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FEED THE FUTURE AGRICULTURE POLICY SUPPORT PROJECT (APSP)

QUARTERLY REPORT (APRIL– JUNE 2015)
FISCAL YEAR 2015, QUARTER 3



July 30, 2015

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by Chemonics International Inc.



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Contract No. 641-C-14-0001

Cover Photo: Journalists from the Southern Zone of Ghana attend a second media training in agriculture reporting, communication, and advocacy held at Dodowa near Accra, June 2015.

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ACRONYMS

ACA	Advocacy Capacity Assessment
APD	MoFA's Animal Production Directorate
APPDF	Agricultural Public Private Dialogue Forum
APS	Annual Public Statement
APSP	Agriculture Policy Support Project
ASWG	Agriculture Sector Working Group
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Paperless Interviewing System
CCC	Collaborative Circle of COPs
CEPA	Center for Policy Analysis
COP	Chief of Party
CORAF/WECARD	West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DCS	MoFA's Directorate of Crop Services
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EOI	Expression of Interest
FASDEP	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy
FBO	Farmer-Based Organizations
FiF	Feed the Future
FY2 Q3	Fiscal Year 2 Quarter 3
GADS	Gender in Agriculture Development Strategy
GASIP	Ghana Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
GIRSAL	Ghana Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending
GSSP	Ghana Strategic Support Program
GCX	Ghana Commodity Exchange
GIMPA	Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration
GoG	Government of Ghana
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IFPRI	International Food Policy Institute
ISU	Iowa State University
JSR	Joint Sector Review
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MESTI	Ministry of Environment Science Technology and Innovations
METASIP	Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MoFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
MoTI	Ministry of Trade and Industries
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAFCO	National Buffer Stock Company
NSA	Non-State Actor
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment
PEF	Private Enterprise Federation
PPRSD	MoFA's Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate
Re-SAKSS	Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
RFA	Request for Applications
RFP	Request for Proposals
SADA	Savannah Accelerated Development Authority
SAKSS	Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
SRID	MoFA's Statistics Research and Information Directorate
TO	Task Order
TOR	Terms of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VSD	MoFA's Veterinary Services Directorate
WAFP	USAID/West Africa Fertilizer Program
WIAD	Women in Agriculture Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The USAID/Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP) is pleased to present the quarterly progress report for April through June 2015, which corresponds to the third quarter of fiscal year 2015 (FY15), or Year 2 (Y2) of the project. APSP aims to improve the food security enabling environment for private sector investment by increasing the capacity of public and private stakeholders to implement evidence-based agriculture policies, as well as perform rigorous monitoring and evaluation of agricultural programs implemented under the Ghanaian Ministry of Food and Agriculture's (MoFA) Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (METASIP).

APSP activities are focused around the project's three components:

1. Policy formation and implementation, to improve Ghana's agricultural sector policy process for evidence-based decision making related to food security;
2. Policy research, to increase rigorous policy analysis capacity for evidence-based policy making; and
3. Policy advocacy, to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of private organizations and the media to participate and amplify their voice in the public policy process.

During this reporting period, the project's main accomplishments are as follows:

- Facilitated the harmonization of the Ghana's Seeds Regulations to align with ECOWAS protocol and supported the drafting of the Animal Production and the Animal Health bills, now in the pipeline for legislative approval. Once enacted, these legislative instruments will strengthen the enabling environment for investments and production, in the seed and livestock sectors.
- Issued Requests for Applications (RFA) for grants to support high quality research, thesis dissertations and policy studies. Over 100 interested parties from public and private universities, research centers, graduate students, and CSOs attended the three pre-bid application workshops in Kumasi, Tamale, and Accra.
- Developed a training of trainers program to increase awareness of the Plant and Fertilizers Act 2010 (Act 803). The trained individuals will in turn train more stakeholders throughout the country, expanding the knowledge and awareness on the objectives of this law; namely: to manage trade and production of plants and seeds, to control and regulate fertilizers and to establish a Plant and Fertilizer Fund.
- Began the design of a Computer Assisted Paperless Interviewing System (CAPI) to increase the Statistics Research and Information Directorate (SRID)'s capacity to better collect, analyze, and disseminate agriculture data.
- Conducted a needs assessment of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (METASIP) implementing institutions to assess their capacities and develop appropriate training modules.
- Held three forums on policy advocacy and policy training in the agricultural policy process for 282 public and civil society stakeholders (187 males and 95 females) including district assembly members, district agriculture department staff, farmers, aggregators, out growers, and

