic, research and extension staff of the college. These visits, coordinated by the ME, provided Prof. Monela with an overview of the land-grant program for the state of Ohio and consolidated institutional relationships between the partners. Prof. Monela gave several presentations on SUA and iAGRI collaborations at several faculty gatherings. Subsequently, two ME staff members accompanied Prof. Monela to Washington, D.C. where he met with staff of the Association for Public and Land-Grant Universities, leadership of the USAID Bureau for Food Security, including Rob Bertram and Julie Howard, and leadership of the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, USDA, including Sonny Ramaswamy, NIFA Director, and Hiram Larew, Director NIFA Center for International Programs. These visits gave Prof. Monela a broad overview of the Feed the Future Initiative, its linkages to iAGRI in Tanzania, and linkages of the USDA with U.S. land-grant universities.

Anticipated Visit by Vice-Chancellor Deputies – We had planned to host Prof. Peter Gillah, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs and Prof. Vedasto Muhikambele, Director of Research and Graduate Studies at SUA in September. Unfortunately, this visit had to be cancelled because of last minute visa authorization problems at the U.S. Consulate in Dar es Salaam. We intend to reprogram this visit for early 2013, recognizing that it may have a major impact on the academic and research programs at SUA. Our intent is to give them an opportunity to review how these functions are organized on the OSU campus and to link them

to potential coaches who can work with them over the coming years to introduce appropriate reforms to the SUA system. Both SUA leaders recognize the need to do so. We also anticipate taking them to Washington, D.C. to meet with national leaders of the U.S. land grant system to discuss in general terms how research and academic functions are organized at our universities.

Infrastructure Investments – iAGRI has renovated an uncompleted building on the SUA campus for use as an office complex for the project. Improvement include installation of water and three-phase electricity, installation of a solar/battery backup system for uninterrupted power, installation of two video-conference facilities, installation of air conditioning, building of toilet facilities, and building of a parking lot. The renovated facility will be available to the university at the end of the project.

Results – Linkages and Collaborations

Coordination with Other Feed the Future Entities in Tanzania – USAID/Tanzania has encouraged its Feed the Future projects to keep in touch with one another and to coordinate their activities to the extent possible. Prof. David Kraybill, iAGRI Project Director, has met regularly with the leadership of these other projects and sought ways to integrate iAGRI activities with their programs. Much of this interaction has to be with capacity building and the potential use of SUA as a partner in this process. Strong collaboration has emerged between iAGRI and SERA, dealing with capacity building in the area of agricultural policy. This program was described earlier in the report and will be jointly funded by both projects. Other project interfaces of high potential include the NAFAKA project, the Rural Road and Irrigation Project, and Africa Rising initiative.

PMU Project Updates – The iAGRI PMU initiated a bi-monthly project update targeting the project's key institutional stakeholders, SUA and MAFC.[10] The update is a single-page summary to get the attention of busy adminstrators.

OSU Management Entity iAGRI News – Parallel to the PMU initiative, the OSU Management Entity has published a newsletter targeting the OSU Consortium members and other stakeholders in the United States. In recent months, it has also been distributed to other units on the OSU campus and to interested parties in Washington, D.C., including the USAID Bureau for Food Security, the BIFAD (Board for International Food and Agricultural Development) staff, and staff at the Association for Public and Land-Grant Universities.

OSU Consortium Representatives Workshop – In order to achieve greater OSUC member participation and better coordination of their inputs to iAGRI activities, the Management Entity at OSU organized a one-day workshop on iAGRI. This workshop was attended by representatives of the six member universities, including Ohio State, Michigan State, Virginia Tech, Tuskegee, Florida and Iowa State. Project Management Unit representatives in Tanzania

[10] See Appendix for Project Updates published over the past year.

participated in the entire program though a video link. Bobby Moser, Vice President for Agricultural Administration, welcomed the participants and encouraged all to seek ways to effectively support accomplishment of iAGRI objectives. Content discussed included an overview of iAGRI objectives and an update on activities; the Performance Management Plan; long-term degree training activities; the collaborative research program; SUA institutional strengthening activities; relationship building with Global South universities; and communication among OSUC partners. Participants amply discussed each of these topics and sought clarification of some of the proposed objectives and activities and how Consortium member institutions might be involved more effectively in achieving them. Major workshop outcomes were (1) increased understanding by OSUC representatives of their roles in iAGRI and how their institutions might best participate in it; (2) a shared sense of program by the participants; (3) clarification of appropriate communication channels among Consortium members; and (4) understanding of roles and responsibilities among those present regarding inputs to iAGRI.

Appendices

Call for Degree-Training Applications

This is the second in a series of requests for applications issued by the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) as part of an agricultural capacity-building project supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under its Feed-the-Future program.

Project Description:

The main purpose is to strengthen training and research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC).

Degree Training Program Description:

This announcement is for Masters and PhD degree scholarship opportunities for study in the United States, Africa or Southeast Asia. Studies will begin in August or September, 2012. Eligibility is largely limited to those who currently hold a staff position at SUA or MAFC and who are interested in pursuing further studies in the agricultural biological and social sciences (Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, Food Science, Nutrition, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Education and Extension, Horticulture, Crop Sciences, Plant Protection, and other disciplines related to agriculture and nutrition). Applicants from the private sector who have demonstrated interest, experience, and leadership in strengthening linkages between Tanzanian research organizations and the private sector may also be considered. The private sector is defined here to include for-profit firms, non-profit firms, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Thirty-five Masters and 20 PhD degree trainees will be supported at this time. One year of course work for Masters and three years for PhD will be in the country of the university offering the training. Research work will be carried out in Tanzania.

Trainee Selection Process: Guidelines, Criteria, Submission

A. Guidelines for Application

Candidates are required to submit (a) Letter of Intent that specifies the applicant's desired degree area and whether he/she would consider study outside Tanzania or prefers to remain within Tanzania for studies, (b) Up-to-date curriculum vitae, (c) Copy of university transcript, (d) a Letter of recommendation from a referee, and (e) GRE (Graduate Record Examination) and TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) scores if applicant has already taken these examinations. The referee may be an employer, professor, or a colleague but may not be a family member or a friend. Women are especially encouraged

to apply. It is anticipated that at least 50% of trainees will be women. These documents will be used as screening materials for candidate selection.

B. Criteria for Student Selection:

The Trainee Selection Committee will review applications and select candidates based on the following criteria:

1. Current and future staff role at SUA or MAFC or in the private sector (including NGOs);
2. Tanzanian national residing in Tanzania;
3. Bachelor's degree holder with first or upper second class pass. In addition, for PhD applicants, a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 or above in the British system and 3.4 or above in the American system ;
4. Strong written and spoken English language skills;
5. It is preferred, though not absolutely required, that candidates have already taken the TOEFL and GRE examinations prior to applying; and
6. Under 40 years of age.

C. Submission

Submit application materials in hard copy (not email) by 5th January 2012 to:

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)

Attention: Training Officer

P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu

Morogoro, Tanzania

D. Contact Information

Queries may be made via email (admin@iagri.org) or telephone (0763267934).

iAGRI NEWS

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative

This is the third iAGRI update being sent to you as representatives of the Ohio State University Consortium (OSUC) partner institutions. Implementation continues to progress, although logistical and administrative challenges still tend to slow us down.

SUA Sub-Agreement

After protracted negotiations, the sub-agreement with SUA is in place. We are now considering revisions to the document based on staffing needs for the field Project Management Unit.

iAGRI Team in Tanzania

As you already know, David Kraybill, OSU, is serving as the Project Chief-of-Party. He is assisted by Isaac Minde who works as his Deputy Chief-of-Party. Isaac is sub-contracted through Michigan State University. The project office is located on the SUA campus. The Office will soon be hiring an Administrative Assistant and Operational Manager to assist with financial and logistical inputs to the project.

SUA Office Visit to OSU

Plans are being made for an official visit by Vedasto Muhikambele, iAGRI principal contact at SUA who is Director of Research and Post-Graduate Studies, and Dr. Peter Gillah, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic Programs. We will keep you apprised of planning for this visit and ways in which you might be engaged in the process. At the moment we are contemplating a possible meeting here on the OSU campus for representatives of OSUC institutions while they are here in the U.S.

Needs Assessment

The Needs Assessment report was formally vetted at a meeting in Morogoro on October 17-18. It was based on food system and commodity data which indicates: where expansion is likely to be most rapid in coming years and the skill requirements needed to facilitate the expansion; current and future long-term training needs for both SUA and MAFSC; major gender issues at both institutions and how to address them; and prioritizing collaborative research areas based on SUA and MAFC institutional priorities.

The October workshop identified priorities for iAGRI. These are found in a report which will soon be published and sent to you. Priorities are organized around long-term training, short-term training, gender, collaborative research; infrastructure and institutional capacity building. They include:

- **Long-Term Training** - irrigation and water management, value chain management, crop improvement, agricultural innovation systems,

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

More information

VirginiaTech

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113 Agric. Admin.
2120 Fyffe Rd.
Columbus, OH 43210

Phone:
(614) 292-7252

December 16, 2011

gender and agriculture, ICT and knowledge dissemination, climate change and natural resource management, and food science and nutrition.

- **Collaborative Research** - crop improvement, value chain management, climate change, agricultural productivity, water resource management, policy analysis, extension systems, and food science and nutrition.

- **Gender** - recognized as a cross-cutting theme; curriculum review, collaborative research, extension systems, and institutional development.

- **Infrastructure Development** - ICT, electricity, library, laboratories, teaching space, office space, water availability, and hostel facilities for students.

- **Institutional Strengthening and Short Courses** - staff and leadership development, access to academic information by staff/students; support for administrative and financial systems, curriculum development and review, and private sector linkages in curriculum development and review, committees, and University Council and internships.

- **Extension** - upgrading extension and outreach infrastructure and facilities, strengthening linkages with District Councils and NGOs, continuing education courses, gender sensitization training, and including extension and outreach in the SUA's Strategic Plan (CSP)

Training Plan

The International Programs in Agriculture Office continues to work on a draft for a long-term training plan to guide the process of student selection and placement in 2012.

Anticipated Degree Training in 2012

It is anticipated that up to 55 individuals will be placed in long-term training positions in Fall 2012. Consideration is being given to training some of these individuals in designated South institutions as well as at U.S. institutions. Sandwich degrees involving South institutions as well as U.S. institutions are also being considered.

Short-Term Training (Technical Assistance)

The Annual Work Plan for 2012 also includes technical assistance in areas such as ICT, proposal writing, and conduct of field research. We will be approaching you about the possibility of individuals on your respective campuses assisting with the training as these needs become programmed.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Virginia Tech University has provided the services of Maria Mullei to prepare the Performance Management Plan for iAGRI. A final draft of this document has been submitted to USAID/Tanzania for consideration.

Research

According to the Annual Work Plan for FY12, research will be formally initiated under iAGRI beginning in early 2012. Consequently, the research meeting that was originally planned for early January has been postponed until late March. We look forward to input from you in the conduct of this research agenda. We will keep you informed about this meeting as plans further develop.

In closing, on behalf of the Office of International Programs in Agriculture, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry holiday season

Dave Hansen
iAGRI Program Manager

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iAGRI NEWS
Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative

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(614) 292-7252

January 18, 2012

In this edition of iAGRI NEWS, iAGRI students share their first semester experiences in the US.

Respikius Gabagambi
School of Environment and Natural Resources
The Ohio State University

I am really thrilled by the iAGRI program which has enabled me to study at a renowned university in the USA. My academic endeavors at OSU began with the American Language Program (ALP), a 10 - week, full-time comprehensive English Language Program.

The program not only helped me meet my academic department's Language requirement, it helped me make many friends from Asia, Europe and America. I participated in ALP's Conversation Partner Program (CPP); in this program each international student is assigned an American conversation partner who helps the international student practice English outside the classroom environment. I enjoyed this program because my conversation partner and I had a lot of fun including playing ping pong, Mario Kart, volleyball and basket ball. We also had time for outings and meeting with other friends.

I've had the opportunity to visit exciting places including the Columbus Zoo, Old Man's Cave State Park, and Perkins Observatory. These were great experiences for me. Prof. Dave Hansen invited me to attend the football match between Michigan and Ohio and it was really fun. At first I thought it was a match I'm familiar with. As the teams were entering the football ground, I was surprised to see players wearing helmets. I realized that when Americans say football they don't mean soccer, they mean something else. It was very enjoyable the way buckeye people were shouting and dancing. The most interesting thing was to see how the brass band was marching around the football ground singing lots of songs enthusiastically and how buckeye team tried whatever was possible to win the game. However, it was not their day (they lost the match).

I successfully completed the ALP program in December, receiving an award for my hard work. I am now enrolled in the MS program in Rural Sociology where I expect I will perform better because of my experience in the ALP program. When I successfully complete the M.S., I am going to be an asset to my Department at Sokoine University of Agriculture and to my country at large. I will apply a sociological approach to understanding the problems that rural farmers face.

Editor's note: About that football game……, we'll excuse you for rubbing salt in our wounds, Respikius! ☺

Frida Nyamete
Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition
Michigan State University

United States of America is recognized worldwide for having higher learning institutions that offer excellent education, state-of-the-art technology and teaching facilities. In order to take advantage of the equipment and technology available, next semester I will be getting more practical experience in the microbiology lab.

When I am finished with the coursework, I will have taken eight courses. My fall courses included Special Problems in Food Science, Fermentation Technology, Statistics for Biologists, and Food Processing: Muscle Food. In the spring semester I will take Advanced Food Chemistry, Advanced Statistics for Biologists, Master's Thesis Research and Food Science/Animal Science seminar.

In the near future, I see myself becoming a competent academic staff member who can bring great positive impacts in the area of agricultural food systems.

In addition to enjoying academic challenges, I also have had fun with various extracurricular activities. I enjoy outdoor activities and sight-seeing. I had the chance to see some cities near East Lansing and had the opportunity to visit Chicago. I also use the fitness center facilities at MSU, and in addition to keeping me in shape, I meet different people and expand my social network. I can't wait for more winter sports and activities to come!

Furthermore, a most enjoyable activity for me is the gathering of international students and the interaction we have every Friday. We call it coffee hour when we meet at the international center for free coffee and snacks. It's a meeting of students from around the globe. The funny thing is everyone's accent. It makes me laugh the way everybody pronounces the words and tries hard to be understood, but most of all this experience makes me appreciate how different we are, and yet we can share common ground and appreciate our differences.

Martin John
College of Agriculture, Environment& Natural Science
Tuskegee University

It is a privilege for me to study at a US university. The education system in the US is different from my home country. The class size is small, instructors are highly motivated to help students, teaching and learning facilities are advanced and the time schedule is systematically followed.

Having a clear vision of whom I want to be, in the first semester with the help of my faculty advisor, I chose courses which would make me a competent entomologist. These courses include Entomology, Plant Pathology, Soil Microbiology and Bio Statistics I. In the second semester, I will take Plant Biotechnology, Plant Physiology, Integrated Pest Management, Bio Statistics II and Seminar I.

Tuskegee is an old and small town but it has all the basic needs. We have our association for international students; we meet regularly not only to discuss academic issues but we also share social time, and this makes me feel at home. My friends are very nice people; we normally go out and have fun like watching movies and bowling. I visited CNN and the Aquarium Center in Atlanta with my friends; I really enjoyed myself ! I also visited the African market in Atlanta where they sell African foods, - foods from all African countries. We don't have this back home, it really surprised me!

I really appreciate the iAGRI program which is paying my tuition fee and other requirements while am in the US. It is well organized and I was impressed the way our journey was handled: the send off party and the pre-departure information from the US Embassy are among many good things under this program.

It is no wonder that when I complete my program I will be competent in my field, especially in the area of Integrated Pest Management. My plan is to use this knowledge to conduct research that will benefit the smallholder farmers in Tanzania.

Lilian Mpinga
Department of Horticultural Sciences, University of Florida

I am a master's student under the iAGRI program studying horticulture at the University of Florida. In my first semester I studied Statistical Methods in Research, Principles of Organic and Sustainable Crop Production, Horticultural Physiology, Professional Seminar Preparation, and Supervised Research.

I count myself to be a lucky person to study at a university with competent and approachable instructors, easy access to study materials, friendly people, and an environment conducive to studying.

Considering that this is a rare opportunity, I am always looking to make the most of it. The knowledge and skills I am developing will be essential tools for me. I am learning tomato grafting technology and will share it with small scale farmers in Tanzania, especially women.

When I complete this program I see myself as a competent horticulturalist and researcher who will be involved in policy making in the horticulture subsector, and as one who will assist my country in attaining a sustainable agricultural system.

Being here in US is quite interesting. I have been able to see different things which are done with very advanced technology. I used to read about things like automated services and never thought I would experience them……. things like self checkouts,…… checking prices of different things in supermarkets, buying sodas, buying tickets, etc. as well as online purchases……it's all a very new experience for me. Another thing I noticed here in US is the driving discipline, i.e. how drivers respect the use of road rules and regulations, the way they respect the pedestrians, and the way people treat the handicapped especially in the public buses. This is something very new to me.

With the help of others I have been able to visit some places. Our friend and Tanzanian Professor at UF took the three of us (iAGRI students) to Jacksonville during one of the holidays. I also met people from different nations when we were invited to an African dance and to attend the reception party which was held at the Center of African Studies. My department held an end-of-the-year party which I really enjoyed.

Being in the US gave me the opportunity to see some friends in Kansas over the holidays. During that trip, I was able to see so many different cities and places as I traveled by bus. It was like an adventure trip!

The three of us iAGRI students at UFL are able to meet. Asma Gharib and I are living in the same apartment in the same complex as Stanley. I have been able to make friends although most of them

are International students. I have not been able to make friends with many of the Americans - something which I really want. What I have experienced is that whenever you try to be close somehow they don't seem to have much interest, which is quite different from our own culture. We usually show interest and welcoming environment to visitors. For that reason, we found ourselves meeting with the Tanzanians here which I feel is not much help to us as we need to experience new thoughts and ideas.

Being an international student at UFL I can say is somewhat challenging and at the same time interesting. What I mean here is, it is challenging if you don't have many American friends, or when they are not paying much attention to you and you feel like oh! it is because I cannot communicate well, - or maybe this is their culture. On the other hand, those kinds of situations have made me more curious to try different things myself, and have made me more courageous, more independent and more strong. I really like and enjoy being an international student at UF because it has transformed me to a quite different level.

Editor's note: It's too bad that some American university students show little interest in expanding their horizons and meeting international students. I hope the iAGRI students won't give up trying to meet their fellow students because surely some American students will recognize that you have extremely interesting and worthwhile perspectives to share!

Asma Bilal Gharib
Department of Food and Resource Economics
University of Florida

It is a great pleasure to study at the University of Florida under the sponsorship of USAID through the iAGRI program. At this university, study materials can be easily accessed, interaction between students and professors is enhanced and the environment is conducive to studying.

To seize this opportunity, I am working hard so that I can be competent in my area of specialization. I will achieve this in part through the careful selection of courses with the help of my advisor. In the first semester I took Statistical Methods for Social Sciences, Microeconomic Principles and Analysis, and Public Policy and Agribusiness.

When I complete the courses I will be a great asset in my country where I will be dealing with problems that impede economic development.

What Asma has noticed about the US: The level of technology is very high in the shop, gas station, even in public transport (road, railways), schools, university, hospitals, etc. When you are in Gainesville you never get lost when you use public transport; the bus drivers are very cool, very helpful. You feel self (sufficient) when you take the bus and go wherever you want by just telling the driver where you want to go, - I like this. I also have experienced one thing which surprised me a lot. Compared to where I come from, it is very difficult to make friends in US. I don't know why this is.

Stanslaus Terengia Materu
Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering
University of Florida

I am working on a M.S. in Irrigation Engineering, a career which I have dreamed of for many years. It is my good fortune to be studying at one of the best universities in the US. At this university I can access excellent lab equipment, reading materials, and experienced professors. I thank the iAGRI program for this incredible opportunity to do my coursework in the US.

In order to achieve my goal, I am taking the courses which are relevant to my career path. In the first

semester I took Ground Water Flow I, Environmental Soil Physics, Biological System Modeling and Research. For the spring semester I am planning to take GIS, Advanced Mathematics and Statistical Analysis for Nonlinear Regression, Surface Hydrology, and Ground Water Flow II.

Apart from academic issues, I have learned and experienced many things. I have been able to meet with other Africans in different groups (west, central and north Africa). Lilian, Asma and I went to Jacksonville with a Tanzanian Professor from UF. I noted the way the bridges were constructed along the way. Most of the holidays and vacation times I get bored of being lonely. I enjoy going to the gym with other people due to the fact that the gym center is well equipped here at UF. American football also is amazing - the way people come out on the roads and are waiting to see whether their team will win or not!

All of these experiences have changed my perspective. I hope when I go back Tanzania I will use the skills, knowledge and experience I am acquiring in research and teaching to tackle the irrigation problems that smallholder farmers face.

Many thanks to Respikius Gabagambi for gathering input from his fellow iAGRI students at TU, MSU, and UFL.- Mary Ann Rose, editor
rose.155@osu.edu

iAGRI NEWS

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative

March 5, 2012. This is the fourth in a series of iAGRI news updates being sent to you as representatives of the Ohio State University Consortium (OCUC) partner institutions.

International Programs in Agriculture
113 Agric. Admin.
2120 Fyffe Rd.
Columbus, OH 43210

Phone:
(614) 292-7252

Administrative Report

We are pleased to inform you that we have been able to address major challenges related to establishment of the Project Management Unit in Tanzania. We have negotiated use of a suite of offices on the Sokoine campus for use by the PMU team, and the team has moved into the new facilities. We have also hired two support staff persons and four program staff persons for the PMU. Key support staff persons, an Administrative Assistant and an Operations Manager, were hired through a private Tanzanian firm (Kilimanjaro International Corporation) as per the USAID Forward Initiative. The program staff are Sokoine University faculty members who work for iAGRI on a part-time basis. Project vehicles have been purchased but are yet to be released.

M.Sc. Degree Student Progress:

All six iAGRI-sponsored students enrolled in the U.S. for the fall term have reported substantial progress in their programs. We deeply appreciate the support being provided by administrators, staff and advisors at OSUC institutions who have facilitated their transition. In a previous iAGRI News release they reported on their initial months in the U.S. which they found to be productive and enjoyable on the whole.