representatives of CSOs. These forums enhanced district-level involvement in policy in the Jirapa, Wa West, and Sawla-Tuna-Kalba districts.

- Expanded the number of public and private stakeholders that are being trained in agriculture policy, advocacy, and value chain development, via support to six grantees This included 40 individual agriculture policy advocacy activities in the Northern, Eastern, and Volta Regions.
- Implemented a workshop with the members of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Coca Affairs to introduce APSP, discuss the status of the country's agriculture sector, and exchange views on the committee's role in the policy process. The project also conducted a needs assessment of the members of the Select Committee to identify areas for technical support and capacity building.

A. PROGRESS BY COMPONENT

This narrative for this quarterly report is organized by key results areas or KRAs (*Subheadings in bold and italics*) and by work plan activities (*Italicized text*) under each component.

During FY2 Q3, the project made substantial progress on the contractual and agreed-upon work plan activities and, further, implemented other activities not originally included in the annual work plan but that contributed to the objectives of the project.

A1. Component 1: Policy Formation and Implementation

Component 1 will improve Ghana's agricultural sector policy process for evidence-based decision making related to food security through four main pillars:

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

A1a. Progress to date per agreed-upon work plan

KRA 1.1: Improve Capacity for Policy Analysis and Evaluation by Core METASIP Implementing Institutions by Standing up the Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support Systems (SAKSS) Node/Enhance Capacity in Policy Analysis and Evaluation

Review Current Structure of SAKSS: APSP has supported MoFA in Q2 with the implementation of workshops for the development of action plans for the METASIP Steering Committee and the SAKSS Nodes. MoFA has discussed the issue of reviewing the structure of SAKSS but is yet to propose APSP a specific course of action for undertaking this process.

Conduct Needs Assessment and Train METASIP/SAKSS Members: In FY2 Q3, the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) completed a report detailing a needs assessment and gap analysis conducted on MoFA staff and METASIP/SAKSS members. Based on the assessment, GIMPA identified the training needs and will design the training modules in FY2 Q4. Training will begin before the end of calendar year 2015. The project will tender out the implementation of this training program to local organizations.

COMPONENT 1: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Embedded Policy Advisor assigned an office within MoFA premises and officially been introduced to the Minister.
- Completed needs assessment and gaps analysis report on MoFA officials and members from other METASIP implementing agencies.
- Implemented a Training of trainers' workshop for third Sensitization education campaign on Seeds and Fertilizer Act (Act 803) carried out in Tamale.
- Began developing a computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) system for agriculture data collection and analysis by SRID.
- Report on WIAD Baseline Survey on Gender and Agriculture completed.

Develop Revitalization Plan for SAKSS: Based on the actions plans developed by MoFA in FY2 Q2, during this quarter APSP worked with METASIP and SAKSS representatives to operationalize those actions plans. These action plans included the identification and design of capacity building activities and the identification of research studies as prioritized by METASIP/SAKSS. Based on these directions, MoFA is working on the development of the terms of reference for the selected topics, which APSP will commission via grants in the next two quarters.

Embed Policy Advisor at MOFA's Policy Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate (PPMED): During FY2 Q3, the embedded Policy Advisor, [REDACTED], initiated his work at the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and is seating within the Policy Planning and Budget (PPB) Directorate. CEPA's Executive Director introduced [REDACTED] to MoFA's Minister and has since been involved in finalizing a work plan for the PPB. MoFA is already utilizing the expertise of the Policy Adviser to advance its policy objectives. For example, the adviser has taken a lead role in the development of an Agriculture Investment Guide to provide comprehensive sector investment information for potential investors. Additionally, he is working to complete the Ghana Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (GIRSAL), a tool that will provide alternative agriculture financing schemes for enhancing access to credit for small farmers and agribusinesses.