As per the contract signed with USAID/Tanzania, iAGRI-supported students will all return to Tanzania to undertake their thesis research. We have budgeted for academic advisers to make a trip to Tanzania to supervise their research. We also budgeted for researchers in Tanzania to act as mentor and local advisor while the students pursue their thesis research.

Placement of Students in 2012:

We anticipate placing a relatively large number of students in fall 2012. A call for applications was made in early January by the Project Management Unit in Tanzania. Three hundred fifty persons applied. Ninety applicants were selected for face-to-face interviews. Several important considerations will guide the selection of programs in which finalists will be placed. These criteria include (1) student

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preference for place of study; (ii) GRE and TOEFL scores; (iii) proposed area of specialization; and (iv) availability of an advisor expressing interest in working with the student. Some iAGRI-sponsored students will be placed at Sokoine University of Agriculture and at universities in other African countries and in Asia. Placement decisions will be made by the Project Management Unit in Tanzania and the Management Entity at Ohio State University in consultation with the Ohio State University Consortium.

In April we anticipate providing consortium partners with the names, degree objectives, GRE, and TOEFL scores of the 2012 US-bound candidates. We will provide each student's PDF dossier containing the basic application materials (3 letters, statement of intent, transcripts, CV). Partners that may not have placed students in 2011: please be aware that we will arrange to report GRE/TOEFL scores but will not send official transcripts. (In 2011, students brought the original copies with them to the U.S.). We intend to give partners several weeks to review the dossiers and provide us with feedback. Placements at US universities will hinge on a strong match between the student and advisor in combination with a mechanism to assist the student with lodging and settling. Once the initial matches are proposed, the candidate will submit the university application online and the departmental review will take place. We hope to have letters of offer from the departments by Late May/ early June. OSU-ME will handle all immigration and travel proceedings.

GRE and TOEFL Workshop for iAGRI Semi-Finalists

Forty three iAGRI semi-finalists undertook GRE and TOEFL workshop training held in Morogoro on February 23 and 24. The workshop instructors were Deborah Morbit from the Ohio State University Teaching and Learning Program and Nanette Bouvier from the Ohio State University American Language Program. The instructors delivered the workshop live from Ohio State University using interactive distance-education technology. PMU staff members served as part of the teaching team to facilitate understanding and feedback between instructors and participants. Because of recent investment in IT infrastructure in East Africa, Tanzania is now able to utilize international, interactive distance education. The workshop was an enormous success despite several technical glitches, such as power failures at the workshop venue and occasional slowdown in Internet transmission speeds. The semi-finalists were provided materials to study on their own and are scheduled to take the GRE and TOEFL in Tanzania during the month of March.

Collaborative Research:

Research is a high priority for iAGRI and activities in this area will be ramped up in 2012. Eight thematic areas were identified through the needs assessment completed last fall. These are (i) crop improvement; (ii) value chain management; (iii) climate change; (iv) gender and agricultural productivity; (v) natural resources management; (vi) policy analysis; (vii) extension systems; and (viii) nutrition and food science. For each topic, a team of three researchers from SUA, the NARS, and OSUC will prepare a research background, reviewing relevant Tanzanian and international research on the topic, identifying what is known and what is not known, and recommending a research agenda on the topic to FtF stakeholders in Tanzania. The Project Management Unit will then convene a workshop at which representatives of Tanzanian and OSUC partners will discuss the papers and begin to form thematic research working groups. These groups will apply for funding from the iAGRI competitive research grants program. Research scientists from the U.S., Tanzania, and other Global South countries will participate in this research. We will keep you updated on this process.

Dissemination of Reports:

The Needs Assessment report can now be viewed or downloaded from http://go.osu.edu/iAGRI, a website that is functional but still under construction. We understand that the iAGRI Program Performance Management Plan for the life of iAGRI will soon be approved by the USAID/Tanzania Mission. This will also be posted on the website as will iAGRI quarterly reports and iAGRI annual reports.

In the development of the Performance Management Plan, we appreciate the major contributions made by Maria Mullei, who was hired through Virginia Tech to serve as Monitoring/Evaluation and Gender Advisor. Similarly, we appreciate the important inputs made by Michigan State University and University of Florida staff to the Needs Assessment Report.

With best wishes as always,

Dave Hansen
iAGRI Program Coordinator

May 3, 2012

iAGRI NEWS

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative

iAGRI programmatic goals and objectives have been significantly advanced over the past several weeks. Particular attention has been given to placement of iAGRI trainees in graduate programs, both here in the U.S. and in Africa, as well as preparing a coherent and significant food security research agenda. Thanks to all of you for your active support of the program.

Prof. Gerald Monela visit to the Ohio State University from June 4-9. While on the OSU campus Prof. Monela met with lead officials at OSU including E. Gordon Gee, President, Bobby D. Moser, Vice-President for Agricultural Administration, Pat Osmer, Dean, Graduate School, Steven Slack, Director of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster, Ohio, as well as other representatives of the academic and extension staff of the college. This visit provided Prof. Monela with an overview of the land-grant program for the state of Ohio and consolidated institutional relationships between the partners. Subsequently, OSU officials accompanied Prof. Monela to Washington, D.C. where he met with staff of the Association for Public and Land-Grant Universities, leadership of the USAID Bureau for Food Security, including Rob Bertram and Julie Howard, and leadership of the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, USDA, including Sonny Ramaswamy, NIFA Director, and Hiram Larew, Director NIFA Center for International Programs. The program provided Prof. Monela with an overview of the Feed the Future as a "whole of government" initiative, its linkages to iAGRI in Tanzania, and linkages of the USDA with U.S. land-grant universities.

RUFORUM (Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture) Sub-Agreement for Student Placement – A sub-agreement with RUFORUM was signed in April. Under this agreement, RUFORUM agrees to place up to 30 students in M.Sc. graduate degrees programs at its affiliate institutions in eastern and southern Africa – 10 in 2012; 10 in 2013 and 10 in 2014. (There is one PhD student in 2012/13). Under this agreement, RUFORUM will also monitor the progress of these candidates, including their thesis research and report back to the PMU and ME on it. RUFORUM will also administer seed grants ($5,000 for MSc and $ 8,000 for PhD) which are to be allocated to each degree candidate to pursue research on FTF and Tanzania priorities. RUFORUM involvement with the research being conducted by iAGRI degree candidates will help facilitate collaboration among SUA, MAFC and thesis advisors at the African universities at which the students are enrolled. RUFORUM will also be responsible for advising the ME and PMU about how to improve its graduate degree training program.

International Programs in Agriculture
113 Agric. Admin.
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Columbus, OH 43210

Phone:
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IPM Plant Disease Diagnostic Workshop Held in Tanzania – iAGRI and the IPM CRSP joined together to undertake a plant disease diagnostic workshop in Tanzania in April and May. iAGRI sponsored ten employees of SUA and MAFC to attend the workshop which was held on the SUA campus. Its main objective was to provide capacity-building training on detection and identification of seven key pathogens of vegetable and fruit crops in East Africa to research and regulatory staff from the national systems of Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Supported by USAID through the IPM CRSP Regional Program in East Africa, International Plant Diagnostic Network (IPDN) and Plant Virus Global Theme Program in combination with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), this effort was in direct support of the Feed the Future priority on building capacity to support production and trade of horticultural crops. Drs. Sally Miller and Feng Qu (Plant Pathology, The Ohio State University), helped lead the training of 22 participants from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. Trainees from Tanzania came from TPRI, ARTI, Ilonga Research Station, TACRI, TOSCI, and PHS/DAR. Training was also provided by professionals from IITA, KARI, Makerere University, and MARI Mikocheni.

Degree Training in the U.S. - The major training activity of Feed the Future/iAGRI during the months of May and June was assigning the selected 2012 training semi-finalists to MSc and PhD programs at iAGRI consortium universities. By end of June, the iAGRI consortium universities indicated willingness to receive applications of 30 of the trainees and 15 of the applicants had received admission. Additional admissions are expected in July.

Degree Training in Africa - In addition to placements in the U.S., the iAGRI staff has also been working on placements of students in East and Southern Africa. The PMU has provided a list of ten final candidates to RUFORUM which is to place them at its member institutions. Additionally, the PMU staff has prepared a list of nine candidates for placement at Sokoine University of Agriculture. Each of these groups includes one Ph.D. candidate. Each represents a good mix by gender and disciplinary area of specialization.

Collaborative Research - The eight writing teams commissioned to prepare Research Background Papers completed second drafts of the papers. Each team is chaired by a member of academic staff at SUA with a second member from a Tanzanian government ministry and a third member from one of the iAGRI consortium universities. The next major step is a Collaborative Research Workshop to be held in Morogoro on August 3 for researchers from SUA, MAFC, and the iAGRI consortium universities.

Gender Activities - The SUA Gender Policy Implementation Committee met in an iAGRI-sponsored workshop in May. The committee developed a draft work plan for further implementation of the university's gender policy. Activities to be supported by iAGRI include a gender assessment, research on gender-related topics, efforts to increase female enrollment at SUA, and a mentorship program targeting female staff and students.

This newsletter has been compiled by iAGRI staff of the OSU Management Entity and the Project Management Unit in Tanzania.

September 12

iAGRI NEWS

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative

We recently received this update from Dave Kraybill, iAGRI Project Director in Morogoro. It highlights significant activities undertaken in support of iAGRI goals and objectives over the past two months. Degree training placements occupied much of our time. Thank you for your assistance in facilitating the placement process.

Update on Activities July-August, 2012

Degree Training in the U.S. In 2012, iAGRI is sponsoring 58 persons for degree training. Twenty nine iAGRI-sponsored finalists received letters of admission from Ohio State University Consortium universities. All of them begin studies in August. Seventeen are at the doctoral level and 12 at the Masters level. Twelve are females and 17 are males. Seven are at Ohio State University, 7 at University of Florida, 4 at Michigan State University, 4 at Tuskegee University, 3 at Virginia Tech, and 3 at Iowa State University.

Send-off Event at U.S. Embassy. The United States embassy in Dar es Salaam hosted a send-off event for the 58 iAGRI-sponsored degree trainees in the 2012 cohort. Persons attending the event included U.S. Ambassador Alfonso Lenhardt, SUA Vice Chancellor Gerald Monela, Deputy Permanent Secretary Mbogo Futakamba, the trainees, and numerous other persons. SUA Professor Susan Nchimbi-Msola, who received her PhD from a U.S. university in the 1980s, spoke about the value of American degree training.

Degree Training in Africa. RUFORUM is handling the placement of 10 iAGRI scholarship recipients (9 Masters, 1 PhD) in African universities outside Tanzania in 2012. Admission letters have been received for some of these trainees while others are still in process. At SUA, there are 10 iAGRI-sponsored applicants (8 Masters, 2 PhDs), and nine of these have already been admitted. In addition, 10 BSc applicants for Zanzibaris to study at SUA are awaiting word regarding their applications.

Short-term Training. iAGRI sponsored a five-day workshop on Research Methods for the Social Sciences in August on the SUA campus. Professor Stanley Thompson of Ohio State University was the instructor. Topics included problem identification, development of research hypotheses, model specification, data collection and analysis, statistical inference, communication of results. Forty participants, both members of SUA academic staff and post-graduate students, attended.

International Programs in Agriculture
113 Agric. Admin.
2120 Fyffe Rd.
Columbus, OH 43210

Phone:
(614) 292-7252

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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Collaborative Research. Eight writing teams of Tanzanian and U.S. researchers completed final drafts of Research Background Papers. The authors presented the papers at a Collaborative Research Workshop in Morogoro on August 3. Audience members, consisting of researchers from SUA and MAFC discussed and critiqued the papers. From the U.S. consortium universities, Professor John VanSickle (University of Florida) and Professor Jennifer Olsen (Michigan State University) attended. A Call for Concept Notes for iAGRI competitive research grants will be released in September, and concept note writers are expected to take guidance from the Research Background Papers. iAGRI-funded degree trainees and their advisors will also take guidance from the papers.

Agricultural Policy Seminar Series. Four of the agricultural policy concept notes received by iAGRI in June were pre-selected for further development. On August 17, a brown bag seminar at SUA was held for the four research teams to present their concept notes and receive feedback and suggestions. The teams are now preparing full-blown proposals. The series is funded jointly funded by iAGRI and SERA, both Feed the Future projects.

Gender Activities. At the request of the SUA Gender Policy Implementation Committee, Dr. Eulalia Temba of Mzumbe University conducted a gender assessment at SUA, funded by iAGRI.

Administration and Logistics. TANESCO completed installation of three-phase electrical power at the iAGRI building. A makuti-roofed banda was constructed as a venue for informal and small-group discussions.

Advisory Board Meeting. The iAGRI Advisory Board met in Morogoro in July to review project progress and discuss future directions. The board has two members from SUA, two from the Ministry, two from the private sector, and two from the Ohio State University Consortium

iAGRI Project Update
March 2012

iAGRI operates in Tanzania within Feed the Future, a USAID initiative aiming to improve food security under the guidelines of Tanzania's CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program) Compact, prepared by the Government of Tanzania in 2010. The primary stakeholders of iAGRI are Sokoine University of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives. iAGRI's objectives are (1) degree training, (2) collaborative research, (3) capacity building, and (4) strengthening of Tanzanian-US-Global South research linkages.

Progress on Degree Training. Following review of 340 applications received in January and interviews conducted in February, iAGRI provided training in early March for 43 semi-finalists selected as candidates for Masters and PhD studies in the United States beginning in 2012. Most of the semi-finalists are employees of SUA and MAFC, while several are from the private sector. The purpose of the training was to prepare the semi-finalists for the TOEFL and GRE, examinations required for application to American graduate programs. A two-day TOEFL and GRE workshop was held in Morogoro with instruction provided interactively via teleconference by instructors at Ohio State University. The semi-finalists sat for the TOEFL examination in the second week of March and for the GRE at various dates throughout the month. Scores from the examinations will become available in April 2012.

During March, 10 individuals were targeted for study in African universities outside Tanzania. Another group of candidates will soon be chosen for study at SUA. A final group will be selected for study in Asia, most likely India and China.

Progress on Collaborative Research. During March, iAGRI launched the writing of Research Background Papers on eight priority research themes identified at the iAGRI Priority-Setting Workshop in October 2011. The papers will provide guidance for the iAGRI Competitive Research Grants program later this year and will also provide guidance to iAGRI-sponsored post-graduate students and their advisors in the selection of thesis and dissertation topics. Each paper will be written by three persons consisting of a Team Leader from SUA, a member from MAFC, TFNC, or TMA, and a member from the Ohio State University Consortium. The themes of the eight papers are as follows: (1) crop improvement, (2) value chain management, (3) climate change and food security, (4) gender and agricultural productivity, (5) water resources management, (6) agricultural policy, (7) agricultural extension systems, and (8) nutrition. The teams will work collaboratively, connecting via e-mail and teleconference.

Administration and Facilities. Hiring of staff members of the Project Management Unit in Tanzania was completed during March with the addition of Operations Manager, Japhet Nyang'oro. Renovation and equipping of the office building allocated to iAGRI by SUA is in progress. During March, TANESCO began installation of a three-phase electricity line and TTCL installed telephone lines. Lighting and an uninterruptible power supply (solar/battery backup) were installed and public toilets were constructed.

Visitors. Dr. Mark Erbaugh, Director of the Office of International Programs in Agriculture at The Ohio State University visited during the March, combining an administrative visit to iAGRI with participation in a workshop sponsored by the Integrated Pest Management CRSP Project. Dr. Erbaugh heads the Management Entity of iAGRI at Ohio State University.

Meetings. Dr. Vedasto Muhikambele, Director of Research and Postgraduate Studies at SUA, and Dr. David Kraybill, Project Director of iAGRI, attended a workshop on Tertiary Agricultural Education in Africa at Wageningen, Netherlands. The workshop brought together leaders from African universities, RUFORUM, ANAFE, the World Bank, and donors to seek ways of integrating tertiary agricultural education into the CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program) framework. SUA was selected as one of two case studies on development partner collaboration at the workshop.

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Feed the Future
iAGRI Project Update
April 2012

iAGRI operates in Tanzania within Feed the Future, the US Government's global hunger and food security initiative. Feed the Future works to improve food security under the guidelines of Tanzania's CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program) Compact, prepared by the Government of Tanzania in 2010. Primary stakeholders of iAGRI are Sokoine University of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Research System of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives. Under Feed the Future, iAGRI's objectives are (1) degree training, (2) collaborative research, (3) capacity building, and (4) strengthening of Tanzanian-US-Global South research linkages.

Progress on Agricultural Policy Seminar Series. Two Feed the Future projects, iAGRI and SERA, have teamed up with SUA to develop an agricultural policy seminar series. Objectives are (1) to stimulate interest in agricultural policy research at SUA and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC), (2) to develop Tanzania's capacity for policy research, and (3) to encourage policy debate informed by science-based knowledge. A seminar-series steering committee consisting of members of SUA administration and academic staff met in April. A call for applications will be announced in May. Five agricultural policy studies will be funded in 2012.

Progress on Degree Training. Scores trickled in during April for GRE and TOEFL examinations taken by semi-finalists short-listed by iAGRI for study in the U.S. Those with acceptable scores will now apply for admission to an institution within the Ohio State University Consortium. A second group of 9 semi-finalists was selected for study at SUA. A third group of 10 was selected for study in African universities outside Tanzania; placement, advising, and logistics for this group of trainees will be handled by the Regional Universities Forum (RUFORUM).

After two calls for applications, iAGRI has found few Zanzibar applicants prepared for graduate-level study. At the urging of Zanzibar's Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Project Director Kraybill and Deputy Director Minde visited the Ministry, Kizimbani research and training institutes, and the island's two universities. The visit confirmed the shortage of qualified persons for graduate training in agriculture, and iAGRI is now developing a proposal to convert several of the original Masters scholarships into Bachelors scholarships for Zanzibar.

Progress on Collaborative Research. Twenty four Tanzanian and U.S. researchers working in eight thematic teams made great strides in the preparation of Research Background Papers on topics identified at the iAGRI Priority Setting Workshop in October 2011. During April, each team prepared an outline and first draft on its assigned topic. Each group consists of a Team Leader from SUA, a member from MAFC, Tanzanian Food and Nutrition Center (TFNC), or Tanzanian Meteorological Agency (TMA), and a member from the Ohio State University Consortium. The teams worked collaboratively, connecting via e-mail, phone, and teleconference. When the papers are completed, they will provide guidance to researchers preparing proposals for iAGRI's Competitive Research Grants program and to iAGRI-sponsored degree trainees and their advisors.

Administration and Facilities. Means of transport for iAGRI arrived in April in the form of two new station wagons and a pickup. Electricity supply at project headquarters remains tenuous due to delays in TANESCO's installation of a three-phase power line to project offices. Preparatory work was begun for grading and resurfacing of the roadway leading to iAGRI on the SUA campus. Low-cost but excellent quality digital equipment for videoconferencing was acquired and installed in the iAGRI conference room; these facilities are available to all SUA staff upon request.

Meetings. Fifty Tanzanians and Americans who are part of Feed the Future in Tanzania met in Morogoro for a workshop in April. A highlight was an interactive dialogue via the Internet with two iAGRI trainees enrolled in Masters-degree programs at U.S. universities. Later in the month, a coordination workshop was held at OSU for the six universities in the Ohio State University Consortium. Topics included placement of iAGRI degree trainees, sequencing of the components of the project's collaborative research, and the role of consortium members in capacity building under iAGRI. The Project Director and Deputy Director participated by videoconference.

Visits. In April, iAGRI was visited (at different times) by SUA Vice Chancellor Monela, Deputy Vice Chancellor Gillah, and Director Muhikambele of Research and Post-Graduate Studies, leading to very useful exchanges of information. At the April meeting of Feed the Future in Morogoro, iAGRI had the opportunity to discuss project progress with USAID liaison, Mr. Geoffrey Kirenga, of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives.

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Feed the Future
iAGRI Project Update
May-June 2012

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Degree Training in the U.S. The major training activity of Feed the Future/iAGRI during the months of May and June was assigning the selected 2012 training semi-finalists to MSc and PhD programs at iAGRI consortium universities. By end of June, the iAGRI consortium universities indicated willingness to receive applications of 30 of the trainees and 15 of the applicants had received admission. Additional admissions are expected in July.

Degree Training in Other Locations. RUFORUM will handle the training of 10 iAGRI scholarship recipients who will pursue MSc and PhD degrees at African universities outside Tanzania. RUFORUM, selected by iAGRI as a subcontractor because it is the largest African umbrella organization in agricultural higher education, is coordinating the application process at host universities in Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, and South Africa. In addition, nine trainees who will be studying in Tanzania are now applying at SUA. A third group of trainees will study in Asia, and to develop these plans, Mark Erbaugh and David Hansen of the iAGRI Management Entity met with higher education officials in India during May. In addition, due to the dearth of qualified applicants from Zanzibar for graduate studies, iAGRI will sponsor 10 BSc scholarships at SUA for Zanzibaris beginning in October 2012.

Short-term Training. iAGRI sponsored 10 employees of SUA and MAFC to attend a Plant Diagnostics Workshop held on the SUA campus. The workshop combined theory and hands-on exercises for rapid diagnosis of food-crop diseases. Also during May, iAGRI sponsored a SUA-TV staff member to attend a workshop on low-cost digital video production for dissemination of agricultural knowledge. iAGRI will now work with the Institute for Continuing Education and other units at SUA to identify topics on which short videos will be made for dissemination of new agricultural technologies and practices.

Collaborative Research. The eight writing teams commissioned to prepare Research Background Papers completed second drafts of the papers. Each team is chaired by a member of academic staff at SUA with a second member from a Tanzanian government ministry and a third member from one of the iAGRI consortium universities. The next major step is a Collaborative Research Workshop to be held in Morogoro on August 3 for researchers from SUA, MAFC, and the iAGRI consortium universities.

Agricultural Policy Seminar Series. A brown bag seminar was held at SUA in May to launch a Call for Proposals for an agricultural policy seminar series jointly sponsored by iAGRI and SERA, both Feed the Future projects. Nine proposals were received. Proposals are now being reviewed by the seminar steering committee.

Gender Activities. The SUA Gender Policy Implementation Committee met in an iAGRI-sponsored workshop in May. The committee developed a draft work plan for further implementation of the university's Gender Policy. Activities to be supported by iAGRI include a gender assessment, research on gender-related topics, efforts to increase female enrollment at SUA, and a mentorship program targeting female staff and students.

Administration and Logistics. An access road running from the SUA administrative block to the iAGRI building was resurfaced with murram during May. Also, TANESCO began the installation of equipment needed for three-phase electrical power at the iAGRI building.

Meetings. The iAGRI Director and Deputy Director met with the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture in May to review project progress and to discuss plans for capacity building in the Faculty. A meeting was held with Mr. Geoffrey Kirenga of MAFC to discuss iAGRI progress and future directions of the project. A Feed the Future team of monitoring and evaluation experts from The Mitchell Group visited the iAGRI office at SUA in May to conduct a review of the quality of data used to chart the project's progress. A USAID-Washington design team developing the concept for a project on water resource management in Tanzania visited iAGRI in June.

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Feed the Future
iAGRI Project Update
July-August 2012

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Feed the Future
iAGRI Project Update
September-October 2012

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Call for Degree Training Applications. iAGRI's third call for applications for postgraduate scholarships was distributed in September through national newspapers, websites, email, and notice boards. Thirty three finalists will be chosen for Masters degrees in agricultural economics, agribusiness, food science, soil science, nutrition, agricultural engineering, agricultural education and extension, horticulture, crop science, plant protection, and other agriculture and nutrition disciplines. Trainees will study in the United States, Tanzania, other African countries, India, and China beginning in 2013. By the deadline of 31st October, 156 applications were received.

Field Research of Returned Trainees. Five out of six iAGRI trainees who began Masters programs in the U.S. in 2011 have returned to Tanzania for field research. The sixth will return in December. The trainees' field research is guided by U.S. advisors and Tanzanian supervisors. Each student and his/her U.S. advisor and Tanzanian supervisor meet joint every month via videoconference to discuss progress and problems. iAGRI has allocated a videoconference room specifically for use by the trainees to meet "virtually" with their advisors and supervisors.

Short-term Training. iAGRI sponsored a workshop on "Randomized Controlled Trials for the Social Sciences" to improve capacity of social scientists to conduct impact evaluations. Fifteen academic staff members and postgraduate students at SUA participated. Dr. James Mlangwa and Dr. Helena Ngowi, evaluation research specialists, were the instructors. The workshop was recorded digitally and is available for viewing on demand.

Collaborative Research. The project released a Call for Expressions of Interest, targeting SUA and MAFC researchers. Similarly, OSUC universities prepared a list of researchers with interest and expertise relevant to Tanzanian agriculture. iAGRI will now assist in building teams of Tanzanian and American researchers. The teams will prepare research concept notes, guided by iAGRI's eight thematic Research Background Papers.

Agricultural Policy Seminar Series. Authors of the four winning policy research concept notes have now prepared full proposals. Research will begin in November. This FtF series is funded jointly by iAGRI and SERA.

Gender Activities at SUA. An iAGRI-commissioned gender assessment study was undertaken to assess the extent of gender mainstreaming at SUA and to make recommendations for SUA to better meet needs of both women and men. The author, Dr. EulaliaTemba of Mzumbe University, presented findings to SUA's Gender Policy Implementation Committee and to iAGRI in October. The report will be released in November. Also, Mr. Kenneth Kitundu presented preliminary findings of an iAGRI-commissioned study on staff and student mentoring at SUA.

Capacity Building at SUA. At the request of the Deputy Vice Chancellor-Academic, iAGRI is providing technical assistance and funding for five initiatives to be implemented through SUA's Quality Assurance and Promotion Bureau (QAPB): (1) equipping the QAPB office with furniture, (2) revitalizing the University Teaching and Learning Improvement Program (UTLIP) to provide training in pedagogy for junior members of academic staff, (3) equipping 30 classrooms with computer projectors and other equipment, (4) launching a pilot program for use of postgraduate students as Teaching Assistants, and (5) surveying the physical quality of classroom facilities.

Administration. Three-phase electricity infrastructure and air conditioning units were installed at iAGRI and paving of the parking lot has begun. A new Administrative Assistant, Ms. Shangwe Bujiku, reported on October 1.

Annual Review. An annual program review of iAGRI was conducted in October. Dr. Mark Erbaugh and Dr. David Hansen from Ohio State University traveled to Morogoro to conduct the review jointly with the Project Management Unit of iAGRI and to meet with SUA top management. The review culminated in preparation of the project's annual report for Fiscal Year 2012 and creation of the annual work plan and budget for Fiscal Year 2013.

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Workshop
Ohio State University Consortium Representatives
April 12, 2012

The Ohio State University Consortium consists of the following institutions located in the U.S. - (1) Tuskegee University; (2) Michigan State University; (3) University of Florida; (4) Virginia Tech; (5) Iowa State University; and (6) Ohio State University, the lead institution. They have agreed to provide inputs to the USAID-funded iAGRI program in Tanzania. This program has four major objectives, namely, to (a) promote research collaboration between SUA and MAFC that addresses select food security issues in Tanzania; (b) provide graduate degree training to 120 Tanzanians; (c) strengthen SUA's capacity to work with the private sector and produce society ready graduates; and (d) promote relationships among SUA, Global South and U.S. institutions of higher education.

Purpose of the Workshop

To identify how to improve the process of identifying and utilizing resources from the OSUC institutions to undertake iAGRI program activities. Programmatic activities include (1) provision of long-term degree training; (b) active participation in the development of research priorities to address development constraints in Tanzania and in the conduct of related field research; and (c) provision of short-term technical assistance in Tanzania and in the U.S. to strengthen the institutional capacity of SUA and MAFC to respond to sectoral needs; Several dimensions of this topic will be the focus of discussion, namely, process of identification and selection of appropriate OSUC member resources; and facilitation of full communication about relevant iAGRI topics among member institutions.

Participants

Participants will include representatives of each of the six consortium partners, and members of the Project Management Unit and Management Entity staff. Some of the latter may join the workshop via video conferencing.

Workshop Agenda

The workshop will be loosely defined with considerable opportunity for discussion on the part of the attendees. In effect, it will represent some collective brainstorming about how best to accomplish OSUC members' participation in the program.

Workshop Follow Up

Staff from the iAGRI Management Entity will keep notes for the workshop and share them in draft form with participants. It is anticipated that recommendations will flow from the discussion about how best to facilitate communication among OSU Consortium members and to access their resources to help achieve iAGRI objectives.

Workshop Agenda

April 11	Participants arrive to Columbus Participants housed at the Blackwell
April 12	Meeting on Second Floor of Animal Science Building (Conference Center)
8:30	Welcome and Introductions – Mark Erbaugh
9:00	Overview of iAGRI
9:30	Previous involvement of OSUC partners in project
9:45	Sub-agreements
10:00	Discussion of how to place students at OSUC member institutions Discussion of expected training inputs by OSUC member institutions
11:00	Discussion of OSUC member participation in iAGRI research program Discussion of theme paper development Discussion of possible outcomes of the May workshop
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Discussion of institutional strengthening and the types of inputs that may be requested from OSUC member institutions
14:00	Discussion of building relationships among institutions (SUA/South/U.S.)
15:00	Discussion of how to best select resources from OSUC institutions
16:00	Discussion – Communication iAGRI activities - involvement of OSUC member institutions
17:00	Adjourn

Workshop Participants

Conrad Bonsi - Tuskegee University
Denise Bjelland - Iowa State University
Eric Crawford - Michigan State University
Walter Bowen - University of Florida
Keith Moore - Virginia Tech

Ohio State University
Mark Erbaugh
Dave Kraybill
Dave Hansen
Mary Anne Rose
Pat Rigby

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
AND
THE SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE

This Memorandum of Agreement (the "MOA") signed on _____ 2012 (the "Effective Date") is entered into by and between the Parties:

(1) Sokoine University of Agriculture, with address P.O. Box 3000 Chuo Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania ("SUA");and

(2) The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, 2120 Fyffe Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43210 ("OSU").

PREAMBLE

1.1 OSU, through the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) aims to strengthen the training and research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) of the Tanzania Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperative (MAFC). The ultimate goal is to improve food security and agricultural productivity. The purpose is aligned with the themes and related road map of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Feed the Future (FtF) Initiative and the Government of Tanzania (GoT) Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme(CAADP) Compact and Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ASDP).

1.2 iAGRI is registered under the laws of USA as a company limited by Guarantee and it has obtained certificate of registration as a foreign company with Business Registration and Licensing Authority in Tanzania to carry out training and research projects in Tanzania and its offices are based at SUA.

1.3 The Parties wish to record herein the modus operandi and agreement on which they will collaborate and work with each other on the implementation of the iAGRI Project ("the Project").

2. Key objectives for the project

2.1 The main objectives of iAGRI project are to:

a) provide post-graduate degree training for scientists at SUA and NARS;
b) establish a programme of collaborative agricultural research with SUA and NARS;
c) strengthen the institutional capacity of SUA; and

d) promote cooperation among SUA, U.S. Universities, and Universities in the Global South.

2.2 The participating institutions in Tanzania for the iAGRI project are Sokoine University of Agriculture and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives.

2.3 The Parties shall perform a review of the scope and content of the Project on an annual basis (the "Annual Review"), and shall agree on appropriate changes in order to cater to the individual and common interests of the Parties and the successful achievement of the Key Objectives.

2.4 The Parties shall discuss a possible extension of the term of the MOA during Annual Review meetings and as provided in the main grant agreement between USA universities and USAID herein after referred to as "The main grant Agreement".

3. the desire and the purpose

To enter into agreement that will enable OSU and SUA to carry out project activities as per the above stated objectives and the grant conditions under the subcontract between SUA and OSU.

4. Roles and responsibilities.

4.1 SUA shall undertake the following responsibilities:

(i) Provide office space and utilities under the tenancy arrangement.

(ii) Coordinate SUA activities under the iAGRI projects.

(iii) Assist and provide advice on employment of iAGRI staff.

(iv) Assist in providing an appropriate, efficient and effective institutional framework for handling and auditing financial resources of the subcontract between SUA and OSU.

(v) Advise on appropriate mechanisms for procurement and management of properties of the Project under iAGRI as per relevant signed agreement between OSU and SUA and Public Procurement Act, 2004.

4.2 OSU shall undertake the following responsibilities:

(i) Manage and provide administrative functions of iAGRI projects.

(ii) Prepare annual work plans and project progress report.

(iii) Implement project activities in collaborations with SUA and MAFC.

(iv) Monitor project outputs and manage finances under the Project Management Unit.

(v) Provide facilitation where necessary such as providing secretarial support to the meetings of the Project Advisory Board and Coordination committee.

5. Commencement and duration

This MOA shall commence on the Effective Date and shall be valid for a period of four (4) years. It may be renewed for additional periods of four (4) years if both institutions, acting independently, agree in writing to renew it at least six (6) months before it expires.

6. coordination of the project activities

6.1 There shall be Project Advisory Board (PAB) for the Project consisting of representatives from Tanzania food system stakeholder organizations including SUA and Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives.

6.2 PAB will provide guidance for long-term training and institutional capacity-building priorities and will review annual work plans. PAB will meet at least once per year.

6.2 An iAGRI Coordination Committee will be established at SUA to be chaired by the SUA Director of Directorate of Research and Postgraduate Studies. Both parties shall appoint two members to the committee.

6.3 The Committee shall coordinate all SUA activities and responsibilities of iAGRI and shall meet quarterly like other University Committees.

6.4 The iAGRI project progress reports shall be reported to the SUA Senate through the Senate Research and Publications Committee.

6.5 The day-to-day management of the project shall be under the iAGRI Director and the Director of Directorate of Research and Postgraduate Studies who is Principal Investigator and shall serve as Institutional Contact person for the iAGRI Project.

7. Secrecy and Publications

7.1 Each Party shall keep in strict confidence and not disclose, any commercial and technical information and knowledge received from another Party in connection with this MOA under the admonition that it is confidential (the "Confidential Information") and shall not use such Confidential Information for any other purpose than the purpose of this MOA.

7.2 The obligation as to secrecy in clause 7.1 above shall not apply to any Confidential Information or any part thereof for which the receiving Party proves that:

(i) it was known to it prior to the time it was received; or

(ii) it was known to the public or generally available to the public prior to the time it was received; or

(iii) it became known to the public or generally available to the public subsequent to the time it was received through no act or failure to act on the part of the recipient.

7.3 The obligation as to secrecy under this clause shall survive the termination of this MOA.

7.4 The data and information obtained during the execution of the Project, as well as the results of the iAGRI Project (the “Data”), shall be considered as common property of the Parties. The Parties may use the Data for scientific publication in print and electronic form, and for lecturing and other education purposes. The Parties must be mentioned in all publications.

7.5 Each party reserves the right to publish the results of this collaboration. Before submission for publication, however, each party shall notify the other of its intention to publish, and shall submit the manuscript to the other party for review and comment. The reviewing party shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of the manuscript to present any written comments to the other party. The reviewing party’s comments shall be given due consideration by the other party. The publication of the results may be delayed at the reviewing party's written request for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days if it contains a disclosure of an invention(s) on which either party desires to file a United States or foreign patent. It is understood that in no case can this provision for delay of publication cause a delay in the normal academic progress of a graduate student of either party with respect to preparation and submission of a graduate thesis or dissertation. Any ownership of inventions will be determined pursuant to US or Tanzania patent laws.

7.6 The Parties agree to offer each other co-authorship and collaborate within commonly accepted scientific standards.

7.7 It is recognized and understood that this Agreement is subject to all applicable US export control laws and regulations controlling the transfer of technical information or items out of the US. The transfer of certain technical information or items may require a license from the US Government. All parties must comply with all applicable export control laws and regulations and no party may export or allow the export or re-export of any information or item when to do so would constitute a violation of those laws or regulations.

8. Legal effect

This MOA is not intended to be legally binding, and no legal obligations or legal rights shall arise between the Parties from this MOA. The Parties enter into the MOA intending to honour all their obligations.

9. LIASONS

Each Party will designate a contact for implementing the project.

Program
Prof. G.C. Monela, Vice Chancellor
June 5-9, 2012

June 5 – Arrival to Columbus (Residence at Blackwell)

June 6 - In Columbus

8:00 – Breakfast with Mark Erbaugh/Dave Hansen

9:15 – 113 Ag Admin (Linda Martin, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs)

9:45 113 Ag Admin (Ken Martin, Chair, Extension)

10:15 – Ken Kulka, Ryan Schmeising, Rob Luikart, Information Technolog)

11:00 – Oxley Hall, William Brustein, Vice Provost for Global Strategies

12:15 – Lunch at Faculty Club – Hosted by Bobby Moser

Monela	Hansen	Brown
Moser	Larson	
Kalechi	Agunga	
Gebreyes	Lal	
Erbaugh	Bennett	

13:45 – University Hall – Pat Osmer, Dean Graduate School

14:30 – Bricker Hall – E. Gordon Gee, President

16:00 – Reception (OSU Extension Center)

- Gordon Gee
- Dept Chairs
- Cabinet Members
- OIA representatives
- African Studies
- Faculty (Lal, Gebreyes Brown)
- Respikius
- IPA Adivsory Committee

19:00 - Dinner (Who to Host??)

June 7 – In Wooster

7:00 – Breakfast

8:00 – Depart for Wooster (Mark Erbaugh)

10:00 – Meet with Administrative Cabinet

10:30 – Faculty Roundtable (Sally Miller, Matt Kleinhenz, Fen Qu, Doug Doohan, Leff Lejeune, Dave Francis,

12:00 – Lunch with Steve Slack and Faculty

14:00 – ATI – Steve Nameth and Steve Neil

15:30 – OSU Extension

16:30 – Return to Columbus

19:00 – Dinner with Erbaugh/Hansen

June 8 – In Washington D.C.

7:30 – Depart for D.C.

9:30 – Meet with Peter McPherson, President APLU

11:00 – Meet with Bureau for Food Security, USAID (Rob Bertram; Julie Howard)

12:30 – Lunch with Michelle McNabb/Daniel Karanja, Partnership to Cut Hunger in Africa

14:30 – Meet with Hiram Larew/Sonny Ramaswamy, USDA/NIFA

16:30 – Meet with Peter Materu/David Nielson, World Bank

18:00 – Meet with Tanzania Ambassador

20:00 – Dinner

June 9 – Depart Washington, D.C. for Dar es Salaam

Program

Prof. Vedasto Muhikambele, Director of Research & Post-Graduate Studies

Prof. Peter Gillah, Deputy Vice Chancellor-Academics

9/16 Sunday Arrive to Columbus, Ohio (Met by Mark Erbaugh; Holiday Inn Express)

9/17 Monday Breakfast at Hotel

8:30 Meeting at International Programs in Agriculture(115 Agricultural Administration Building)Overview of International Programs in Agriculture – Mark Erbaugh

9:30 Discussion of Land Grant University Extension – Alan Lines (115 Ag. Admin. Bldg.)

10:30 Discussion of FAES Leadership Program – Robert Birkenholz, 115 Ag Admin

11:30 Lunch with Bobby Moser, Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Linda Martin, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, 100 Ag. Admin Bldg

13:00 Discussion of FAES Academic Programs – Linda Martin, CFAES Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs (100 Agricultural Administration Bldg.)

14:00 Discussion of OSU Teaching-Learning Program – Alan Kalish (.3), Director, University Center for Advanced Teaching, 260 Younkin Success Center, 1640 Neil Avenue (2-3644)

15:00 Discussion of Executive Leadership Program- Ann Massaro (.11), Director, Organization & Leadership Effectiveness, 300 Gateway Bldg, 1590 N. High Street (8-8638)

18:00 Dinner with Robert Agunga, Director, African Studies Center, Mark Erbaugh, David Hansen

9/18 Tuesday (Breakfast at Hotel)

9:00 Meet with Robert Birkenholz, Agricultural Leadership, 202 Ag Admin Bldg

10:30 Depart for Farm Science Review (Molly Caren Farm, London, Ohio)

12:00 Vice President's Luncheon, Farm Science Review

16:00 Reception, Room 105 Agricultural Administration Bldg.

19:00 Dinner with Kelechi Kalu, Associate Provost, Int'l Affairs, Mark Erbaugh, David Hansen

9/19 Travel to Wooster Ohio (Breakfast at Hotel)

8:00 **Depart Hotel for Wooster Ohio (w/ Mark Erbaugh)**

10:00 **Meet with Steven Slack, Director, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center**

12:00 **Lunch**

13:30 **Faculty Roundtable (Representatives from Various Departments) hopefully in the Fisher Conference Room in the Shisler Center – call in to Debbie to arrange-she'll be back tomorrow**

15:30 **Meet with Steve Neal, Agricultural Technical Institute**

17:00 **Return to Columbus**

19:00 **Dinner with Mark Erbaugh, David Hansen**

9/20 Thursday (Breakfast at Hotel)

9:00 **Meet with OSU Office of Sponsored Programs. Ann Moffat, Dennis Wilt**

10:00 **Meet with FAES International Advisory Committee**

12:30 **Lunch with Mark Erbaugh**

14:55 **Depart for Washington, D.C**

16:30 **Holiday Inn, Rosslyn, Va.**

19:00 **Dinner with Mark Erbaugh, David Hansen**

9/21 Friday (Breakfast at Hotel)

9:00 **Meet with Feed the Future Staff, USAID, Ronald Reagan Building**

11:00 **Meet with Int'l Programs Staff, Association of Public & Land Grant Universities**

12:30 **Lunch with David Hansen**

14:00 **Depart for Dulles Airport and Return Trip to Tanzania**

David O. Hansen

iAGRI Trip Report

February 16-25, 2011

This is intended to be a summary report of my visit to the iAGRI project at Morogoro, Tanzania. It includes several recommendations for action surrounding issues of high priority to the program.

GRE/TOEFL Workshop

I participated in the workshop which stretched over two days. It was attended by 23 male and 20 female candidates for graduate degree training in the U.S. this fall. The technology worked very well for the first day when Debbie Morbitt taught about the GRE. There were no interruptions in transmissions and the students obviously learned much from the process. The technology, on the second day, was not as cooperative due to damage sustained by the fiber optic cable off the coast of Mogadishu. Nanette Bouvier taught the students about the TOEFL and had to endure multiple interruptions in transmission. Despite the interruptions, the students learned much from the process. In the morning they took a TOEFL practice exam which was extremely valuable. They reviewed this exam in the afternoon and learned other important tips about taking the exam.

- Recommended that this workshop be repeated next year because candidates will probably see a very important increase in their scoring on their tests as a result of it;

- Recommended that students at the workshop provide feedback to the PMU as suggested so that the activity might be improved the following year (recommended that Emmanuel Rwambali, PMU training staff member, follow up with the applicants after they have completed these examinations);

- Recommended that Mary Anne Rose and Emmanuel Rwambali begin a conversation about the training process (Emmanuel began his assignment with the PMU this month. Over time, it would be good for him to take on responsibility for this activity, thus freeing Kraybill and Minde to take on other iAGRI program challenges);

- Recommended that, when possible, the paper based test be taken (Some of the candidates do not type which is a required skill for much of the exams. Others have limited access to computers and internet in Tanzania).

Training in 2012

Our reference for 2012 was to support 55 new candidates for training in 2012 an addition to the six that were place in 2011. Forty-three candidates attended the GRE/TOEFL workshop on February 23-24. The imperative was to place 20 PhD candidates because iAGRI will end in four years and the PhD programs will, in most cases, take four years to complete.

Of the 43 candidates who attended the workshop, 29 are candidates for the PhD. This large number probably guarantees that we will be able to place 18 in PhD programs. Two PhD slots have been reserved for Tanzanian students currently enrolled in graduate programs in the U.S.

The downside of decision to have 29 PhD aspirants at the workshop is that only 14 aspirants declared an intention to pursue MS degree programs. Assuming that 50% of them score sufficiently well on the exam, we may only have 7 enrolled in MS degree programs in the U.S. in the fall for a total of 27 students enrolled.

To meet the 55 candidate limit, additional attention will need to be given to placements in other country institutions and at SUA. We are currently in the process of negotiating an agreement with RUFORUM to place us to 15 MS candidates at RUFORUM member institutions. This will take considerable burden off the PMU and ME regarding placements. RUFORUM has indicated that it will need the names and support materials for these candidates soon since placement will need to be finalized in March and April for programs beginning in the fall.

The PMU interviewed over 80 candidates from the initial application pool of over 300. Thus, it has a list from which to select additional candidates for placement through RUFORUM. This list could also be used to identify candidates for placement at SUA.