Build WIAD Capacity in Gender Mainstreaming/Complete WIADs baseline for women in Agriculture: In FY2 Q3 GIMPA completed a baseline survey of "Gender and Agriculture in Ghana". The project presented and discussed the findings with WIAD and the report is now ready and will be disseminated by WIAD and APSP in FY2 Q4. The staff of WIAD will also be part of the training program to MoFA's personal to begin before end of calendar 2015.

Commission SAKSS Research: Issue is discussed at length under Component 2. However, is important to point out that APSP will issue a tender to finance the commissioning of the SAKSS research priorities once the SAKSS Nodes develop the specific Terms of Reference for these topics.

KRA 1.2: Enhance Implementation of Improved Policies, Regulations and Administrative Procedures as Outlined by Government of Ghana (GoG)-endorsed Policy Documents and Agreements between GOG, Donors, and Private Sector.

Support Implementation of 2014 JSR Policy Recommendations: Not implemented in the absence of specific demands from MoFA.

Follow up on Outstanding Agriculture Bill Livestock Sector Bills: The seven-member committee established in FY2 Q2 to redraft the Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills completed its work during FY2 Q3. The project organized a second and final validation workshop with the Veterinary Services Directorate (VSD) and Animal Production Directorate (APD) of MoFA, where participants discussed and approved the adjustments conducted by the seven-member committee. The draft bills are currently with the Minister of Food and Agriculture for technical vetting. Once approved, the Minister will send the draft legislation to the Attorney General Department for final legal revision. Finally, MoFA will submit the bills to Parliament for

enactment. The project will provide technical support to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs to support the discussions on these draft bills in order to promote its smooth passage.

Undertake a Feasibility Assessment of the Proposed Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX): The first draft of the Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX) feasibility assessment report was completed and submitted by APSP to USAID for review. Other stakeholders, including the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), DFID, and FINGAP also reviewed the report. APSP and USAID are planning a roundtable discussion for July 2015 to review the assessment's recommendations and identify next steps for eventual USAID support for improving agriculture commodity trading in Ghana.

Review National Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO): APSP circulated the terms of reference (TOR) developed last quarter for the input of interested stakeholders such as USAID and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The project expects to commission the NAFCO assessment in FY2 Q4.

Study on Agriculture Insurance: In FY2 Q3, APSP tasked ISU to conduct a research study on the feasibility of agriculture insurance in Ghana. The draft report is completed and will be finalized during FY2 Q4.

Build Capacity of Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs: APSP

held its first official meeting with the Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs in June 2015, to present the project and to explain its capacity building strategy. Sixteen out of the twenty-one committee members attended. The project administered a questionnaire to assess the needs of the committee members to support the design of interventions that will enhance their work. Based on the responses to the survey and on the recommendations from the meeting, APSP and committee representatives will develop an action plan for implementation over the course of project implementation in FY2 Q2.

Enhance Momentum of the New Alliance: Not initiated in the absence of specific demands from MoFA.

KRA 1.3: Improve Policies that Enable the Private Sector to Develop, Commercialize, and use Improved Agricultural Inputs to Increase Smallholder Productivity and Incomes.

Undertake a Sensitization Campaign on the National of Plants and Fertilizer 2010 (Act 803): In May 2015, APSP collaborated with MoFA's Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate (PPRSD) and the Directorate of Crops Services (DCS) to implement the third sensitization and education event to promote awareness and information on Act 803. To this end, APSP and the USAID West Africa Fertilizer Program (WAFP) joined forces to implement a



Participants who drafted Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills in June 2015

Training of Trainers (TOT) activity, convening a selected group of 39 public and private representatives to train them to subsequently train their colleagues. Participants were drawn from MoFA, civil society organizations, media, and security agencies from the Northern, Upper East, and Upper West regions. APSP will continue supporting this educational activity at the community level by awarding short-term grants to non-state actors (NSAs) who will implement new ToT activities. The next ToT activities are scheduled for next quarter for participants from Western and Central regions.