Only one Zanzibar candidate for U.S. training participated in the workshop. Apparently, there is a dearth of good candidates from Zanzibar. The USAID Mission has requested that we consider providing undergraduate degree training to candidates from Zanzibar as part of our training program. This would entail diverting $200-300,000 from the training dimension of the program – the equivalent of 2 MS degree slots.

- Recommended placement of as many of the candidates for MS training who attended the workshop;

- Recommended that sub-agreement with RUFORUM be negotiated quickly to enable them to place up to 15 MS candidates at their member institutions this year;

- Recommended that PMU prepare a list of candidates for MS training through RUFORUM by March 15;

- Recommended that ME identify 2 PhD candidates for coming year from list of Tanzania students currently studying in the U.S.; if not possible, recommended that two additional students be selected from pool of 29 PhD candidates who attended the workshop;

- Recommended that PMU prepare a list of 10 candidates for MS degree training at SUA and begin negotiations with SUA for their entry in the fall, 2012;

- Recommended that PMU continue discussions with USAID Mission about placement of Zanzibar students in BS degree program at SUA and at other institutions.

Research Program

The research dimension of iAGRI has been delayed because of the imperative to place students in graduate degree programs. Currently, the PMU is working on the preparation of background papers for 8 areas that were identified in the needs assessment activity as high priority for future development of the agricultural sector. Preliminary discussions have been held with research scholars at SUA who have the potential to contribute to this activity. The list of these scholars is found in the attachment to this report.

The assumption is that the papers would focus on the state of the art in research on the eight areas identified. This would involve a review of existing literature, but also a focus on important research gaps related to each, particularly taking into account future development of agriculture in Tanzania. Thus, the papers would include an assessment of existing research activity and the need for critical research in each area in order to facilitate agricultural development.

The background papers would involve participation by scholars from SUA, MAFSC and the OSUC. Each paper would be prepared by a team representing each of these institutions. Primary responsibility for these papers would rest with the SUA representative.

It is proposed that $10,000 be allocated preparation of each of these papers by the PMU. These funds would be used to compensate scholars in Tanzania for their contributions to the paper and for related costs. This amount would be sufficient to guarantee quality products. Payment would be made for deliverables consisting of the finished papers. An advance would be provided to get the process initiated.

Researchers from OSUC member institutions would be invited to participate in the preparation of these papers. These individuals would be responsible for reviewing drafts and making suggestions for improvements. It would be expected that OSUC member institutions would use funds available to them through their sub-agreements with OSU to fund this activity.

Once prepared, a workshop would be convened at SUA to review the content of these papers and to recommend additional research involving scholars in Tanzania, the U.S. and other nations. This information would be fed into the future competitive research grants program. OSUC member institutions would be expected to fund the participation of their researchers at this workshop through their existing sub-agreements with OSU.

- Recommended that PMU continue development of preparation of these papers and proposed a time schedule for their completion as well as for the follow up workshop;

- Recommended that ME identify members for each of these teams from the OSUC through consultation with representatives of these institutions;

- Recommended that FTF Partners working on projects related to each of the identified areas be consulted in the process of preparation of each of these papers;

- Recommended that MS and PhD training programs benefit from each of these papers through adequate dissemination of them to students and their U.S. and Tanzanian advisors.

Conference Center at SUA

One of the major limitations to program development at SUA is access to sufficient Internet band width. It reduces the capacity of faculty members to conduct research and to access up-to-date materials for their classes. Part of this problem is the expense of additional band width. Part of the problem is the lack of adequate physical infrastructure at SUA to properly utilize this band width.

The workshop on TOEFL and GRE testing was successful, but had to be held at the Oasis Hotel rather than on the SUA campus. This workshop illustrated the power of the internet and the importance of its use in promoting modern instructional programs.

iAGRI has ample space for its PMU on the SUA campus. It is, however, limited in its capacity to access sufficient electrical power for its electronic equipment. The office space available would make it possible to create a modern conference center that could serve to demonstrate the importance of this technology in teaching and research programs…and conceivably outreach programs in the future. It could be used to facilitate the joint research envisioned under iAGRI that involves researchers from the OSUC with researchers at SUA. It could be used to facilitate joint advising of MS and PhD candidates as well as the defense of their dissertations. And it could be used for facilitate communications between the PMU and the ME on the OSU campus.

- Recommended that the PMU arrange to have access to more electrical power for its Office facilities;
- Recommended that the PMU explore with OSU communication technology specialists the creation of the SUA conference center (Ken Kulka has experience with setting up these facilities on other campuses around the world).

Executive Exchange Visits

I discussed these potential visits with Dave Kraybill and Isaac Minde. They are both in strong agreement that we pursue them for several reasons, including the need to build their support for iAGRI and the need for them to familiarize themselves with alternative university governance systems. We agreed that were they to visit the U.S. it would be advisable to take them to Washington, D.C. to meet with key individuals involved in the “Feed the Future” Initiative, including those in USAID and USDA. We could then arrange for a reverse visit by some of our OSU leadership, particularly from CFAES.

Probably the best time for them to come would be the time of the Farm Science Review. Mark Erbaugh intends to visit SAU next month and could use that opportunity to meet with SUA leadership and extend

this invitation. Unfortunately, it was not possible for me to meet SUA administrators during my stay since we were very much engaged in preparing for the TOEFL and GRE workshops.

- Recommended that Erbaugh meet with the SUA leadership when he visits SUA in March and extend an invitation to them to visit OSU in September;

- Recommended that they have the opportunity to meet with OSU and CFAES leadership while in the U.S. as well as to meet with key individuals in Washington, D.C. involved in the FTF Initiative.

Workshop
Ohio State University Consortium
April 12, 2012

The Ohio State University Consortium consists of the following institutions located in the U.S. - (1) Tuskegee University; (2) Michigan State University; (3) University of Florida; (4) Virginia Tech; (5) Iowa State University; and (6) Ohio State University, the lead institution. They have agreed to provide inputs to the USAID-funded iAGRI program in Tanzania. This program has four major objectives, namely, to (a) provide long-term degree training; (b) development of a research program related to eight research themes outlined by the iAGRI needs assessment study and designed to address development constraints in Tanzania; (c) strengthen SUA's institutional capacity to respond to sectoral needs; and (d) build relationships with other South institutions.

Purpose of the Workshop

The purpose of the workshop is to :

- Increase OSUC members understanding iAGRI training objectives and options and advise the best course of action to achieve them;
- Increase OSUC members understanding of the iAGRI research component and to seek their advice about how best to proceed with it; and
- Solicit OSUC members help in defining improved communication channels among members and how to use them most appropriately.

Workshop Objectives

The overarching objective of the workshop is to ensure that OSUC members are updated on the progress of iAGRI, and opportunities for their participation and contribution to meeting iAGRI program goals and objectives. Anticipated outcomes of the workshop are to have OSUC members:

- understand iAGRI training objectives and options and advise the best course of action to achieve them;
- understand the iAGRI research component and can advise on how best to proceed with it;
- help define effective communication channels among members and how to use them most appropriately; and

Participants

Participants will include representatives of each of the six consortium partners, and members of Management Entity staff and the Project Management Unit. Some of the latter may join the workshop via video conferencing.

Workshop Participants

	Ohio State University
Conrad Bonsi - Tuskegee University	Mark Erbaugh
Denise Bjelland - Iowa State University	Dave Kraybill
Eric Crawford - Michigan State University	David Hansen
Walter Bowen - University of Florida	Mary Ann Rose
Keith Moore - Virginia Tech	Pat Rigby

Ohio State University Consortium
Workshop Agenda

April 11	Participants Arrive to Columbus Participants Housed at the University Plaza
April 12	Meeting on Second Floor of Animal Science Building (Conference Center)
8:30	Welcome, Introductions and Overview of Agenda for Day
9:00	Overview of iAGRI and Update on iAGRI Activities – Mark Erbaugh/Dave Kraybill
9:30	Welcome by FAES Vice President and Dean - Bobby Moser
9:45	Performance Management Plan – Dave Kraybill/Keith Moore
10:00	iAGRI OBJECTIVE I – Long-Term Degree Training – Mary Ann Rose ➢ What procedure will be followed? ➢ What will be expected of student advisors and host institutions? ➢ How will student research fit with iAGRI research agenda?
11:00	iAGRI OBJECTIVE II – Collaborative Research Program – Dave Hansen ➢ How will research priorities be identified? ➢ How will OSUC members participate in this process? ➢ What will be role of OSUC members in research program?
12:30	Lunch – Reimbursement of Expenses for Workshop – Pat Rigby
13:00	iAGRI OBJECTIVE III – SUA Institutional Strengthening Activities – Mark Erbaugh ➢ What types of activities might fall under institutional strengthening? ➢ How might OSUC members contribute to this process?
14:00	iAGRI OBJECTIVE IV - Relationship Building (SUA/South/U.S.) – Mark Erbaugh

- How might these relationships best be built?
- How might OSUC member participate in them?

15:00 Communications with/among OSUC Members – Mark Erbaugh

- What are best methods of communication?

16:00 Funding for OSUC Partner Participation – Questions & Answers – Mark Erbaugh

17:00 Adjourn

Terms of Reference for Program Advisory Board of the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)

The Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) encompasses multiple disciplines and several institutions involved in agriculture in Tanzania. The composition of the Program Advisory Board (PAB) reflects the institutional and thematic scope of the program. The Board will be composed of the following members:

	Institution	Details
1	Sokoine University of Agriculture	Director of Research and Postgraduate Studies (Vedasto Muhikambele), Dean of Faculty of Agriculture (ProBenantunduka Tiisekwa)
2	Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives	Director of Research and Development (Fidelis Myaka), Director of Crop Development (Geoffrey Kirenga)
3	Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources	Director of Planning, Policy and Research (Juma Akil)
4	Private sector	Jacqueline Mkindi, Executive Director, Tanzania Horticultural Associate (TAHA) George Iranga, President, Uwawakuda Water Users Association
5	USAID Tanzania	Research and Policy Advisor (Kevin McCown)
6	Ohio State University Consortium	Director of International Programs in Agriculture, Ohio State University (Mark Erbaugh), Leader of Food Security Group (Eric Crawford)
	Total number of members	10

The **Terms of Reference** of the Program Advisory Board, which will meet at least twice a year, shall be as follows:

- Advise Program Management Unit (PMU) on strategic direction of program plans;
- Share relevant information and perspectives on emerging issues in Tanzanian agriculture;
- Review and approve activities, progress reports, and work plans prior to submission to annual meetings;
- Advise on desirable mid-course corrections of the program;
- Review and approve changes in work plans;
- Review and approve research proposals and grant awards to winning proposals;
- Discuss and approve recommendations from the PMU to enhance program performance;
- Review program progress and verify that program objectives are being met.

INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE (iAGRI)

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (FY 2011- FY 2016)

Any opinions or statements contained in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily express the views of the United States Government or the United States for International Development.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Results Framework Narrative

A: Background:

The Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) project is being implemented by the Ohio State University Consortium (OSUC), a partnership of leading U.S land-grant institutions including Ohio State University, Michigan State University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech), University of Florida, Tuskegee University and Iowa State University. USAID/ iAGRI is a five year project funded mainly by USAID/Tanzania. The project started in 2011. The project is designed to strengthen the training and collaborative research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Tanzanian National Agricultural Research System (NARS), following the U.S. land-grant research and extension model. The central goal of USAID/iAGRI is to develop human and institutional capacity in agricultural teaching, research, training and outreach in order to serve the needs of the Tanzanian public and private sectors. The project aims to strengthen institutional innovation to bring training, research, extension into stronger and more functional relationship.

B: Linking the USAID/iAGRI Results Framework to Development Assistance Objective

The USAID/iAGRI objective of human and institutional capacity building supports the USAID/Tanzania Feed the Future Initiative and the Government of Tanzania (GOT) Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme Compact (CAADP) and Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ADSP). The goals and objectives of FtF align with the major objectives of the Compact and USAID. An important emphasis of both CAADP and FtF is human and institutional capacity development to ensure the required technical managerial, and intellectual leadership skills are in place to manage sector interventions and guide agricultural sector growth. The iAGRI individual and institutional capacity building, research development, policy research and dissemination activities under the "Inclusive Agricultural Sector Growth " objective will indirectly impact on the FtF goal of "sustainably reduce global poverty and hunger."

To achieve the Development Assistance Objective of Sustainably Reduce Global Poverty and Hunger, USAID/iAGRI has four strategic objectives:

1. **To establish a program of collaborative agricultural research with SUA and NARS;**
2. **To strengthen SUA's technical and institutional capacity to provide long-term undergraduate and graduate-level training in agriculture;**
3. **To strengthen research and extension at SUA; and**

4. **To promote cooperation between SUA, U.S universities and Global South universities.**

USAID/iAGRI will focus on achieving these objectives, which will enhance skills and improve capabilities in farm productivity and management, as well as agribusiness and agro-entrepreneurship that will lead to increased innovation, competitiveness and higher incomes.

In order to achieve the above four strategic objectives, iAGRI has been designed to implement activities within three USAID/Tanzania FtF intermediate results (IR) components.

C: Components of the iAGRI Result Framework

The results framework of the iAGRI project has three agriculture intermediate results**.** Each IR is measured through its own set of indicators (both standard and custom):

1) IR 1.0: Improved agricultural productivity
2) IR 3.0: Increased investments in agriculture and nutrition-related activities
3) IR 8.0: Improved enabling-policy environment for agriculture and nutrition

D: Critical Assumptions

The successes of this project will depend on the following critical assumptions:

1. **Timely availability of funds from USAID/Tanzania;**
2. **Willingness of the management at SUA and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC) to cooperate with iAGRI in the project implementation;**
3. **Willingness of the management of SUA and MAFC to provide technical staff to iAGRI for project planning, implementation and evaluation;**
4. **Macroeconomic policies and political climate that do not negatively impact on iAGRI activities;**
5. **GOT will continue to provide budget support to SUA and NARS; and**
6. **No major disruption from internal or regional conflict.**

iAGRI will be compromised if funding is not made available at adequate levels. Part of the iAGRI budget is channeled through SUA. Willingness of SUA to hire qualified local staff is critical to the success of the project.

A stable macroeconomic environment is required to provide the government with resources to invest in development activities and public sector goods and services (such as health, education, and research), to lower interest rates, and to encourage domestic and foreign investment that will help the economy to grow.

Conflict in Tanzania or in the region will lead to distortions in markets. Conflict also results in higher prices as risk factors are added to traders' costs. Potential investors, domestic and foreign, are reluctant to invest if conflict is an issue in a country or region.

E: Results Framework

Three higher-level intermediate results (IRs) and seven lower-level IRs will contribute to achieving the "Inclusive Agricultural Sector Growth" objective. These are shown in the Results Framework in Annex 2. In order to achieve "Inclusive Agricultural Sector growth", iAGRI will focus on three inter-related areas delineated by the following IRs:

IR 1.0: Increased Agricultural Productivity**. Increasing productivity at the producer level is a primary objective of inclusive agriculture sector growth objective for the basic reason that without an increase in agriculture productivity there is little likelihood of increased food security, improved nutritional status, or expansion of markets and trade. IR 1.0 is the keystone around which the USAID/Tanzania Economic Growth program is structured. The IR will focus on new knowledge, sustainable approaches, and increased innovation through improved agricultural research and more effective institutions**.

IR 3.0: Increased Investment in Agriculture and Nutrition Related Activities**. These investments will take place by improving productive linkages and collaboration between SUA and other research institutions, including private sector companies and universities that conduct problem-solving agricultural research of relevance to small farmers and agribusinesses. The project will strengthen the Agricultural Development Fund mechanism for funding agriculture, food and nutrition research that is complementary to the research funding through SUA from public, private, bilateral and multilateral sources.**

IR 8.0: Improved Enabling-Policy Environment for Agriculture and Nutrition: **These improvements will be brought about through research and analysis, dissemination and dialogue on policies and advocacy to provide empirical information on policies and regulatory issues that impact agriculture and nutrition.**

Seven lower-level results will have to be achieved in order to realize the overall agriculture sector objective of iAGRI.

F: Intermediate Results:

Intermediate Results 1.1: Capacity for Agricultural and Nutrition Research Strengthened**. This IR will increase productivity by supplying the knowledge base for solutions, use of sustainable approaches, adoption of improved technologies, increased use of inputs, increased participation of the private sector and improved policy environment. Enhanced productivity and output of quality products will result from demand-driven, market-led agricultural production that focuses on those opportunities that generate income from production of agricultural production and food products that have effective demand in Tanzania, the region, and global markets.**

IR1.2: New Technologies and Management Practices Introduced**. This IR will increase the development and dissemination of production technologies and improved management practices to increase agricultural productivity. It will lead to increased availability, use and adoption of improved technologies, including improved management practices. Farmers will have increased yields without necessarily increasing area under cultivation. As farmers realize the potential for increased incomes/profits from using cost effective technologies, they will shift out of subsistence agriculture, raising the rate of transformation of Tanzania's agricultural economy.**

Sub IR 1.2.1: Improve Capacity to Address Climate Change. **While increased agricultural productivity is an important objective, it should not be achieved at the expense of the natural resource base. This IR will ensure that productivity increases are achieved without undermining the natural resource base through scientific contributions to understanding climate change and how climate change affects agricultural productivity, as well as how farmers can adapt resiliently to climate change. This will be achieved by providing science and knowledge-based information to mitigate carbon emissions and to respond to threats posed by climate change.**

IR 3.1: Increased Participation of the Private Sector in Delivery of Services**. Increased productivity will require a private-sector demand-driven agriculture orientation. This IR will increase private sector participation through fostering collaborative scientific linkages between SUA, NARS and the agribusiness/private sector and by ensuring that the research agenda addresses the information and technology needs of the private sector. These linkages will complement and stimulate private sector research on high value commodities (horticulture), including those with potential for increased exports.**

IR 3.2: Increased Capacity of Women to Participate in Agriculture and Nutrition**. This IR will ensure that women enjoy equal access to all iAGRI services, training opportunities, technologies and research grants. This will result in increased ability of women to use and adopt new practices, technologies, and information and to participate in markets. Increasing economic opportunities for women will bring rapid agricultural productivity increases and will bring alleviate poverty improve nutrition. Research on women's nutritional status is expected to improve women's productivity, linking two strategic objectives of FtF.**

IR 3.3: Enhanced Knowledge and External Ideas gained through Study Tours. **This IR will facilitate study tours and exchange programmes to include teaching or other administrative staff from a participating institution who travel to an American University or center of education in another country to receive specific training or exposure. The training will enhance the participants institution to either improve instructional services, improve research and extension capacity or to improve administrative function of the institution.**

IR 8.1: Improved Capacity to Conduct Research and Analysis**. This IR will strengthen the capacity of Tanzanian research organizations to address policy and regulatory constraints that inhibit producers from increasing agricultural productivity. Researchers will identify and analyze policy solutions that are conducive to private sector participation, increased competition, expansion of value-added and processing of new nutritious products and adherence to international grades and standards. When research results are fully implemented, farmers will be able to purchase improved inputs such as seed varieties appropriate to their agro-ecological needs. Farmers will have higher returns and lowered costs of production as a result of better policies governing inputs and pricing, land use policy and planning, and exports. Producers will have more surplus for the market and will have more disposable income to buy nutritious foods.**

IR 8.2: Public/Private Sector Dialogue on Policy Issues Increased**. Through conferences, workshops, seminars and briefings to communicate research findings and provide a forum for open discussion among researchers and other professionals, university academicians, policy analysts, policy advisors, policy makers and representatives of farmers, manufacturers, traders and other stakeholders. Research findings will be published in proceedings, working papers, professional journals and popular media to assure wide dissemination. Publication in these venues will promote policy dialogue and advocacy among producers, consumers, civil society organizations, private sector and policy makers that will contribute to a more inclusive policy formulation process in Tanzania.**

G:Plan for Performance Monitoring

The USAID/iAGRI results framework is a planning, communication, and management tool that conveys the development hypothesis implicit in the project's strategy and the cause-effect relationship between Intermediate Results (IR), sub IRs and the project's objective. The iAGRI Results Framework represents graphically what we expect to deliver to USAID/Tanzania and to the Tanzanian people by the end of the project.

Corresponding to the iAGRI Results Framework, FtF standard indicators and custom/project-level indicators have been developed. We selected and designed indicators that directly measure the specific results areas, and that align with the reporting requirements in the iAGRI Cooperative Agreement and USAID/Tanzania FtF, CAADP, ASDP and National Nutrition Strategy priorities and reporting requirements.

1. Baseline Data and Targets

The iAGRI project will establish baseline data against which project performance will be compared. Beginning with a base year in FY 2010, iAGRI will establish FY 2011 as the first year and make sure that each performance indicator is associated with a baseline value and a series of annual target values. Target setting involved PMU team members. Annex 4 presents the approximate baseline and target values for the indicators for the duration of the project.

2. Additional Data Planned for Collection

The iAGRI project will conduct an assessment of the needs for human institutional capacity strengthening, long term training and collaborative research at SUA, the NARS and the extension. A workshop of food-system stakeholders will set priorities for human and institutional capacity development (HICD).

3. Data Sources

Data will come mainly from primary data sources. Some data will be obtained from iAGRI team members while others will be obtained from partners and competitive grants recipients. Specific data sources are comprehensively documented in the Performance Indicator Reference Sheets for each indicator in Annex 5.

4. Data Collection Methods and Frequencies

Data collection will be accomplished through site visits, interviews, and review of records of partners, competitive grant recipients, and PMU records. The local M&E Specialist will complete institutional monitoring forms which are designed to consolidate indicator data on a quarterly, semi annual or annual basis. Collaborative grant recipients will be required to complete surveys of their outreach and extension activities relevant to the research and dissemination of technologies and management practices, as well as documenting the numbers of trainees by gender and other relevant categories. Project-level data on major indicators, such as the number of individuals who have received USG short-term agricultural sector productivity training, will be maintained using counts of participants/trainees/beneficiaries, their sex and new/ continuing beneficiary status each time an organized project activity is implemented.

The following data collection protocol will be applied:

- **As part of the registration process for each intervention, such as a training event, all participants will provide personal identification data (name, title, organization, contact information, region/zone, district, village/ward, sex and whether they are new or continuing iAGRI project beneficiaries).**

Field notes and activity reports will supplement these methods and provide for triangulation to better interpret the significance and quality of the results achieved. Data summaries will include tabulation of disaggregated data and graphs and diagrams for visual communications in reports and presentations.

5. Responsibilities for Monitoring Tasks

Data collection will be supervised and coordinated by the project's local M&E Specialist assisted by experts from iAGRI partner institution, Virginia Tech. Project staff will be responsible for the collection of data on an on-going basis and transferring that data to the PMU for tabulation, analysis, assessment, and report preparation. Responsibilities for collaborative grants issued through the PMU will be assumed through active and attentive collaboration between the local M& E Specialist, and the M&E/Gender Advisor. Ultimate responsibility for timely data collection, control and quality will be assumed by the COP. The M&E Specialist and

M&E/Gender Advisor will be responsible for verification and data collection procedures as well as for providing overall guidance in data presentation and analysis.

6. Data Quality Assessment

To ensure that data and data sources related to the assessment of program performance are objective and reliable, the USAID/iAGRI Project Management Unit (PMU) and TMG-ME will develop and implement a data-quality control strategy. The local M&E Specialist, M&E/Gender Advisor and COP will conduct site visits and review all reports, institutional records, and monitoring forms. In addition, the M&E Specialist and the M&E/Gender Advisor will provide periodic training to partners on proper data collection. Routine issues to be flagged include the record-keeping practices of partner institutions and standard understanding of indicator definitions and metrics. The initial data-quality assessment will occur in December 2011 and as needed after that to ensure data quality. This study will analyze data quality based on its validity, accuracy, reliability and appropriateness and will provide practical recommendations to improve deficient processes.

7. Data Organization and Maintenance

The local M&E Specialist and M&E/Gender Advisor, along with the other project staff members are responsible for the collection of USAID/iAGRI project-level data and the analysis and aggregation of results into the PMP Indicator Performance Tracking Table (IPTT). The IPTT is a performance management tool that assists not only in tracking data for the selected indicators but also has provision for analyzing their performance on a quarterly, semi-annual and, ultimately, an annual basis. This format will also be used to report the project data to USAID in its on-line system at

SCOPE OF WORK AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR

TRAINING, RESEARCH, AND OUTREACH ADVISOR

BASIC FUNCTIONS OF POSITION

1. The Training, Research, and Outreach Advisor will work with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
2. The incumbent will report to the Project Director of iAGRI and will work closely with the Deputy Project Director and other staff persons to assist in developing and implementing training, research, and outreach programs and activities for iAGRI.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. **Training**

1. Prepare document recommending recruitment procedures and selection criteria for degree trainees;
2. Advise on fields of study and training venues (countries and universities) for degree training;
3. Advise on content of workshops for preparing degree training finalists for foreign study;
4. Prepare document on short-term training, recommending topics, modes of training, and trainee selection procedures;
5. Prepare document on recommended procedures for internship program for SUA students;
6. Prepare "thought pieces" on the current status of agricultural training, research, and outreach in Tanzania and innovations that could be supported by iAGRI.

B. Research

1. Advise on design of thematic research working groups for iAGRI-sponsored research, including research topics, methods of forming groups, and group communication methods;
2. Advise on design of a competitive grants program for iAGRI, including governance of the program, size of grants, the content of training workshops on grant preparation, proposal screening procedures, and research evaluation criteria.

C. Outreach

1. Advise on existing outreach activities at SUA that merit iAGRI support;
2. Advise on new outreach approaches and activities for iAGRI to support.

LEVEL OF EFFORT

One day per week, preferably split into two half days.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A PhD degree in education or a social science discipline;
- Minimum of ten (10) years of experience as a member of academic staff at SUA;
- Thorough knowledge of administrative procedures and history of SUA and Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC);
- Substantial knowledge of Tanzanian agricultural sector;
- Established working relationships with senior personnel at SUA, MAFC, and agribusiness firms;
- Excellent oral communications skills to effectively present information and respond to questions;
- Exceptional writing skills for drafting and editing reports;
- Evidence of ability to multi-task and deliver required documents in a timely manner.

SCOPE OF WORK AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR TRAINING SPECIALIST

BASIC FUNCTIONS OF POSITION

1. The Training Specialist will work with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
2. The incumbent will report to the Deputy Project Director of iAGRI and will work closely with the iAGRI Training, Research, and Outreach Advisor and other iAGRI staff persons in Tanzania and the United States to develop and implement training programs.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. **Trainee Recruitment and Selection**

7. Prepare and disseminate materials for recruiting degree trainees from SUA, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC), and the private sector;
8. Work closely with department heads at SUA and MAFC to identify training candidates;
9. Guide the iAGRI Administrative Assistant in organizing and cataloguing trainee applications;
10. Correspond with training applicants, including answering inquiries, verifying applications are complete, and communicating the decision of the Training Selection Committee;
11. Prepare application materials to be reviewed by the Training Selection Committee and present relevant information at committee meetings;
12. Document decisions of Training Selection Committee.

B. Trainee Preparation

3. Working in conjunction with the iAGRI Management Entity (ME) at Ohio State University, develop placement plan for trainees;
4. Organize workshops to prepare trainees for pre-entrance examinations for foreign universities;
5. Coordinate schedule for trainees to take pre-entrance examinations;
6. Assist applicants in preparing applications to be submitted to target universities;
7. Assist training finalists in obtaining health certifications and visas.

C. Trainee Progress Monitoring

3. Work with the Management Entity at Ohio State University to set up training schedules for trainees, monitor progress towards completion of degrees, and report trainees' academic progress to project management;
4. Develop and monitor advising plan for trainees, working in conjunction with the ME.

LEVEL OF EFFORT

Three days per week.

QUALIFICATIONS

- A MSc degree in agriculture-related field required; PhD preferred;
- Knowledge of administrative procedures of SUA and Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC);
- Substantial knowledge of Tanzanian agricultural sector;

- Excellent oral communications skills to effectively present information and respond to questions;
- Exceptional writing skills;
- Evidence of ability to multi-task and meet deadlines in a timely manner.

Send CV and cover letter outlining applicant's relevant work experience by January 5, 2012 to:

Project Director, Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)
Sokoine University, P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania
Email: admin@iagri.org

SCOPE OF WORK AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR GENDER SPECIALIST

BASIC FUNCTIONS OF POSITION

3. Work with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
4. Report to the Project Director of iAGRI and work closely with the Gender Advisor from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, an iAGRI partner institution.
5. Promote understanding of gender dimensions of agriculture and nutrition and recommend and assist in implementation of iAGRI activities to promote gender balance at SUA and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC).

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Assist in design and selection of gender analysis tools relevant to agriculture and nutrition in Tanzania, seeking support from USAID Tanzania and AID/Washington, where appropriate;
2. Facilitate gender analysis relevant to the activities of SUA and iAGRI;
3. Advise on iAGRI activities that support the Gender Policy Implementation Committee at SUA in carrying out its duties;
4. Assist iAGRI to identify aspects of degree training that prevent women from participating and devise women-friendly degree training options;
5. Advise on short-term training needs for women at SUA and MAFC;
6. Ensure that both women and men are equally targeted in all iAGRI activities.
7. Organize activities to promote science careers for secondary school girls.

lEVEL OF EFFORT

Two days per week.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A PhD degree in education or a social science discipline;
- Minimum of three (3) years of experience as a member of academic staff at SUA;
- Thorough knowledge of administrative procedures and history of SUA and Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC);
- Substantial knowledge of Tanzanian agricultural sector;
- Excellent oral communications skills to present information effectively and respond to questions;
- Exceptional writing skills for drafting and editing reports;
- Evidence of ability to multi-task and meet deadlines in a timely manner.

Send CV and cover letter outlining applicant's relevant work experience by January 5, 2012 to:

Project Director, Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)
Sokoine University
P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania
Email: admin @iagri.org

SCOPE OF WORK AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) SPECIALIST

BASIC FUNCTIONS OF POSITION

6. The M&E Specialist will work with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
7. The incumbent will report to the Project Director of iAGRI and work closely with M&E experts from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, an iAGRI partner organization, to ensure relevant, timely, and accurate M&E data collection and analysis.
8. He/she will assist in developing and implementing an M&E system for tracking progress in reporting project-level indicators (outcome and outputs) for iAGRI.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. **Report Coordination**

1. Collect, organize, and analyze data required for quarterly, semi-annual and annual reporting of project achievement and impact. Conduct periodic follow up activities to assess progress against the baseline. Based on analyses of trends, suggest project activity modifications and interventions.

2. In coordination with project or activity staff, inform implementing partners of data requirements for the annual report and, as necessary, provide assistance to design, modify, and/or refine data collection systems.

B. Evaluation Coordination

1. Coordinate all monitoring and evaluation activities of iAGRI, including establishing an appropriate baseline, gathering evaluation data on an on-going basis, and assisting project staff in drafting the Statement of Work for analyzing reports and in identifying implications for project management.
2. Develop, improve, and supervise computerized database of indicators from clients and partners served by the project activities. Ensure complete and timely submission of data on clients served.
3. Design standardized reports to be used for the semi-annual or annual Intermediate Results reports. Produce ad hoc reports as requested by the Project Director or in response to USAID/Tanzania inquiries.
4. Coordinate with team members and assist them in data collection for quarterly and annual Intermediate Results Implementation Reporting.
5. Coordinate preparation of success stories of clients served through current initiatives and descriptions of the impact on clients.

LEVEL OF EFFORT

Three days per week.

QUALIFICATIONS

- M.A. or MSc degree in a social science discipline (such as economics, sociology or anthropology) or statistics; PhD preferred. Formal training on M&E would be advantageous.
- Minimum of five (5) years of professional experience with program performance monitoring and evaluation preferably in an international organizations or government agency such as USAID.
- Must have substantial computer skills and a thorough knowledge of methods of empirical data collection, knowledge of experimental design with treatment and control groups, and analysis and reporting on program monitoring and impact evaluation. Must be willing to learn relevant USAID procedures and regulations.
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to establish effective working relations with senior government personnel, private sector management, U.S Government organizations and donor agencies.
- Excellent oral communications skills to effectively present information and respond to questions and ability to solve problems as they arise. Must be able to communicate technical subjects to clients with non-technical backgrounds.
- Ability to work both independently and as a member of a team. Must be able to work in a multidisciplinary team and in an environment in which there are team members with varying backgrounds and skill levels.
- Ability to multi-task, work under tight deadlines and assist team members to deliver required documentation in a timely manner.
- Exceptional writing skills for drafting and editing reports required.
- Experience establishing an M&E system, including developing data collection forms, indicator reference sheets, and performance monitoring plans would be an added advantage.
- Substantial knowledge of Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania's National Agricultural Research System, and the Tanzanian agricultural sector would be an advantage.

Send CV and cover letter outlining applicant's training and relevant work experience by January 5, 2012 to:

Project Director, Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)
Sokoine University
P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania
Email: admin@iagri.org

POSITION DESCRIPTION

PROGRAM SUPPORT MANAGER

BASIC FUNCTIONS OF POSITION

9. The Program Support Manager will work with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project aims to strengthen the training and collaborative research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Tanzania National Agricultural Research System (NARS).

10. The incumbent will report to the Deputy Project Director of iAGRI and will work closely with the Project Director and other staff persons to implement and communicate program activities of iAGRI. The incumbent will work at the iAGRI project office in Morogoro.

11. He/she will serve as program strategist and troubleshooter for current and future program activities and as communications and IT manager for iAGRI.

SPECIFIC DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- Serve as implementation troubleshooter for iAGRI programmatic activities. Identify, diagnose, and remove impediments to implementation of activities related to project's four key objectives (training, research, capacity building, and external linkage building). Impediments to be addressed include internal inefficiencies of iAGRI, bureaucratic inefficiencies in partner organizations and governments, inadequate and malfunctioning infrastructure, and other factors.

- Serve as troubleshooter and site manager for iAGRI workshops. Before events, work closely with the project's technical staff who are coordinating workshops, reviewing agenda, presenter lists, participants list, venue plans, food and beverage plans, computer and projection equipment plans to identify potential bottlenecks. During workshops, serve as site manager providing support to the workshop coordinator.

- Serve as field manager for iAGRI. Develop strategy for and oversee field activities, including visitation to secondary schools to promote science careers, coordination of field research of returning students, and establishment of outreach and internship linkages with agribusiness firms.

- Serve as the project's point of contact with USAID Tanzania for media outreach. Provide information periodically to USAID Tanzania regarding iAGRI activities and participate in the Mission's "communities of practice" initiative in communications.

- Serve as the IT support person for iAGRI, configuring and repairing computers and printers, installing software, servicing the local area network, setting up and maintaining teleconference equipment, and providing support to project staff for an on-line system of tracking iAGRI activities. Provide IT training to iAGRI staff as requested.

- Serve as project webmaster. Develop and maintain a website to inform the Ohio State University Consortium about iAGRI activities. Develop an intranet for posting of project policies, concept notes for new activities, and other internally shared documents.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum bachelor's degree in business administration or organizational management;

- 2+ years of work experience in managing public or private sector programs, workshops, and events;

- Detailed knowledge of opportunities and constraints facing implanters of program activities in Tanzanian organizations;

- Outstanding leadership ability and management skills; capacity to both analyze impediments to progress and implement solutions;

- Evidence from previous employment of ability to multi-task, work under tight deadlines, and work effectively with team members;

- Advanced knowledge of computer operating systems, productivity software, database construction and management, local area networks; and teleconference systems;

- Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to work effectively on a team;

- Exceptional English communication skills (written and oral) with individuals, groups, and the press.

POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

BASIC FUNCTIONS OF POSITION

12. The Administrative Assistant will work with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project aims to strengthen the training and collaborative research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Tanzania National Agricultural Research System (NARS).
13. The incumbent will report to the Operations Manager of iAGRI and will work closely with the Deputy Project Director and other staff persons to implement the training and research activities of the project.
14. He/she will provide clerical and managerial support for all aspect of iAGRI.

SPECIFIC DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- Write dictated memos for project staff;
- Prepare and edit documents;
- Prepare draft reports as directed by project staff;
- Receive, inspect, and organize applications for iAGRI scholarship applications;
- Receive and organize proposals submitted for iAGRI's competitive research grants program;
- Run errands on the Sokoine University campus and in Morogoro;
- Travel to Dar es Salaam as courier when needed;
- Receive and send mail going through postal service;
- Order office supplies as needed;
- Update and manage directory of telephone numbers and email addresses relevant to project;
- Maintain door keys for project offices;
- Monitor the work schedules of persons cleaning projects office and providing security;

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum bachelor's degree in management, accounting, finance;
- 3+ years of work experience (exceptions can be made) as administrative assistant;
- High degree of comfort with technology and competence in use of standard software packages (Microsoft word processing, spreadsheets, etc.)'
- Exceptional English communication skills (written and oral) with individuals, groups, and the press
- Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to work effectively on a team;
- Ability to multi-task, work under tight deadlines and effectively manage team members to deliver required documentation in a timely manner;
- Substantial knowledge of Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania's National Agricultural Research System, and the Tanzanian agricultural sector would be an advantage.

Send CV and cover letter outlining your training and relevant work experience to:

Proj. Director, Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)
Sokoine University
P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania
Email: admin @iagri.org

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR

OPERATIONS MANAGER

BASIC FUNCTIONS OF POSITION

15. The Operations Manager will work with the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project aims to strengthen the training and collaborative research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Tanzania National Agricultural Research System (NARS).
16. The incumbent will report to the Project Director of iAGRI and will work closely with the Deputy Project Director and other staff persons to implement the training and research activities of the project.
17. He/she will organize and manage procurement, tax exemption requests, travel arrangements, physical facilities, meeting arrangements, workshop registration, and other logistical aspects of iAGRI.

SPECIFIC DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with the project's home office at Ohio State University (OSU) to develop project policies, procedures and processes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), OSU policies and procedures, local government regulations, and USAID requirements;
- Develop and implement procurement, finance, human resources, and administration plans to ensure quality and timely delivery of results;
- Act as the focal point for human resources and procurement, ensure the speedy execution of requests and provide necessary input, such as documentation, to the processes to facilitate the delivery of support services and a smooth disbursement of funds;
- Facilitate and prepare project budget, budget monitoring and budget revision;
- Manage project accounts (receipts and payments) and petty cash fund;
- Handle all project banking operations;
- Ensure accountability, transparency and competiveness in procurement and contracting aspects of the project;
- Prepare draft terms of reference for recruitment and procurement processes and initiate these in accordance with the plans, in accordance with USAID policies and procedures and in a timely manner;
- Manage all subordinate staff;
- Make travel arrangements for project staff and visitors, including handling visas and permits for visitors;
- Make arrangements for venue, materials, equipment, travel, and lodging arrangements for project-sponsored workshops;
- Coordinate and support the preparation of the project advisory board meeting and ad hoc meetings with partners as required;
- Ensure subcontractors comply with USAID regulations.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum diploma in management, accounting, finance; degree preferred but not essential;
- 4+ years of work experience (exceptions can be made) in project operations management;
- Leadership / management skills;
- High degree of comfort with technology and competence in use of standard software packages (Microsoft word processing, spreadsheets, etc.)'
- Exceptional English communication skills (written and oral) with individuals, groups, and the press
- Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to work effectively on a team;
- Possess comprehensive knowledge of Government of Tanzania policies and procedures relevant to donor-funded projects.
- Ability to multi-task, work under tight deadlines and effectively manage team members to deliver required documentation in a timely manner.
- Substantial knowledge of Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania's National Agricultural Research System, and the Tanzanian agricultural sector would be an advantage.

Send CV and cover letter outlining your training and relevant work experience to:

Project Director, Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI),
Sokoine University
P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania
Email: admin @iagri.org

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

RUFORUM
Scope of Work
Training Placement
2012-2015

RUFORUM is a partner with the Ohio State University Consortium in the implementation of iAGRI in Tanzania. Funded by USAID, iAGRI is intended to strengthen the agricultural teaching, research and outreach capacities, primarily of the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFSC).

RUFORUM will primarily be responsible for placing up to 30 MSc candidates, primarily at member institutions within its network[11] during the life of iAGRI (up to 10 in 2012; up to 10 in 2013; and up to 10 in 2014). RUFORUM will also be responsible for monitoring the progress of these candidates and reporting to the iAGRI Management Entity (ME) on the Ohio State University campus and to the iAGRI Project Management Unit (PMU) on the Sokoine University of Agriculture campus about this progress. Specific responsibilities of RUFORUM are as follows:

Responsibilities:

(1) **Identify and inform the ME and PMU about information required to place degree candidates at its member institutions** - The PMU, in coordination with the ME, will identify candidates for placement each year and will provide their names to RUFORUM; the PMU will also prepare dossiers for each candidate based on RUFORUM's documentation of information required to place them.

(2) **Monitor progress of placed degree candidates** - RUFORUM will maintain frequent contact with the candidates themselves and with their advisors. The ME and PMU will provide forms to monitor the progress of students pursuing MSc degrees. These will be used by RUFORUM to compile appropriate information from the candidates, their advisors and international program administrators at the institutions in which students are placed. RUFORUM will provide an update of student progress to the PMU and ME for each academic term.

(3) **Coordinate the thesis research of degree candidates** – Each student will be expected to pursue a thesis which is consistent with Feed the Future (FTF) research priorities identified by iAGRI. The thesis research will be conducted in Tanzania except in rare cases which must be approved in advance by the PMU. RUFORUM will monitor the progress of the degree candidate's development of appropriate thesis topics and will provide regular updates to the PMU. RUFORUM will also be responsible for administering the seed grants of $5,000 which are to be allocated to each degree candidate and for ensuring that the proposed research is consistent with iAGRI FTF priorities. RUFORUM will also administer funds used for degree candidate advisors to travel to Tanzania to supervise the research of the candidates. RUFORUM will provide the ME and PMU with updates on the progress of these research activities related to degree candidate programs.

[11] RUFORUM Member Institutions are listed on the last page of this document.

(4) **Coordinate interface between degree candidate advisors and appropriate personnel at SUA and MAFC**– An important iAGRI objective is to facilitate collaborative research among SUA and the MAFC staff and staff from partner institutions in the Global South. RUFORUM will contribute to this interface by using the research being conducted by iAGRI degree candidates placed by it as a facilitating mechanism.

(5) **Advise the ME and PMU about how to improve achievement of iAGRI objectives** –RUFORUM will provide the ME and PMU with recommendations about how to improve the implementation of iAGRI degree-training activities and achievement of its training objective. In making these recommendations, RUFORUM will draw upon its considerable experience in working with its network of member institutions and with various donors in higher agricultural education and research in the region.

Funding:

Funding for RUFORUM to carry out these activities will be provided through a sub-agreement to be negotiated between the OSU Office of Sponsored Research at The Ohio State University and RUFORUM. This budget will be negotiated by the iAGRI Principal Investigator on the OSU campus and the Director of RUFORUM (or designees).

Given the time that will be required to negotiate this agreement, RUFORUM will be requested to provide needed inputs up front in order to ensure timely placement of the degree candidates in 2012. The agreement will be back dated to March 1, 2012 in order to ensure that RUFORUM is compensated for all costs encumbered by it in carrying out these responsibilities.

Designation of Primary Parties for Training Activities:

RUFORUM will designate a staff person to undertake these activities. This person's activities will be supervised by the Director of RUFORUM.

The iAGRI ME will assign Mary Anne Rose, Office of International Programs in Agriculture Training Coordinator, as its principal point of contact for all training activities.

The iAGRI PMU will assign Emmanuel Rwambali, PMU Training Coordinator, as its principal point of contact for this activity.