Train Council Members to Lead in Implementing the Act: Not initiated since APSP has not been able to meet Council members to assess needs and conduct gaps analysis. This has occurred because the GoG *has not yet operationalized the Councils*, although they were inaugurated in February 2014.

Operationalize Input Regulations and Policies: APSP continued to provide technical assistance to the Directorate of Crop Services (DCS) of MoFA to harmonize the Ministry’s seed regulations



Some of the Participants at the Tamale Training of Trainers in May 2015

with the ECOWAS protocol. The 15-member committee established in January 2015 to realign the regulations completed its work in FY2 Q3. Accordingly, APSP and DCS jointly organized a five-day workshop in May to vet the regulations. APSP, with the assistance of subcontractor Iowa State University (ISU), provided technical input for finalizing the harmonization and drafting of the regulations. The legislation has been submitted to the Attorney General’s Department for legal review. MoFA has informed the project that they expect Parliament will approve the harmonized seeds regulations by the end of calendar year 2015.

In addition, in order to improve the enabling environment for expanding investments in the seeds industry in Ghana, APSP is working with ISU to design and implement the following:

- *Inception seminar for the National Seed Council*, to provide council members a comprehensive view of the seed regulatory framework and initiate the development of their internal operational rules based on their role, responsibilities and functions as per Act 803.
- *Inception seminar of the Technical and Variety Release Committee*, to develop the operational rules by outlining the role of the Committee, its responsibilities and functions and to emphasize its importance for developing the seeds industry in Ghana.
- *Crop Varieties Licensing Workshop*, to define and develop a licensing policy and explain the language and format of licensing contracts between Ghanaian national research organizations and seed enterprises.
- *Quality Management for Testing Crop Varieties Workshop*, to develop common procedures for the evaluation and release of crop varieties based on the national and regional legal frameworks.

Support MOFAD Policy on Aquaculture Development: In collaboration with ISU, APSP finalized the TOR for the development of investment projects based on the Ghana National Aquaculture Development Plan (GNADP). An ISU expert will undertake the assignment during FY2 Q4.

Develop Comprehensive Inputs Policy Framework. Not initiated. APSP to discuss its implementation with MoFA in Q4.

Carrying out the Development of a Comprehensive Policy Assignment: As part of this process, APSP started working in the design of a “new” Policy Unit at MoFA. To this end, ISU finalized the inception report for the creation of a policy unit in MoFA. This report outlines Ghanaian stakeholders’ perception on the creation of such a unit and identifies the issues that need further discussion before the Unit is established. APSP will use the findings of the report to inform follow-on activities during FY3. The full report is attached in Annex F.

KRA 1.4: Improved Execution of METASIP Programs.

Conduct Gap Analysis: Completed by GIMPA in Q3, as explained above.

Organize Forum with METASIP SC to Develop Long-term Plan: Completed in Q2. Action plans are being developed by MoFA and will present specific support requests to APSP before the end of calendar year 2015.

Improve Agriculture Sector Data Collection and Analysis: Under this broad work plan item, APSP has made progress as follows:

- *Expand the Ghana Agriculture Production Survey (GAPS):* APSP awarded a contract in FY2 Q2 to Farmerline, a local IT company, to develop a Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) System for SRID’s Crop, Livestock, and Market Price Surveys; that is the production and marketing surveys that SRID is conducting with IFPRI/GSSP’s assistance. The objective of this intervention is to support MoFA’s efforts in improving agriculture data collection, analysis, and management, and to enhance quality and credibility of sector statistics. APSP, SRID, and Farmerline held a series of meetings to discuss and analyze the system requirements of SRID. Based on the meetings, the project agreed to support the implementation of a joint requirements planning workshop to take place in July 2015 that SRID, statistics district-level staff, and Farmerline will attend.
- *Validation and Publishing of SRID’s “Fact & Figures: Completed in Q2.*
- *Development of SRID Portal:* Not initiated. SRID has identified other priorities, such as the development of a data collection system to improve the Production and Marketing surveys.

Collaboration with Other Partner: APSP is coordinating activities with other USAID FtF partners and has identified collaborative partnerships with other development partners working to strengthen agriculture policy.

- In collaboration with Re-SAKSS and MoFA, the project participated in the selection of two local professionals who MoFA has appointed to serve as full time staff for the METASIP/SAKSS Secretariats.

- The project organized an agriculture extension policy forum in collaboration with the USAID-funded Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services (MEAS) Project to assess the implementation effectiveness of the current MoFA extension policy.
- APSP worked with the USAID-funded West Africa Fertilizer Program (WAFP) to organize a training of trainers (ToT) workshop in Tamale aimed at building the capacity of selected stakeholders to mount extensive educational campaign on Act 803 in communities in the three northern regions.
- APSP and AGRA's Micro Reforms in Agriculture (MIRA) project have agreed to collaborate in the implementation of activities where there is overlap in the projects' mission and activities. Both projects will develop a matrix of activities in FY2 Q4 to formalize the joint effort.
- APSP, the USAID/Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Technology Transfer Project (ATT), and the Business Sector Advocacy Challenge Program (BUSAC) have agreed to provide joint capacity building support to two organizations representing Ghanaian seeds producers: Seed Trade Association of Ghana and the Seeds Producers Organization of Ghana.

Additional Activities not Originally Considered in FY2's Annual Work Plan

During FY2 Q2 and Q3, APSP undertook a number of activities that were not specifically planned in FY2 Annual Work Plan but contributed to the project component goals. The activities are as listed below:

Develop Agriculture Policy Matrix: APSP developed a draft policy matrix and submitted it to MoFA for subsequent discussions with the Policy Planning and Budget Directorate and the embedded advisers. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has since joined the effort to assist in refining the policy matrix. APSP has adjusted the initial draft matrix and will finalize the document for distribution in FY2 Q4.

Agriculture Extension Policy Forum. This activity was introduced in FY2 Q3, after receiving COR concurrence. Ghana's last agriculture extension policy was developed in 2001 and has not been reviewed or updated. APSP joined forces with the Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services (MEAS) Project, implemented by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, to initiate the review of Ghana's agriculture extension policy. MEAS and APSP conducted key informant interviews and hosted a joint forum to promote policy dialogue and to conduct a stakeholder review of the existing agriculture extension policy. In FY2 Q4, APSP will work with MoFA's Directorate of Agriculture Extension Services (DAES) to examine the recommendations stemming from the forum and identify potential support.

Activation of METASIP/SAKSS Secretariat. In FY2 Q3, APSP collaborated with RE-SAKSS to complete the recruitment of a Technical Coordinator and a Research Assistant for the Secretariat. These candidates will begin working in July 2015. APSP will provide office equipment to the Secretariat and will undertake renovations at the MoFA designated office space.

Study on Soil Fertility Management. Continuing the work initiated in FY2 Q2, the team of consultants responsible for conducting the soil fertility management study sent the consortium that supported the study including APSP, WAFP, USAID/Ghana Strategic Support Program, and

the African Fertilizer Agribusiness Partnership, an initial draft report. The members of the consortium reviewed the draft and the consultants will submit their final report in FY2 Q4. The project will work with IFPRI/GSSP to disseminate the research study.

A1b. Identification of specific problems and recommendations for corrective action and reasons why established targets were not met.