RUFORUM Member Universities

1. AFRICA UNIVERSITY, ZIMBABWE
2. CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF MOZAMBIQUE
3. EDUARDO MONDLANE UNIVERSITY MOZAMBIQUE
4. EGERTON UNIVERSITY, KENYA
5. GULU UNIVERSITY, UGANDA
6. HARAMAYA UNIVERSITY, ETHIOPIA
7. JOMO KENYATTA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, KENYA
8. KENYATTA UNIVERSITY, KENYA
9. KORDOFAN UNIVERSITY, SUDAN
10. KYAMBOGO UNIVERSITY, UGANDA
11. MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, UGANDA
12. MEKELLE UNIVERSITY, ETHIOPIA
13. MOI UNIVERSITY, KENYA
14. MZUZU UNIVERSITY, MALAWI
15. NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF BURUNDI, BURUNDI
16. NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA, RWANDA
17. SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, TANZANIA
18. UGANDA MARTYRS UNIVERSITY, UGANDA
19. UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE DE BUKAVU, DR-CONGO
20. UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA, BOTSWANA
21. UNIVERSITY OF GEZIRA, SUDAN
22. UNIVERSITY OF JUBA, SUDAN
23. UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO, LESOTHO
24. UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI, MALAWI
25. UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, KENYA
26. UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA, NAMIBIA
27. UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND, SWAZILAND
28. UNIVERSITY OF ZAMBIA, ZAMBIA
29. UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE, ZIMBABWE

iAGRI Training Plan

I. Trainee Selection and Placement Process, 2012

1. Advertisement Development and Placement in Papers

i) The advertisement was developed by the PMU and shared with MAFC and SUA representatives for additions and or subtractions.

ii) The advertisement was placed in two widely read national newspapers, the Guardian and The Citizen on 19 December 2011 with a deadline of 5 January 2012.

iii) In addition, SUA and MAFC administration were made aware of the advertisement and asked to share widely with potential applicants. The advertisement was shared with all Heads of Departments in the Faculty of Agriculture, placed on bulletin board on campus, and posted on the home page of the SUA website. Key individuals in MAFC were asked to do the same.

iv) Between 20 December and 5 January 2012, the PMU was quite busy responding to questions from applicants seeking clarification on the application process.

v) Very few applications were received from Tanzanians studying in the U.S., yet this seems like a good pool from which to draw qualified training candidates. A call was transmitted through the OSUC consortium universities for qualified Tanzanian citizens to apply by January 20.

vi) No applications were received from Zanzibar by the Tanzania deadline of January 5. Because the isles are important in Feed the Future plans, the deadline for applications from Zanzibar was extended until January 27 and assistance of the Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources was sought.

2. Establishment of iAGRI Trainee Selection Committee

A Trainee Selection Committee was established consisting of representatives from Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Cooperatives (MAFC), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), USAID/Tanzania, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources of Zanzibar (MANRZ), and the iAGRI Project Management Unit (PMU). Members are Dr. Amon Maerere (Deputy Director of Post-Graduate Studies, SUA), Dr. Susan Nchimbi-Msola (Deputy Director of Research, SUA), Mr. Geoffrey Kirenga (Director of Crop Development, MAFC), Ms. Anne Assenga (Director of Training, MAFC), Dr. Juma Akil (Director of Planning, Policy and Research, MANRZ), Ms. Kim LeBlanc (Education Officer, USAID Tanzania), Dr. Isaac Minde, (PMU), Mr. Emmanuel Rwambali (PMU), and Dr. David Kraybill (PMU).

Responsibilities of the committee are to choose a short list of applicants to be interviewed, conduct interviews, and select "semi-finalists." The latter group will become "finalists" and will receive funding from iAGRI only after being accepted at a university for degree studies. Semi-finalists will the "cream of the crop" and are likely to gain admitted into degree programs though iAGRI cannot guarantee admission.

3. **Compiling Applicant Information and Elimination on Basis of Key Criteria**
   i) Information (name, age, grade point average, etc.) from 330+ applicants was recorded in Excel.
   ii) Acknowledgment of receipt of application was sent to applicants by email or phone by January 20.
   iii) The PMU rejected those who did not meet minimum criteria – specifically age, field of training and GPA.
   iv) The PMU contacted applicants who met minimum requirements stated in the advertisement to ask them to submit any missing information in their applications.

4. **Preliminary Shortlisting**
   i) The PMU prepared a preliminary short list of approximately 70 MSc and 60 PhD applicants. This was done with the understanding that the 2012 target is 20 PhD and 35 MSc trainees. It would be overly burdensome to send numbers larger than these to the Selection Committee. However, all information will be made available to anyone who would like to make reference to any applicant.
   ii) The PMU identified a number of applicant pools from the piles of 60 and 70. These pools may be as follows: a) SUA, MAFC and Zanzibar applicants, b) study venue USA, SUA, and other places, c) male and female applicants, and d) intended field of study, defined broadly.

5. **Semi-Finalist Selection and Interviewing**
   i) Selection Committee met on *30-31 January 2012* to short list applicants to be interviewed.
   ii) Short-listed applicants were informed on 31 January 2012 to appear for interview in Morogoro on 2-3 February or in Dar es Salaam on 9-10 February, whichever location was most convenient for the applicant. On the final day of interviewing, the committee selected semi-finalists (for study both in the United States and elsewhere).

i) On 15 February, word was received from Prometrica, the company in charge of the TOEFL exam, that names had to be submitted immediately (that day) for those who would be taking the exam on March 9. The list of semi-finalists prepared by the committee contained less than the target number of 40 persons to sit for the TOEFL, because many of the Masters-level semi-finalists chosen on February 15 indicated they did not want to study in the United States. In view of the pending deadline, Minde and Kraybill went back to the list of interviewees and, using the ranking information provided by the committee, selected additional persons to take the TOEFL. Ultimately, 43 individuals were chosen: 29 PhD aspirants and 14 Masters aspirants.

6. **Semi-Finalist Preparation and Test-Taking**
   i) On 23-24 February, a GRE and TOEFL workshop was held in Morogoro for all semi-finalists who are being considered for study in the United States. February 23 was devoted to the GRE while February 24 was devoted to the TOEFL. Two instructors from OSU presented the instructional material by teleconference. Instructor Deborah Morbitt taught the GRE workshop and Instructor Nanette Bouvier taught the TOEFL

workshop. David Kraybill and Emmanuel Rwambali served as in-classroom facilitators.

ii) The ME, with assistance from the PM you, registered US-bound applicants for TOEFL and GRE.

iii) TOEFL examination date: the paper-based version of the TOEFL examination will be taken by all applicants on March 9 at Peace Haven Academy in Dar Es Salaam.

iv) GRE examination date: it would have been the preference of the PM you and the and need to have the applicants take the paper-based version of the GRE, but the exam date did not match well with our schedule. Applicants were therefore registered for the computer-based version of the GRE beginning on March 8. The GRE examination room at the University of Dar es Salaam is too small to accommodate all the iAGRI applicants at one time. Therefore, the applicants will take the exam on various dates, with the last test date being March 28.

v) Score reports will be sent to the four largest university programs (OSU,UFL, MSU, Va Tech). At the GRE and TOEFL workshop, US-Bound candidates were informed of additional application materials to be submitted to PMU by 15 March: three letters of recommendation (two in addition to the one submitted with the initial application), A-level transcript, a well-developed one page statement of educational/professional experience and goals. Later, US-bound applicants will be informed of additional deadlines (e.g., online applications) and requirements (passport, medical screenings, exam, obtaining leave from Tanzania employer).

7. Application to Universities

Decisions about universities to which semi-finalists will apply will be made by iAGRI (the PMU and ME) based on study venue preferences of semi- finalists (preference for Tanzanian or foreign institution) discipline of study, and expressed interest of OSUC universities and other universities in hosting applicants.

i) US Bound Admissions Process

a) PMU will forward to ME by April 2 a spreadsheet of semi-finalists, updated with GRE and TOEFL test scores and scanned dossiers (complete applications).

b) ME will forward the spreadsheet and dossiers to OSUC partner universities on April 2.

c) Partner universities will propose their department/advisor match by April 24.

d) ME and PMU will make final decisions on student placements by April 27.

e) ME will notify semi-finalists and universities of proposed placements by April 30.

f) Students will complete on-line graduate applications for assigned program and send passport and biographical data forms to ME by May 7.

g) University graduate committees accept/decline students, provide departmental letter of admission/offer of fellowship which includes dates, terms and conditions of fellowship by May 25.

h) ME will begin immigration proceedings.

i) Medical screening exams will be completed by (date),

ii) Non-US Bound Admissions Process

a) For university destinations in Africa, RUFORUM will oversee the placement of students, including obtaining information on admission requirements and procedures and guiding the applicants as they apply. RUFORUM will also oversee the matching of students with mentors at African host universities and will monitor students' progress during the course of study, including during the time they are conducting research back in Tanzania. In principle, iAGRI students destined for African universities could be placed in any of the RUFORUM-member institutions, though a smaller list of preferred institutions will be developed by the PMU and ME in conjunction with RUFORUM.

b) A small number of iAGRI students may study in Asia, perhaps at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), China Agricultural University, University of Los Banos, or other universities. These placements will be handled by the ME.

c) For SUA, the PMU will get information on the admissions process.

8. Summary of Dates

- 19 December 2011 – Call for Applications published in Tanzanian newspapers.
- 5 January 2012 – deadline for applications (time extensions for applications from persons currently studying in U.S. and applicants from Zanzibar).
- 20 January 2012 – acknowledge receipt of applications.
- 20 January 2012 – cull applications on basis of age, field of training, and GPA.
- 23 January 2012 – contact applicants with missing documents.
- 28 January 2012 – PMU prepares preliminary short list of 100 MSc and 50 PhD applicants (approximately).
- 30-31 January 2012 – Trainee Selection Committee selects short listed applicants.
- 31 January 2012 – finalists invited for interview.
- 1 February – ETS contacted about for bulk registration for GRE and TOEFL.
- 2-3 February 2012 – interviews held in Morogoro.
- 9-10 February 2012 – interviews held in Dar es Salaam.
- 15 February 2012 – semi-finalist who will take GRE and TOEFL are identified.
- 23-24 February 2012 – workshop in Morogoro for semi-finalists destined for the US.
- 20 February 2012 – bulk application for GRE and TOEFL.
- 9 March 2012 –TOEFL exam
- 8-23 March 2012 – GRE exam
- 15 March 2012 – all university application materials will be sent to ME.
- 2 April 2012 – spreadsheet of completed information on semi-finalists and scanned dossiers will be sent to ME.
- 27 April 2012 – final decisions on university placements will be made.
- May 7 – semi-finalists will complete university applications.
- May 25 – target date for OSUC partner universities to accept or reject applicants.

II. Types of Degree Programs

1. Conventional programs with degree awarded by host institution

Most students will fall in this category.

2. **Sandwich degree programs**
   Sandwich-degree arrangements may be made for some students. For example, iAGRI-sponsored students to study at African universities could spend a year in a research lab in a US university and then return to the African University to complete their degree.

III. Advising

1. **Role of and selection of advisor at host institution outside of Tanzania**
2. **Role of and selection of advisor in Tanzania for students who study outside**
3. **Protocol for initiating and maintaining contact with advisors**

IV. Students' Research

1. **Location of the research**
   Every iAGRI-sponsored student will conduct his/her research in Tanzania except in special cases where the PMU and ME agree in advance that the research should take place in a different location. Early communication with the student and foreign advisor is essential to make clear that this is the expectation.

2. **Funding for research**
   An amount of $5000 has been budgeted for each MSc student and$x for each PhD student to support their data gathering when they return to Tanzania. These funds will be available only for research in Tanzania.

3. **Collaboration with other projects**
   The PM you has made contact with CRSP program directors and CG-center personnel seeking advisors and funding for field research. Specifically, directors of the Integrated Pest Management CRSP, Dry Grain Pulses CRSP, Horticulture CRSP, SANREM CRSP, and Peanut CRSP have been contacted. They express interest in varying degrees. Contacts have been made with staff members at IITA-Tanzania, Arusha of Vegetable Research and Development Center (AVRDC). In addition, the Rob Bergstrom, Jerry Glover, and Julie ? of USAID's Bureau Food Security, whose members liase with the CG-centers, have been made aware of our interest in placing students with the CRSPs and the centers.

V. Relations with Students' Employers

1. **Obtaining leave**
   Trainees should provide the PMU with a document from their employer, which in most cases will be SUA or MAFC, saying the employer grants them leave for study. The leave of study is for a defined period. iAGRI Masters students who wish to remain in the U.S. to pursue a PhD must obtain permission from their employer to extend their leave.

Call for Degree-Training Applications

This is the second in a series of requests for applications issued by the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) as part of an agricultural capacity-building project supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under its Feed-the-Future program.

Project Description:

The main purpose is to strengthen training and research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC).

Degree Training Program Description:

This announcement is for Masters and PhD degree scholarship opportunities for study in the United States, Africa or Southeast Asia. Studies will begin in August or September, 2012. Eligibility is largely limited to those who currently hold a staff position at SUA or MAFC and who are interested in pursuing further studies in the agricultural biological and social sciences (Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, Food Science, Nutrition, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Education and Extension, Horticulture, Crop Sciences, Plant Protection, and other disciplines related to agriculture and nutrition). Applicants from the private sector who have demonstrated interest, experience, and leadership in strengthening linkages between Tanzanian research organizations and the private sector may also be considered. The private sector is defined here to include for-profit firms, non-profit firms, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Thirty-five Masters and 20 PhD degree trainees will be supported at this time. One year of course work for Masters and three years for PhD will be in the country of the university offering the training. Research work will be carried out in Tanzania.

Trainee Selection Process: Guidelines, Criteria, Submission

A. Guidelines for Application

Candidates are required to submit (a) Letter of Intent that specifies the applicant's desired degree area and whether he/she would consider study outside Tanzania or prefers to remain within Tanzania for studies, (b) Up-to-date curriculum vitae, (c) Copy of university transcript, (d) a Letter of recommendation from a referee, and (e) GRE (Graduate Record Examination) and TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) scores if applicant has already taken these examinations. The referee may be an employer, professor, or a colleague but may not be a family member or a friend. Women are especially encouraged

to apply. It is anticipated that at least 50% of trainees will be women. These documents will be used as screening materials for candidate selection.

B. Criteria for Student Selection:

The Trainee Selection Committee will review applications and select candidates based on the following criteria:

7. Current and future staff role at SUA or MAFC or in the private sector (including NGOs);
8. Tanzanian national residing in Tanzania;
9. Bachelor's degree holder with first or upper second class pass. In addition, for PhD applicants, a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 or above in the British system and 3.4 or above in the American system ;
10. Strong written and spoken English language skills;
11. It is preferred, though not absolutely required, that candidates have already taken the TOEFL and GRE examinations prior to applying; and
12. Under 40 years of age.

C. Submission

Submit application materials in hard copy (not email) by 5th January 2012 to:

Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI)

Attention: Training Officer

P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu

Morogoro, Tanzania

D. Contact Information

Queries may be made via email (admin@iagri.org) or telephone (0763267934).

iAGRI Workshop to Prepare for Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

Oasis Hotel, Morogoro

February 23, 2012

11:30-12:30	Introduction to iAGRI Degree Training Programme
12:30-2:00	Lunch
2:00-4:00	GRE instruction, Ms. Deborah Morbitt, GRE Instructor, Ohio State University
4:00-4:15	Break
4:15-6:00	Continue GRE instruction

iAGRI Workshop To Prepare for Test of English As a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

Oasis Hotel, Morogoro

February 24, 2012

8:00-9:00	TOEFL introduction, Mr. Emmanuel Rwambali, iAGRI Training Specialist
9:00-9:15	Break
9:15-12:15	TOEFL Practice Test
12:15-1:30	Lunch
1:30-3:00	TOEFL instruction, Ms. Nanette Bouvier, TOEFL Instructor, Ohio State University
3:00-3:15	Break
3:15-5:30	Continue TOEFL instruction
5:30-5:45	Break
5:45-6:30	Presentation on five American universities (Ohio State University, Michigan State University, Virginia Tech, Tuskegee University, University of Florida), Dr. David Hansen, Ohio State University
6:30-7:00	Registration for exams
7:00	Dinner

USAID and iAGRI Policy on Dependents of Trainees

USAID Policy[12]

- Permission: USAID strongly discourages trainees from taking dependents with them when studying abroad.
    - Section 252.3.4 of *Visa Compliance for Exchange* Visa (USAID ADS Chapter 252) says: *In order to avoid unnecessary liabilities and to minimize the possibility of non-returnees, USAID strongly discourages dependent travel. USAID Mission Director or USAID/W Office Director approval must be obtained using the Dependent Certification (form AID 1380-5) for all dependent travel regardless of the visa type used by the dependent for travel.*
    - A trainee applying to travel with a dependent must provide evidence that he or she has financial resources adequate to cover dependent expenses. Dependent expenses include a roundtrip airplane ticket, health insurance, and living expenses. According to Section 252.3.4 of *Visa Compliance for Exchange* Visa (USAID ADS Chapter 252), monthly living expenses for a dependent should be calculated at 50% of the monthly cost of living for the trainee. For example, if the estimated cost of living for the trainee is $1,500 per month, the expenses for a dependent should be estimated as an additional $750. If the dependent is a child in need of day care, then the cost of day care should be added.[13] The health insurance purchased by a trainee for a dependent must be obtained through the USAID-designated provider of Health and Accident Insurance Coverage (HAC), according to Section 252.3.6.2.
    - Without USAID Mission Director approval mentioned above, the US embassy will not issue a visa for a dependent.
    - If a trainee wishes to apply to travel with a dependent, completing the forms, providing required documents, and submitting forms is the responsibility of the trainee.
- Costs: USAID is not allowed to bear any costs related to dependents, including travel, subsistence, health care insurance, etc. All costs related to dependent travel must be borne by the trainee.
- USAID Country Mission Policy: each country office of USAID must establish its own policy on dependents accompanying trainees. Contact Specioza Machume at USAID Tanzania for details (+255-222294490).

[12] This summary of USAID policy intended to provide a general guidance and should not be construed as legal guidance. It is the trainee's responsibility to obtain relevant USAID documents regarding dependents. Those include, but may not be limited to, *Visa Compliance for Exchange* Visa (USAID ADS Chapter 252), available at http://transition.usaid.gov/policy/ads/200/252.pdf, and *Participant Training for Capacity Development* (USAID ADS Chapter 253), available at http://transition.usaid.gov/policy/ads/200/253.pdf.

[13] Estimates of child-care costs can be found on-line at http://www.daycarematch.com/child-daycare-articles/national-average-child-day-care-rates.asp. For example, according to this website, the average cost of care in a daycare center in Virginia per annum is $11,388 for an infant and $9,100 for a toddler. It cannot be guaranteed that these cost estimates will be accepted as reasonable by USAID or the US embassy. It is up to the training candidate to obtain daycare costs for the particular site where they would be located.

iAGRI Policy

- Under no circumstances is a trainee allowed to be accompanied by a dependent during the first year of study. Therefore, MSc trainees are excluded from applying for dependent travel since MSc trainees reside in the U.S. for only one year. For PhD trainees, application to bring a dependent can be made only after successful completion of one year of study in the U.S.
- An iAGRI-sponsored training candidate wishing to bring a dependent to the U.S. must first comply with USAID policy by (1) completing and submitting form AID 1380-5 to USAID Tanzania, and (2) preparing a budget for dependent expenditures, including roundtrip travel, USAID-approved insurance, and living expenses, including childcare costs if the dependent is a child. Approval of the USAID Mission Director to travel with a dependent must be obtained and the budget for the dependent must be approved by both USAID Tanzania and iAGRI.
- Female PhD trainees with children age 4 or less at the time of the mother's departure from Tanzania for foreign study may apply for airfare to return to Tanzania for one month during the summer following their first year of study if they successfully complete the first year.

Current iAGRI students in the US

Student Name	University	US Advisor	Study Area	Advisor at SUA
Frida Nyamete nachep@yahoo.com	MSU	Maurice Bennink mbennink@anr.msu.edu	Food Science	Prof. Jovin Mugula jmugula@yahoo.com
Martin John jmartines49@yahoo.com	Tuskegee	Conrad Bonsi cobonsi@mytu.tuskegee.edu	Entomology/ IPM	Prof. Maulid Mwatawala mwatawala@yahoo.com
Lilian Mpinga ll_elay73@yahoo.com	UFL	Carline Chase cachase@ufl.edu	Horticulture (tomato grafting)	Dr. Theodosy Msogoya tjmsogoya@yahoo.com
Stanley Terengia stanley.materu@yahoo.com	UFL	Sanjay Shukla sshukla@ufl.edu	Irrigation Engineering	Prof. A. Tarimo andrewtarimo@yahoo.com tarimo@suanet.ac.tz
Asma Gharib asma-bilal17@hotmail.com	UFL	James Sterns jasterns@ufl.edu	Development Economics	Dr. Evelyn Lazaro Lazaroa55@yahoo.co.uk lazaroa@suanet.ac.tz
Respikius Martin respik5@yahoo.com	OSU	Jeff Sharp Sharp.123@osu.edu	Rural Sociology	Dr. Dismas Mwaseba dilmwase@yahoo.com

Student Advising Expectations
iAGRI Local Advisors Meeting
17 July 2012

a) Expectations, roles and responsibilities of graduate students and advisors should be made clear

- should be the agenda in the first advisor-student meeting
- at this meeting, the student should be given sufficient time to speak—not a one-way traffic

b) Advisors should be readily accessible to their students, and regular monitoring and feedback should be ensured

-regularly scheduled meetings: would be useful to have this schedule known between the parties from the beginning.

-keeping time (the advising and thesis work is time bound and this should be watched at all times). For example, it is good to respond to text messages immediately or e-mail messages at most within 24 hours. Drafts prepared by students should also be read within a week if they are to make progress and finish within the planned time.

c) Student-advisor relationships should be professional

The relationship between advisors and students, however friendly and supportive it may become, should always be academic and professional. Relationships that are at odds with an arm's length criterion (e.g. romantic, sexual, family ties) are unacceptable between advisors and students. Any potential conflict of interest should be reported immediately to the Project Management Unit of iAGRI.

d) Intellectual debate and challenge should be encouraged and supported

Intellectual debate is a fundamental component of university activity.
Every effort should be made by both the student and advisor to recognize and acknowledge that a robust element of academic challenge and questioning is a normal, and indeed, healthy aspect of the students/advisor relationship.

e) Advisors should be mentors
Advisors have responsibilities beyond the academic supervision of research and writing. Although the mentoring role will vary across disciplines, and will depend on the needs of the individual student, advisors should be responsible for mentoring students in areas such as, but not limited to, the development of appropriate professional skills; applications for funding; networking opportunities with colleagues in

academia and beyond; assistance with publications; and career development.

f) Issues of intellectual property and authorship should be made clear

Advisors are responsible for informing students about university policies that govern intellectual property, and about any specific intellectual property issues that are likely to arise from their research. For example, it will be important to remind students about plagiarism and or the need to make proper reference to the work of others.

g) Conflicts should be resolved at the lowest level possible

From time to time, conflicts may emerge between the advisor and the student. Involving more people and higher levels of authority in a conflict can result in exaggeration of the original problem. This makes it harder to resolve and causes more damage to the participants and those around them. Conflicts should be resolved as close as possible to the source of the problem (i.e., at the lowest level of administration).

h) Continuity in advising is important/advisor replacement

It is desirable to inform the iAGRI Project Management Unit (PMU) well in advance about any plans you may have in discontinuing with the advising. This is important so that PMU can make plans to avoid discontinuity in advising.

i) Students have substantial responsibilities for managing their own graduate education

-it should be clear to the student—at least in the early days that advising is not spoon-feeding. Their pro-active role in the whole process of the graduate work is expected.