Specific Problem	Established PMP Targets/Work Plan Milestones for the Quarter (Qualitative or Quantitative)	Corrective Action	Reasons for not meeting Established Target/Milestones
Support for implementing 2014 JSR recommendations did not start.	Targeted to be a continuous activity for FY2.	On project recommendation, PPB Director will prepare an action plan for project consideration and action.	Restructuring of MoFA Directorates has delayed actions on the activity.
Development of compendium of indicators is on hold.	Targeted to be achieved in FY1.	Project to continue seeking clearance from MoFA's Chief Director to initiate this activity.	Attempts by project team to meet Chief Director for briefing and clearance failed.
Drafting and passage of Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills and Harmonized Seed Regulations have all delayed.	Legal drafting targeted to be completed by Attorney General (AG) Department in FY2 Q3.	Project has hired a consultant to follow up on the legal drafting of the Livestock bills. Project is working with embedded advisors to speed up the signing of the Seed Regulations by MoFA's Minister.	Technical committees tasked with drafting the legislative instruments were unable to meet due to lack of resources to pay for seating allowances, which the project cannot pay.
Capacity building of three Councils to oversee Act 803 implementation did not occur and activity has been delayed.	Targeted as milestone for FY2 Q3.	Project has asked PPRSD to fund seating fees for Councils members with the Directorate's internally generated fund.	Project unable to meet councils to discuss capacity building support, because members have not been convened due to lack of funds to pay allowances.
Support to MoFAD to develop aquaculture investment plans delayed.	Targeted for completion in FY2 Q2.	Completion in FY2 Q4.	Technical assistance from Iowa State University for assignment was not available.
Development of policy matrix has stalled due to coordination problems with MoFA.	Projected to be complete by the end of FY2 Q3.	MoFA Director for Donor Coordination has promised the project to reactivate discussion of proposed matrix.	A draft was circulated among MoFA Directors for their feedback but response has been weak.
Because the Concept Paper for undertaking NAFCO's assessment needed additional input from other development partners, projects has not been able to commission yet the assessment.	Milestone targeted for completion in FY2 Q3.	Concept Paper is completed and will be submitted to USAID in FY2 Q3 before commissioning its implementation.	FAO reviewed draft of the concept paper and this delayed its finalization in FY2 Q2.

A1c. Outcomes of high level meetings.

Activity	Outcome
Meetings with MoFA and the Agriculture Sector Working Group to organize the 2015 Joint Sector Review.	APSP supported the implementation of the JSR by providing assessment of MoFA's Agriculture Performance Review (APR) and moderating a high-level panel discussion.
Meetings with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR) to consider potential support to develop legislative instruments to enhance access to agricultural lands.	APSP will receive in FY2 Q4 a proposal request from the MLNR to provide technical assistance to develop new legislation on land access.

Meetings with the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovations (MESTI) to discuss support for implementation of the Bio-Safety Act (Act 831).	APSP to receive in FY2 Q4 a proposal request from MESTI to provide support for the implementation of a Communication Plan to inform on content and objectives of Bio-Safety Act.
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A1d. Assessment of the validity and efficacy of progress against the objectives and results.

Objectives (Annual Milestones as established in the Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy of Progress against objectives and results
METASIP/SAKSS members trained in policy analysis and program monitoring.	On track. Needs assessments completed, training modules to be developed in FY2 Q4 and training to begin before end of 2015.
Policy Advisor embedded at MoFA.	Completed in FY2 Q3.
Long-term plans developed for METASIP/SAKSS.	Completed in FY2 Q2.
Capacity of SRID built to improve agriculture data.	On track. Computer Assisted Paperless Interview (CAPI) system being developed and pilot program for its application to be implemented in FY3 in 20 districts nation-wide.
Capacity of WIAD in gender mainstreaming is built.	On track. Training will start in FY2 Q4.
Ghana Commodity Exchange Study completed.	On track. First draft report submitted by Consultants. Roundtable discussion on the report and asses next steps for potential support to take place in FY2 Q3.
NAFCO review completed.	Concept paper on NAFCO's assessment was put to review by other Development Partner and this cause a delay in finalizing the ToR for commissioning the assessment. Revised concept paper to be submitted to USAID in FY3 Q3.
Councils are active and meeting quarterly, as required.	Not initiated. Project unable to meet council members to discuss capacity-building support, because they have not been convened due to lack of funds to pay for their seating allowances.