-there should be many occasions of debriefing by the student on issues like “what I found and what I think”

Summary: Successful advising of graduate students depends on:

- A healthy and productive relationship between the advisor and student
- Mutual respect and professionalism

The above is drawn from discussions within the PMU and reading of several documents.

iAGRI Local Supervisor Workshop

July 17, 2012

SN	Session/Activity	Time	Facilitator
1.	Welcoming remark	2.00 -2.10	Kraybill
2.	Objectives of the workshop	2.10 -2.15	Rwambali
3.	iAGRI mission and objectives	2.15 -2.35	Kraybill
4.	iAGRI research component	2.35 -2.55	Minde
5.	iAGRI long-term training	2.55 -3.15	Rwambali
6.	Discussion Supervisors terms of reference	3.15 -3.30	Minde
7.	Discussion on students advising	3.30 -3.50	Kraybill
8.	Refreshments and group photo	3.50 -4.00	
	END		

Memorandum of Agreement:

Appointment as Local Supervisor

Preamble

Following discussions we have had with you recently through our Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) Training Specialist, we wish to appoint you as a Local Supervisor for a student, Mr/Ms _____, currently studying in the US under the sponsorship of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through iAGRI as part of the Feed the Future (FtF) program. iAGRI is a partnership of Tanzanian institutions and the Ohio State University Consortium which consists of six US universities. iAGRI is focused on two key stakeholder organizations in Tanzania which are Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Co-operatives (MAFC).

Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the Assignment

1. Participate in a short workshop on the SUA campus on capacity building in supervision of post-graduate students.
2. Provide input in shaping the candidate's research proposal.
3. To liaise with the US Supervisor, Professor_____ at _____ University by frequently exchanging notes related to the shaping of the candidate's research proposal and by working with the US Supervisor when the latter visits Tanzania.
4. Technically guide and assist the student during his/her field research in Tanzania by observing the following:
   a. The student operates based on the agreed-upon research proposal.
   b. Facilitate the student in getting access to the needed facilities (such as laboratories), equipment, tools of analysis and field visits. You will be entitled to compensation for supervisory field visits up to a maximum of 5 days, for which iAGRI will pay your Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA).
   c. Assist the student with any technical difficulties he/she might face regarding methodology and analysis while in Tanzania.
   d. Review and comment on written documents prepared by the student during the duration of this agreement and share your views with the US supervisor

5. Assist the student in the event that he/she requires counseling or direct him/her to the relevant authorities.
6. Participate in the preparation of the student thesis or dissertation defense and attend the examination.

Duration

The period of assignment is 1st June 2012 to 30th August 2013 (or until student submits thesis).

Equipment and Resources

The following facilities can be accessed by the supervisor at the iAGRI building on the Sokoine University of Agriculture main campus: telephone, computer, and videoconference facilities. will be made available to you at the iAGRI building on the Sokoine University of Agriculture campus.

Compensation

An initial sum of $200 will be paid to you following your participation in the workshop mentioned in item #1 under Terms of Reference. A lump sum "responsibility honorarium" will be paid to you at the end of your service when the student submits the thesis at the rate of USD 2,090. Thus, total compensation will be $2,290.

Signed,

iAGRI Project Director	**Tanzania Local Supervisor**
Name: David Kraybill	Name: _____
Signature: _____	Signature: _____
Date: _____	Date: _____

Proposal for iAGRI/Feed the Future to Provide Bachelors Scholarship in Agriculture and Nutrition for Student Trainees from Zanzibar

November 9, 2012

This document proposes a small but important change in Cooperative Agreement 621-A-0-110-0009-00an between USAID and prime contractor, The Ohio State University. The title of the proposal and the cooperative agreement is "Collaborative Research and Capacity Building of Sokoine University of Agriculture and the National Agricultural Research System." Following the awarding of the project, the project title was changed to "Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative," for which the adopted acronym is iAGRI. The project commencement date was March 1, 2011; the termination date is February 28, 2016.

The overall focus of iAGRI is capacity building of Tanzania's agricultural knowledge system. A key objective of the project is to help train the country's next generation of agricultural scientists, teachers, and managers. The project proposal and the Cooperative Agreement specify that iAGRI will provide graduate-level scholarships to 120 Tanzanians, 100 Master and 20 PhD trainees, during the five-year project.

In FY 2011, iAGRI issued the first Call for Applications for degree training. The Call was circulated in the mainland and Zanzibar. While many qualified applicants from the mainland applied, only one applicant from Zanzibar was deemed qualified by the IAGRI Trainee Selection Committee. From the pool of applicants, the project selected and sent six Master students for study in the United States in 2011. Five of these were from the mainland and one was from Zanzibar. In FY 2012, the project issued a second Call for Applications. A total of 342 applications were received. Of these, 332 were from the mainland; 10 were from Zanzibar. In general, the Zanzibar applicants had relatively weak academic records. Based on the applicants' qualifications, the Trainee Selection Committee chose only one Zanzibar applicant as a semifinalist. This candidate, however, was ultimately dropped after taking the GRE and TOEFL examinations and receiving very low scores – too low for admission at virtually any American university.

Our conclusion after two calls for applications for graduate training is that there are very few qualified persons from Zanzibar in the "pipeline." Dr. Juma Akil, a member of the iAGRI Trainee Selection Committee and Director of Planning in the Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is a proponent of this conclusion. During the recruitment and selection process as the dearth of well-qualified Zanzibar candidates became increasingly clear, Dr. Akil urged the Project Management Unit of iAGRI to consider offering bachelor scholarships in agriculture for Zanzibar applicants. At Dr. Akil's suggestion, Isaac Minde and David Kraybill of iAGRI undertook a fact-finding mission to Zanzibar in April and met officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (including the Permanent

Secretary and the Director of Training), Kizambani Agricultural Research Institute, Kizambani Agricultural Training Institute, and the islands' two universities (the State University of Zanzibar and Zanzibar University). The Permanent Secretary informed us that bachelors-level training in agriculture is the top priority need identified by the Ministry, and he made a plea for iAGRI to provide bachelor scholarships. Our visit to the Kizimbani institutes and to the two universities confirmed the need for bachelors-level training and the lack of university graduates qualified for graduate-level studies in agriculture.

Based on the request of the Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the analysis of the iAGRI Project Management Unit, Ohio State University as the prime contractor requests USAID Tanzania to allow the project to convert one Master scholarship into 10 bachelors-level scholarships for applicants from Zanzibar to begin study at Sokoine University of Agriculture in 2012. Based on information obtained from Sokoine University and the calculations of the Project Management Unit, the cost of training a bachelors-level student from matriculation to graduation is 14,700,000 shillings (just under $10,000). These figures are based on current tuition, fees, and cost-of-living. In contrast, in 2012, the iAGRI Management Entity at Ohio State University estimates that the cost of training a Masters level student in the United States is $107,000 from matriculation to graduation. We, therefore, propose to convert one U.S. Masters scholarship into 10 bachelor scholarships for Zanzibar students.

Send off for Agriculture Study

July 23, 2012 1:00 P.M.

1:00 – 1:15 p.m.	**Registration and Introduction**
	Mapping U.S. University Destinations
	Kevin McCown, Feed the Future Team Member
1:15-1:20 p.m.	**Welcome**
	Dave Kraybill, Chief of Party Innovative Agriculture Research Initiative
1:20-1:30 p.m.	Video Presentation
1:30-1:40 p.m.	**Mission Director Remarks**
	Rob Cunnane, USAID/Tanzania Mission Director
1:40-1:50 p.m.	**Alumni Speaker**
	Professor Susan Nchimbi-Msola
1:50 – 2:00	Video Presentation
2:00-2:10 p.m.	**Vice Chancellor of Sokoine University of Agriculture**
	Professor Gerald Monela
2:10-2:30 p.m.	**Keynote Speech**
	Minister of Agriculture, Eng. Christopher Chiza
2:30-3:00 p.m.	**Break and Group Photograph**
	(end of public ceremony, only students studying in the US will remain after the break)
3:00-3:15 p.m.	**Consular Issues**

	Visa application; SEVIS number requirement; visa validity and expiration; staying in the U.S.; security and safety
	U.S. Consular Office - Leah Pillsbury
3:15-3:45 p.m.	**Life as a student in the U.S. Panel**
	What to bring to the U.S.; Tips for international students; Graduate Student Tips; Cultural adaptation Understanding Americans: Ethnicity, race, gender, being self-reliant by the age of 18
	Megan Johnson, Charles Weems, Maria Davydenko, Sabrina Smiley
3:45 – 4:15 p.m.	**Scholarship Program Details**
	Working with US advisor for academic progress; communication with US advisor and Tanzanian advisor for research planning; research supported by Feed the Future
	iAGRI Staff, David Kraybill and Emmanuel Rwambali
4:15 p.m.	**End of program**

iAGRI Student Placements in the U.S. - 2012

NAME	GENDER	DEGREE	U.S. INSTITUTION	AREA OF STUDY
Elizabeth Isaya	F	MSc	Ohio State University	Agricultural Education
Edith Lazaro	F	MSc	Ohio State University	Agricultural Economics
Boniface Massawe	M	PhD	Ohio State University	Natural Resources
Emmanuel Mgonja	M	PhD	Ohio State University	Plant Pathology
Nafeti Mheni	F	MSc	Ohio State University	Horticulture/Crops
Rita Mirondo	F	PhD	Ohio State University	Food Science
Gosbert Shausi	M	PhD	Ohio State University	Agricultural Education
Alunas Mwamakimbi	F	MSc	Iowa State University	Agricultural Extension
Kabura Philip	M	MSc	Iowa State University	Agricultural Extension
Rashid Suleiman	M	PhD	Iowa State University	Food Science
Theresia Jumbe	F	PhD	Michigan State Univ.	Human Nutrition
Eva Kassara	F	PhD	Michigan State Univ.	Agribusiness
Glory Mhalu	F	M.Sc	Michigan State Univ.	Human Nutrition
Juma Mmongoyo	M	PhD	Michigan State Univ.	Agricultural Chemistry
Deogracious Massawe	M	PhD	Tuskegee University	Plant Biotechnology
Fabian Mihafu	M	MSc	Tuskegee University	Pos-Harvest Processing
Ibrahim Shabani	M	MSc	Tuskegee University	Food Science
Mawazo Shitindi	M	PhD	Tuskegee University	Food Science
Neema Shosho	F	MSc	Tuskegee University	Human Nutrition
Kadeghe Fue	M	MSc	University of Florida	Agricultural Engineering
Newton Kilasi	M	PhD	University of Florida	Plant Physiology
Robert Komba	M	MSc	University of Florida	Rural Development
Ramadhani Majubwa	M	PhD	University of Florida	Horticulture
Mariam Marianda	F	PhD	University of Florida	Agricultural Economics
Bertha Nguku	F	PhD	University of Florida	Plant Breeding
Mathew Shimwela	M	PhD	Virginia Tech	Plant Pathology
William Warsanga	M	PhD	Virginia Tech	Agricultural Economics
Winfred Mbungu	F	PhD	Virginia Tech	Biological Statistics
Emmanuel Msemo	M	MSc	Virginia Tech	Agricultural Statistics
MwamendeKuruthumu	F	PhD	Virgina Tech	Animal Behavior

LIST OF STUDENT PLACEMENTS SOKOINE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE - 2012

NAME	AGE	SEX	Degree	PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAM
Yasinta Nzogela	31	F	PhD	Entomology
Secilla Mrosso	32	F	MSc	Ag Education & Extension
Mirlam Chanzi	26	F	MSc	Agricultural Economics
Chacha Nyangi	35	M	MSc	Food Science
Werenfrid Michael	26	M	MSc	Land Use Planning & Management
Consesa Richard	28	F	MSc	Rural Development
Christopher Msongor	25	M	MSc	Agribusiness
Abhallah Mussa	33	M	MSc	Entomology
Ntirankiza Misibo	34	M	MSc	Agricultural Economics

LIST OF AGRI STUDENT PLACEMENTS BY RUFORUM - 2012

NAME	AGE	SEX	Degree	PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAM
Hilda Sanga	31	F	PhD	Soil Science
Charles Levi	31	M	MSc	Agricultural Extension
Nyamonge Kenya	34	M	MSc	Rural Development
Mohamed Ramadha	29	M	MSc	Agricultural Extension
Issa Kapande	29	M	MSc	Agribusiness
Athuman Mahinda	27	M	MSc	Soil Science
Zaharan Hussein	29	M	MSc	Nutrition
Mwahija Almasi	28	F	MSc	Agronomy
Eliafie Mwanga	29	M	MSc	Agricultural Engineering
Marco Mwendo	38	M	MSc	Crop Science

Call for Masters Degree Training Applications

This is the third annual request for applications issued by the Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), an agricultural capacity-building project supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under its Feed the Future program.

Project Description: The main purpose is to strengthen training and research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives (MAFC), and the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Zanzibar (MANR).

Degree Training Program Description: This announcement is for Masters degree scholarship opportunities for study in the United States, Africa, or Asia. Studies will begin in August or September, 2013. This call is open to persons who currently hold a staff position at SUA, MAFC, MANR or agriculture departments of local governments, and are interested in pursuing the Masters degree in agricultural sciences (Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, Food Science, Nutrition, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Education and Extension, Horticulture, Crop Science, Plant Protection, Soil Science and other disciplines related to agriculture and nutrition). Thirty Masters degree trainees, are being recruited at this time. Trainees will spend the first year of the program at the university taking courses; all will return to Tanzania for a second (final) year to complete their degree-related research.

Guidelines for Application: Candidates are required to submit (a) completed application form downloadable from the Internet at http://www.iagri.org/apply; (b) Letter of Intent that specifies the applicant's proposed field of study, potential research interests, and how a Masters degree would contribute to personal career goals of the applicant and to the socio-economic development of Tanzania; (c) up-to-date curriculum vitae; (d) copy of all university transcripts and degree certificates; and (e) copy of passport (if the applicant does not have a passport, then other official ID is acceptable). In addition, three letters of recommendation and a letter of release for further studies are required (see instructions below). Women are especially encouraged to apply. It is anticipated that at least 50% of finalists will be women.

Criteria for Student Selection: The Trainee Selection Committee will review applications and select candidates based on the following criteria:

1. Nationality and residence: Tanzanian national residing currently in Tanzania;
2. Employment: current staff member at SUA, MAFC, MANR, or agriculture departments of local government authorities;
3. Academic preparation: Bachelors degree holder with first or upper second class pass;

4. English competency: strong written and spoken English language skills;
5. TOEFL and GRE examinations: it is preferred, though not required, that candidates have already taken these examinations prior to applying ; and
6. Age: less than 40 years.

Letters of Recommendation: applicant shall arrange for three letters of recommendation to be sent directly to iAGRI by the writers (not by applicant). One shall be written by applicant's head of department or immediate supervisor, and two shall be written by university former lecturers/professors of applicant. Instructions concerning letters of recommendation should be downloaded (www.iagri.org/apply) by applicant and given in hard or soft copy to writers of letters.

Employer Letter of Release for Studies: applicant shall request his/her employer to write a letter of release for studies. Instructions concerning the letter of release for studies should be downloaded (www.iagri.org/apply) by applicant and given in hard or soft copy to the employer.

Submission: application deadline is **31st October 2012**. The applicant may submit the application package (completed application form, Letter of Intent, curriculum vitae, copy of university transcripts, copy of degree certificates, and copy of passport or other ID) either electronically or as hard copy. If application package is sent electronically, put all applicant-provided documents (but not letter of recommendation or letter of release for studies) in a ZIP file with the applicant's surname as file name and send as an email attachment to admin@iagri.org. If sent as hard copy, address to Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI), Attention: Training Officer, P.O. Box 3114, Chuo Kikuu, Morogoro, Tanzania.

Contact Information: Queries may be made via email (admin@iagri.org) or telephone (0232600743 or 0763267934).

INCEPTION AND PRIORITY SETTING WORKSHOP FOR

THE INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INITIATIVE (iAGRI)

17-18 October 2011

The Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) started in earnest in June 2011 although the official date goes back to March 2011. iAGRI aims to strengthen the training and collaborative research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Tanzania National Agricultural Research System (NARS). The objectives of iAGRI are to: i) Establish a program of collaborative agriculture research with SUA and NARS; ii) Provide advanced degree training in agriculture for 120 Tanzanian graduate students; iii) Strengthen capacity of SUA to develop and implement instructional, internship, and outreach programs; and iv) Promote cooperation between SUA, U.S. universities, and Global South universities.

A workshop is planned for 17-18 October 2011 at Hilux Hotel in Morogoro with the following main objectives: i) Explain the key objectives, activities and expected outputs and outcomes of the Project to key stakeholders; and ii) Prioritize activities for the Project based on the needs expressed by the stakeholders.

One of the startup activities of iAGRI is a Needs Assessment activity. This started in July and ended in September 2011. The purpose of the Needs Assessment is to elicit needs in: i) Long-term training, and ii) Collaborative research at both Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) within the Faculty of Agriculture and Tanzanian Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security & Cooperatives (MAFC), and iii) Institutional capacity building for SUA.

The workshop will provide an opportunity to present the findings of the Needs Assessment study and to allow discussion of the findings by key stakeholders in the MAFC, SUA and the private sector. At the same forum, stakeholders will discuss and agree on what the **priorities** should be in the areas of training, collaborative research (for MAFC and SUA), and institutional capacity strengthening for SUA.

I am therefore cordially inviting you to attend this workshop. The Project will cover costs associated with the cost of your participation in the workshop. I would be grateful if they could confirm their intention to participate in the workshop by 6 October 2011 so that relevant material for the workshop, including the agenda, can be sent to you.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. David Kraybill

Project Director, iAGRI

EIGHT RESEARCH THEMES – TEAM MEMBERS

	THEMATIC RESEARCH TOPIC	SUA MEMBER	MAFC/TMA/TFNC MEMBER	OSUC MEMBER (Candidates)	MANAGEMENT TEAM CONTACT
1	Crop improvement	Dr Ashura Luzi Kihupi 0784 328495 aluzikih@yahoo.com	Dr Sophia Kashenge Killenga, Katrin Agricultural Research Institute, Ifakara 0716930054 sophykashenge@yahoo.com	Conrad Bonsi Tuskegee University cobonsi@mytu.tuskegee.edu	Amon Matee
2	Value chain management (value addition, postharvest management, bulking and packaging and marketing)	Dr Anna Temu 0755534436 aatemu2002@yahoo.co.uk	Revelian Ngaiza MAFC, Dar es Salaam rngaiza@hki.org	Jerzy Nowak Virginia Tech jenowak@vt.edu	Isaac Minde
3	Climate change and food security	Prof Salim Maliondo 0757996979 smaliondo@yahoo.co.uk	Dr Emmanuel Mpeta Tanzania Meteorological Agency	Dr Jennifer Olson Michigan State University olsonjj@msu.edu	David Kraybill
4	Gender and agricultural productivity	Prof Joyce Lyimo-Macha 0754368877 Joylimac2@yahoo.com	**Ms Theresia Msacky**	**Eunice Bonsai** **Tuskegee University** ebonsi@mytu.tuskegee.edu	**Amon Matee**
5	Water resources management	Prof Henry Mahoo 0784300045 mahoohenry@yahoo.com	Lait Simkanga lsimukanga@gmail.com	Larry Brown Ohio State University brown.59@osu.edu	David Kraybill
6	Agricultural policy analysis	Prof Aida Isinika 0754470807 aidaisinika@yahoo.co.uk	Mr Gungu Mohamed Mibavu	John van Sickle University of Florida sickle@ufl.edu	Isaac Minde
7	Extension systems	Prof Raphael Wambura 0713274533 masandawambura@yahoo.com	Ms Kissa Kajigili 0754362340	David Acker Iowa State University dacker@iastate.edu	Amon Matee
8	Nutrition	Prof John Msuya 0754386746 J_msuya@yahoo.com	Dr Jocelyne Kaganda TFNC	Maurice Bennick Michigan State University mbennink@msu.edu	David Kraybill

iAGRI Competitive Grants Program to Foster Research Collaboration among SUA, MAFC, and OSUC Institutions

I. Preamble:

The Ohio State University Consortium (OSUC) has been participating for some time now in the collaborative research activity of iAGRI. The latest involvement was co-authorship of the thematic background papers and their subsequent presentation at the Collaborative Research Workshop in Morogoro on August 3, 2012. The main purpose of these papers was to build on the outcome of the Priority Setting Workshop of October 17-18, 2011 to identify in more detail thematic research knowledge gaps. Based on the strategic direction and work plan of iAGRI, the next stage is to develop a call for concept notes which will direct potential respondents to these background papers so that they can be aware of where to focus as they respond to the call in the respective thematic areas.

The background papers that were presented are in the process of being edited. However, they can be used in their current form for the purpose of understanding thematic knowledge gaps without much loss.

II. How OSUC, SUA and MAF Will Participate in Responding to the Call for Concept Notes

1. Send the eight background papers to USUC institutional contact persons to share with interested staff members but especially those who have had links/contacts with iAGRI or Tanzania. Encourage them to read these papers with a view to preparing for a short, informational video conference via Skype in the third week of September.
2. Through OSUC institutional contact persons, ask interested OSUC researchers to participate in the video conference. In particular, the following should be urged to join the meeting:

    - Student advisors for iAGRI-sponsored trainees in the 2011-12 and 2012-13 cohorts;
    - Institutional contact persons: Mark Erbaugh (OSU), Eric Crawford (MSU), Keith Moore (VT), Walter Bowen (UFL), Conrad Bonsi (TU), David Acker (Iowa State);
    - Co-authors of the eight research background papers.

3. At the meeting we propose that the following be discussed:

    - Preparation of each concept note to be submitted should be managed by two co-leaders: one from Tanzania and one from OSUC. This means that if someone from OSUC is thinking of developing a concept note, he/she will look for a Tanzanian counterpart. The same will be true for someone from Tanzania intending to develop a concept note.
    - The iAGRI PMU will assist those who would like to be linked to either side for the purpose of identifying a co-leader. Some co-leaders, based on previous engagements with each other may work out this on their own.

- Five or six concept notes will be selected to be developed into full proposals in the first year (2012-13).
- Funding per proposal will be a maximum of $100,000; of this amount, up to $30,000 can be used for building and strengthening partnerships—enabling for example, OSUC co-leader to visit Tanzania and work with the team or for Tanzanian co-leaders to travel to one or more OSUC institutions and work with a team there. The other way around could also be possible.
- The materials in the subsequent sections below provide additional details. At an appropriate time, these materials will be posted on the web so that those intending to respond to the call can read them.

III. Call for Concept Notes for iAGRI Competitive Research Grants (Draft)

Background:

The Innovative Agricultural Research Initiative (iAGRI) is a project implemented within the framework of the US Government's Feed the Future (FtF) Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative (GHFSI). Its key objectives are to increase market-led growth across the food production and market value chains; prevent and treat under-malnutrition; and increase the impact of humanitarian food assistance and social safety nets. To achieve these objectives the GHFSI will support research focusing on three thematic areas namely to Advance the productivity frontier; Transform key production systems; and Enhance nutritional and food safety. Cross-cutting issues of Gender, Climate, and Environment will also be focused.

iAGRI is among the projects of FTF. The purpose of iAGRI is to strengthen training and collaborative research capacities of Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and the Tanzanian National Agricultural Research System (NARS). The goal is to improve food security and agricultural productivity in Tanzania. The project purpose is aligned with the themes and road map of the USAID Feed the Future (FtF) initiative and the Government of Tanzania (GoT) Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program Compact and Agricultural Sector Development Program (ASDP).

Objectives of iAGRI:

i) Degree training for 120 MSc and PhD students in agricultural sciences, about half of them being trained in the U.S. The goal of iAGRI's degree training component is to boost the research, teaching, and outreach performance of SUA and the research performance of NARS.

ii) Collaborative research: the primary goal of the collaborative research component is to build capacity for multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional knowledge generation and dissemination. Greater collaborative research capacity will help to advance Tanzania towards achievement of the Feed the Future (FtF) and Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) by increasing agricultural productivity sustainably and reducing malnutrition. A second goal of the collaborative research component is to conduct research on specific themes needs that address cross-cutting development themes.

iii) Capacity strengthening: strengthen the capacity of SUA to develop and implement instructional, internship, and outreach programs.

iv) Foster linkages between SUA and the OSUC universities and promote cooperation between SUA, U.S. universities, and Global South universities.

Partnership Arrangement*:* iAGRI is a partnership of Tanzanian institutions and The Ohio State University Consortium (OSUC), a group of six U.S. land grant universities, including The Ohio State University (OSU) as lead institution, Michigan State University (MSU), Virginia Tech (VT), University of Florida (UF), Tuskegee University (TU), and Iowa State University (ISU). The OSUC partners have many years of experience in human and institutional capacity development in agriculture in Africa, including a history of collaboration with SUA and NARS institutions in Tanzania. Other U.S. land-grant institutions and Global South institutions, such as Punjab Agricultural University (India) and EARTH University (Costa Rica), will provide training and technical assistance inputs.

Approach : iAGRI draws upon successful development approaches to agricultural and nutrition-related research, extension, and education, building on the experience of the OSUC institutions with the U.S. land grant model. These approaches reduce training and technical assistance costs, increase program relevance to development needs, and engage stakeholders, including the private sector, NGOs, and civil society representatives. The project is responsive to Government of Tanzania and donor priorities.

Collaborative Research Themes: The Needs Assessment study carried out from July to August 2011 identified research gaps in key agriculture–related areas. In a follow-up Priority Setting Workshop held in October 2011, key stakeholders SUA, MAFC and the private sector developed a set of eight broad research priorities, namely, *crop improvement; value chain management (value addition, postharvest management, bulking and packaging and marketing); climate change; gender and agricultural productivity; water resources management; policy analysis (focusing on agriculture-related policies); extension systems; nutrition and food science.*

In March 2012, iAGRI commissioned the writing of Research Background Papers to fine-tune the priority areas that were identified in the Priority Setting workshop, use the information obtained to guide the scope and content of the Competitive Research Grants program that will follow, and provide guidance to iAGRI-sponsored MSc and PhD students and their advisors in the choice of thesis and dissertation topics.

iAGRI then held a Collaborative Research Stakeholder workshop in Morogoro on August 3, 2012 for researchers from both Tanzania and OSUC. The purpose of the workshop was for team leaders of the Research Background Papers to present key findings and for presenters and the audience to share, discuss, and recommend improvements in the papers. The eight Research Background Papers are available in next-to-last-draft form at https://sites.google.com/a/iagri.org/publications/.

What is a Concept Note?

A concept note expresses ideas for a project that the prospective researcher is willing and able to develop and implement. For this call, iAGRI is inviting concepts that address iAGRI purpose and objectives under the themes represented by the Research Background Papers. All concept notes and subsequent proposals should indicate clearly how the outputs and outcomes directly contribute to food security and nutrition.

Criteria for Evaluation of Concept Notes

(a) Relevance to iAGRI purpose and objectives;
(b) Evidence of efficacy and validation from previous research;
(c) Evidence for potential poverty reducing impacts;
(e) Evidence of food security enhancing effects on target communities;
(f) Evidence of potential impact on gender equity and inclusiveness;
(g) Evidence of demand and support from a substantial number of value chain actors and stakeholders;
(h) Clear plan to ensure value chain market linkages and sustainability.

Concept notes will be evaluated in two stages. Only those concept notes that clearly meet the eligibility criteria will be evaluated further. The review of concept notes will be carried out by a panel of independent, Tanzanian and international experts in relevant themes.

The review will address **four** broad areas covering:

1) Potential of the proposed project's output to contribute to purpose and objectives of Feed the Future and iAGRI in particular;

2) More specifically, concept notes will include:
   i) Plan to engage various value chain actors and stakeholders such as policy makers, private sector, NGOs, poor men and women, children and other vulnerable groups and explanation of how they will be involved;
   ii) Team members experience and competency relevant to the purpose and objectives of iAGRI;
   iii) Proposed methods and evaluation of whether they are robust enough to produce project's intended outcomes;
   iv) Anticipated outcomes and evaluation of whether they will have desired impact on poverty reduction and improved livelihood for the poor;

3) Technical quality and likelihood of success. This criterion will include the following:
   i) The team composition, qualifications, and track record;
   ii) Evidence of appropriate partnerships including involvement of researchers from Tanzanian ministries and the OSUC institutions;
   iii) Appropriate degree of multi-disciplinarity of the team and the proposed research approach;
   iv) Clear indication of synergy of roles within the team;

v) Overall technical quality of the concept note
   - Clear and logical presentation;
   - Concise and convincing rationale, drawing on existing knowledge and experiences;
   - Appropriate program calendar of work.

vi) Proposed project methodology tool
   - Use of sound concepts and tools;
   - Proposed methods are reasonable given the objectives, team composition, anticipated collaboration, and indicative budget;
   - Sensitivity to gender and other social dimensions of vulnerability to a variety of social, economic and climate change impacts.

4) Dissemination and up-scaling. This criterion will include:
   i) Partnerships and linkages of the project and its team indicate potential to disseminate results widely to partners within the project's area and beyond;
   ii) Good strategy and plan for disseminating outputs and outcomes;
   iii) Good strategy and plan for communicating projects output and outcomes to District, Regional, Zonal and/or National Stakeholders.

iAGRI COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

PROGRAMME

3 August 2012

VENUE: NASHERA HOTEL, MOROGORO, TANZANIA

TIME	EVENT
0800-0830	Registration
0830-0930	**SESSION I: Workshop Opening : Chairperson: Bendantunguka Tiisekwa, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture** *Welcome Note*: David Kraybill, Project Director, iAGRI *Opening Remarks:* i) David Nyange, Deputy Team Leader, Feed the Future, USAID, Tanzania. ii) Gerald Monela, Vice Chancellor, Sokoine University of Agriculture. *Opening Speech:* Mohamed Muya, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives
0930-1030	**SESSION II: iAGRI BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND PROGRESS: Chairperson: Geoffrey Kirenga, Director, Crop Development**
	i) Background on iAGRI, Objectives and Progress To Date: David Kraybill, Project Director, iAGRI *Discussion* *ii) iAGRI Collaborative Research Strategy: From Priority Setting to Research Background Papers to Competitive Research Grants:* Isaac Minde, Deputy Project Director, iAGRI *Discussion*
1030-1100	Coffee-Tea Break
1100-1130	Introduction to Parallel Sessions: Amon Mattee, Department of Agricultural Education and Extension • Objectives • Organization • Expected outputs

TIME	EVENT
1130-1230	**SESSION III: PARALLEL SESSIONS: Chairperson: Fidelis Myaka, Director, Research and Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Food security and Cooperatives**
	PARALLEL SESSION A: AGRICULTURAL POLICY RESEARCH AND VALUE CHAIN MANAGEMENT • Agricultural Policy Analysis Research in Tanzania. Aida Isinika, Department of Agricultural Education and Extension, SUA Gungu Mibavu, Ministry of Agric Food Security and Cooperatives John van Sickle, University of Florida • Value Chain Management Research in Tanzania. Anna Temu, Department of Agricultural Economics and Agri-business, SUA Donald Larson, Ohio State University Revelian Ngaiza, Ministry of Agric Food Security and Cooperatives
	PARALLEL SESSION B: CLIMATE CHANGE, SOIL AND WATER, AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY • Soil and Water Management Research in Tanzania. Henry Mahoo, Department of Agricultural Engineering and Land Planning, SUA Lait Simukanga, Ministry of Agric Food Security and Cooperatives Larry Brown, Ohio State University • Climate Change and Food Security Research in Tanzania Salim Maliondo, Department of Forest Biology, SUA Emmanuel Mpeta, Tanzania Metereological Authority Jennifer Olson, Michigan State University • Crop Improvement Research in Tanzania Ashura Luzi-Kihupi, Department of Crop Science and Production, SUA Sophia Kashenge, Ministry of Agric Food Security and Cooperatives Conrad Bonsi, Tuskeege University, USA
	PARALLEL SESSION C: GENDER, FOOD AND NUTRITION, AND AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION • Gender and Agricultural Productivity Research in Tanzania Joyce Lyimo-Macha, Director, Institute of Continuing Education, SUA Eunice Bonsi,Tuskeege University, USA Theresia Msacky, Ministry of Agric Food Security and Cooperatives • Extension Systems Research in Tanzania. Raphael Wambura, Department of Agricultural Education and Extension, SUA David Acker, Iowa State University Kissa Kajigili, Ministry of Agric Food Security and Cooperatives • Nutrition and Food Science Research in Tanzania. John Msuya, Department of Food Science and Technology, SUA Jocelyn Kaganda, Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre

	Maurice Bennick, Michigan State University
1230-13:30	LUNCH BREAK
13:30-1500	SESSION III Cont'd
	SESSION IV: CLOSING
1500-1700	• Summary of Key Issues from the Presentations Emmanuel Rwambali, Carolyne Nombo and Flavianus Magayane, iAGRI, SUA • Next Steps David Kraybill, iAGRI Project Director • Closing Remarks: Gerald Monela, Vice Chancellor, SUA

A Brief on the iAGRI Collaborative Research Stakeholders' Workshop

3 August 2012

Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania

Background: This proposed workshop originates from one of the four objectives of iAGRI, namely "collaborative research" which is intended to conduct multi-disciplinary and inter-institutional research on demand driven priority areas as judged by key stakeholders of the project. The Needs Assessment study carried out from July to August 2011 identified research gaps in key agriculture–related areas. In a follow-up Priority Setting Workshop held in October 2011, key stakeholders (SUA-Sokoine University of Agriculture, MAFC-Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives and private sector) developed a set of eight broad research priorities, namely, *crop improvement; value chain management (value addition, postharvest management, bulking and packaging and marketing); climate change; gender and agricultural productivity; water resources management; policy analysis (focusing on agriculture-related policies); extension systems; nutrition and food science.*

In March 2012, iAGRI commissioned the writing of Research Background Papers to: fine-tune the priority areas that were identified in the Priority Setting workshop; use the information obtained to guide the scope and content of the Competitive Research Grants program that will follow; provide guidance to iAGRI-sponsored MSc and PhD students and their advisors in the choice of thesis and dissertation topics. iAGRI believes that it is critical that research by iAGRI graduate students be relevant and demand driven. These papers are expected to clearly exhibit these three criteria.

Objectives of the 3 August workshop:

i) Team leaders of the Research Background Papers will present the teams' key findings to facilitate sharing, discussing and recommending possible improvements in the papers;

ii) Discuss competitive grant modalities—regulations, timing and ways to make the execution of the studies effective, efficient and relevant;

iii) Discuss a draft of the Call for Concept Notes and provide further improvements.

Workshop Participants: The workshop is envisaged to have 65 participants:

Members of the Research Background Paper Teams researchers from SUA, MAFC and OSUC universities (24); Deans and Directors at SUA (10); Directors from MAFC (8); private sector (10); PhD graduate students at SUA (5); and iAGRI staff (8).

Venue and Time: The workshop will be held at Sokoine University of Agriculture main campus, Institute of Continuing Education Building on 3 August 2012.

Duration: The workshop will last for one day. There will be some opening remarks from the USAID Mission Feed the Future and by the Vice Chancellor, Sokoine University of Agriculture. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives will open the workshop. Each of the eight thematic background paper team's leader will make a 30- minute presentation, followed by 30 minutes of questions, comments, remarks and observations. There will be break out groups that will be given the responsibility of identifying key missing elements in the various themes.

Workshop Agenda: This will be developed and sent to participants on or before 29 June 2012.

Workshop

Agricultural Intensification to Address Climate Change and Advance Food Security in Africa

Sokoine University of Agriculture

Morogoro, Tanzania

May 6-10, 2013

I. Justification:

The so-called "Century Drought" experienced by the U.S. this year , and the persistent issue of food deficits in several regions of Sub-Saharan Africa are strong reminders of the significant challenges faced in feeding the world, especially in the context of global warming and other uncertain climatic conditions. Economic progress in some Sub-Saharan nations, such as Rwanda and Ghana, is very encouraging and a cause for optimism. Yet, agriculture in this region continues to lag in growth, and agronomic yields have stagnated since the 1960's. Transforming low yields of resource -poor farmers requires appropriate innovations, supported by congenial technological and policy interventions which are directed to site specific conditions at local, national and regional scales. Widespread adoption of such innovations is necessary in order to enhance the response of soils and cropping/farming systems to climate changes and to ensure that existing agro-ecosystems feed growing populations under increasingly uncertain and harsh climatic conditions.

This proposed workshop to be organized at Sokoine University of Agriculture ,in cooperation with the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (Aas, Norway) and the Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio, USA), will address the complex issue of how to intensify agriculture in ways that permit appropriate adaptation to climate change and advancement of food security in Sub-Saharan Africa.

II. Workshop Objectives:

1. To assess and synthesize the state of agronomic productivity in Sub-Saharan African under changing climate and degrading and desertifying soils;
2. To assess the terrestrial carbon (C) pool (trees, soils) in managed and natural eco-systems for different eco-regions of Africa;
3. To evaluate the impact of land use, land use conversion and management systems, such as agro-forestry and no-till farming, on terrestrial C pool and on agronomic productivity and production system sustainability;
4. To establish the relationship between terrestrial C pool and ecosystems services, such as soil C pool and agronomic productivity;
5. To identify human dimensions of terrestrial C management in relation to economic, cultural and policy factors affecting it;
6. To identify ways to assess and trade C credits related to its sequestrations in soils, trees, wetlands, etc.
7. To create a network of researchers to address issues related to C management in terrestrial eco-systems ; and
8. To assemble state-of-the-knowledge on these topics in a conference proceeding publication.

III. Position Papers for Workshop

The following position papers will be commissioned. Scientists who are knowledgeable about the topics proposed will be invited to prepare state-of-the-knowledge manuscripts on the following topics:

1. Eco-regions/biomes of Africa (soil, water, climate, vegetation, etc.),
2. Land use and farming systems of Africa;
3. Innovations (biophysical, technological, and socio economic/policy) to improve agronomic production on eco-regional basis for 12 predominant eco regions of SSA.
4. Strategies to quantitatively measure climate change and its impact on agronomic production;
5. Measuring relationships between carbon sequestration and carbon dioxide reductions in the atmosphere;
6. Agricultural intensification and adaptation to climate change;
7. Nutrient and water quality limitations to carbon sequestration; and
8. Agronomic productivity and land use issues in Sub-Saharan Africa.

IV. Budget -The workshop will involve the participation of approximately 60 scientists, including 50 from Africa and 10 from the U.S., Europe, and sponsoring institutions. Estimated workshop costs are:

Travel and Maintenance		$75,000
Participants from Africa (50 @ $1000)	$50,000	
Participants from U.S. and Europe (10 @ $2,500)	25,000	
Honoraria to African paper authors (30 @ $500)		15,000
Publication of Workshop Proceedings		10,000
Total……..		**$100,000**

V. Funding Sources

- NORAD
- USAID
- OSU (Ohio State University)
- UMB (Norwegian University of Life Sciences)
-

VI. Workshop Organization

May 5	-	Arrival of participants; evening reception
May 6-7	-	Four sessions of 4 hours; 8 papers presented at each session
May 8	-	Field Tour
May 9	-	Panel discussion, rapporteur reports, conclusions, closing at 1:00 p.m.

Indicators Tracked by iAGRI

indicator Data / Disaggregation	Baseline Value	2012 Target	Achieved to date	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	LOP - Life Of Project	Units
FTF INDICATORS									
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
4.5.2-6: Number of individuals who have received USG supported long-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training	0	55	65	6	0	0	59	120	Number
Male			44	3	0	0	41		
Female			21	3	0	0	18		
Disaggregates Not Available									
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
4.5.2-7: Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training	0	100	52	0	11	0	41	450	Number
Male			29	0	6	0	23		
Female			23	0	5	0	18		
Disaggregates Not Available									
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.2: Enhanced Technology Development, Dissemination, Management and Innovation									
4.5.2-39: Number of technologies or management practices in one of the following phases of development:									Number
Phase I: under research as a result of USG assistance	0	3	5	0	0	0	5	23	
Phase II: under field testing as a result of USG assistance	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	17	
IR 3: Increased investment in agriculture and nutrition related activities									
4.5.2.-12: Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of FTF assistance	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	13	Number
Agricultural post harvest transformation									
Agricultural production									
Multi-focus									
Nutrition									
Other									
Disaggregates Not Available									

iAGRI CUSTOM INDICATORS									
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
OSU 1.1.1.1 Number of students assessed for Graduate level English competency	0	35	43	0	43	0	0	85	Number
Male			23	0	23	0	0		
Female			20	0	20	0	0		
Disaggregates Not Available									
indicator Data / Disaggregation	Baseline Value	2012 Target	Achieved to date	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	LOP - Life Of Project	Units
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
OSU 1.1.1.2 Number of students trained for Graduate level English competency	0	13	1	0	0	0	0	30	Number
Male									
Female									
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
OSU 1.1.1.4 Number of Randomized Control Trials (RCTs) conducted by trained researchers	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	70	Number
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
OSU 1.1.1.5 Number of research projects conducted which specifically focus on gender	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	9	Number
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
OSU 1.1.1.6 Number of students making use of improved ICT in classroom instruction	0	750	0	0	0	0	0	1,750	Number
Male									
Female									
Disaggregates Not Available									
IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.1: Enhanced human and institutional capacity development for increased sustainable agriculture sector productivity									
OSU 1.1.1.9 Number of researchers trained on Randomized Control Trials (RCTs)	0	10	9	0	0	0	9	85	Number
Male			6	0	0	0	6		
Female			3	0	0	0	3		
Disaggregates Not Available									

IR 1: Improved Agricultural Productivity / Sub IR 1.2: Enhanced Technology Development, Dissemination, Management and Innovation									
OSU 1.2.1.1 Number of research projects that address issues of climate change	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	14	Number
IR 3: Increased investment in agriculture and nutrition related activities / Sub IR 3.2: Increased Capacity of Women to Participate in Agriculture and Nutrition									
OSU 1.3.2.1. Number of young female students provided with women-to-women mentorship program	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	1,250	Number
IR 3: Increased investment in agriculture and nutrition related activities / Sub IR 3.2: Increased Capacity of Women to Participate in Agriculture and Nutrition									
OSU 1.3.2.2. Number of high school girls provided with career guidance and counselling program	0	700	0	0	0	0	0	4,150	Number
IR 3: Increased investment in agriculture and nutrition related activities / Sub IR 3.2: Increased Capacity of Women to Participate in Agriculture and Nutrition									
OSU 1.3.2.4.Percentage change in the female secondary school students applying for admission to agriculture and science degree programs at Sokoine university	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	% change
indicator Data / Disaggregation	Baseline Value	2012 Target	Achieved to date	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	LOP - Life Of Project	Units
IR 3: Increased investment in agriculture and nutrition related activities / Sub IR 3.2: Increased Capacity of Women to Participate in Agriculture and Nutrition									
OSU 1.3.2.5. Number of actions supportive of gender mainstreaming at Sokoine University of Agriculture	0	4	4	0	0	0	4	20	Number
IR 3: Increased investment in agriculture and nutrition related activities / Sub IR 3.3: Enhanced Knowledge and External ideas through study tours									
OSU 1.3.3.1. Number of people participating in study tours as a result of FtF assistance	0	10	1	0	0	0	0	170	Number
Male									
Female									
Disaggregates Not Available									
IR 8: Improved Enabling Policy Environment for both Agriculture and Nutrition / Sub IR 8.1: Improved Capacity to Conduct Policy Research and Analysis									
OSU 1.4.1. Number of policy issues in agriculture, natural resources and environment, climate change and nutrition researched and analysed as a result of FtF assistance	0	3	4	0	0	1	2	36	Number
IR 8: Improved Enabling Policy Environment for both Agriculture and Nutrition / Sub IR 8.2: Public/Private Sector Dialogue on Policy Increased									
OSU 1.4.2.1. Number of USG-supported policy dialogue events held that are related to improving the enabling environment for agriculture and nutrition	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	15	Number