A2. Component 2: Policy Research

Component 2 will increase the availability of rigorous policy analysis capacity for evidence-based policymaking through the following pillar:

- Enhancing the capacity for high quality policy research.

A2b. Progress to date per agreed-upon work plan

KRA 2.1 Enhance High Quality Policy Research Capacity.

Setup Grant Mechanism and Operationalize Small Grants

Award: Completed in Q3, with the issuing of RFA 003. In June 2015, APSP issued RFA 003 to “Develop Rigorous Policy

Analysis, Research and Graduate Thesis/Dissertations for Evidence-based Agriculture Policy-Development under METASIP and other Government of Ghana Priorities.” The RFA invited applicants from

universities and other research institution to present proposals for the following research categories: (i) high quality research, (ii) thesis/dissertations and (iii) special studies. APSP requested and received the names of two representatives to collaborate with the project in evaluating and selecting the research applications from MoFA. A small percentage of the value of grants to be awarded to an institution is to be made available, if necessary, to strengthen their research capacity.

COMPONENT 2: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Issued a tender, RFA 003, for research proposals covering High Quality research, Masters and PhD dissertations/thesis, and Special Studies.
- Developed and is implementing a tool for assessing Research Capacity among assisted universities and other research institutions.

Three pre-application workshops to explain and receive questions on RFA 003, were held in Tamale, Kumasi, and Accra, to provide guidance on eligible activities and the application process to interested applicants. Over 100 people from universities, research institutions, CSOs and consultancy firms attended the meetings. Participants were taught how to present their proposals and the project answered questions on research priorities.

In May 2015, before issuing the RFA, the project presented the mechanisms and processes for small research grants to faculty members and graduate students at the University of Ghana in Accra, University of Cape Coast, and the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi. The purpose of these meetings was to introduce the project research grant mechanisms to university faculty members and graduate students, in preparation for issuing tenders and prepare the grounds for receiving a positive response from them in research proposals. Also the project met with the Director General of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to discuss the objectives of the project in terms of supporting research for evidence-based policy making.

Engage with the METASIP Steering Committee (SC)/SAKSS to Identify Research Priorities: APSP received a TOR from the Sustainable Land Management and Environment thematic group of the SAKSS Node. APSP is awaiting for TORs from the other four SAKSS thematic groups. The TORs are developed for specific METASIP thematic priority topics that will enable APSP to tender for researchers to undertake these studies. A specific RFP will be issued when the TORs are completed in FY2 Q4.

Establishing Criteria for Defining “High Quality Research/Issuing Invitations to Ghanaian University/Academic Institutions for Selecting Graduate Dissertations Eligible for APSP Support”: All completed in Q3 by the drafting and issuing of RFA 003. The draft closes on August 31, so awards will take place after project and MoFA go through the evaluation and selection procedures.

Other Important Topics that Merit Research or Policy Analysis: Project had planned to initiate research activities in four specific topics, as follows: i) assess the status of research into Crop Insurance, completed in Q3; ii) Ghanaian Commercial Laws for Agriculture, not initiated pending additional discussions with MoFA on the specific objectives of the study. APSP will further discuss the idea with MoFA in Q4; iii) Marketing strategies within the West-Africa sub-region, not initiated pending ToR from MoFA, and; iv) Access to land for commercial agriculture (especially access for women, & small-holder farmers). In Q3 project initiated discussions with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources to discuss potential support for the drafting of a new code for agricultural lands. Project will examine the Ministry’s proposal request in Q4.

Collaboration with other DPs and USAID/Ghana FTF Projects

- Research Initiatives: APSP is undertaking a number of high-level research studies in collaboration with other USAID sponsored projects including the Ghana Agriculture Extension Review in collaboration with MEAS and the Soil Fertility Study in collaboration with IFPRI, WASP and AFAP.

- Review of M&E framework with MoFA: This assessment has been included in GIMPA's gaps analysis conducted with MoFA and specific activities will be part of the training program to start before the end of the calendar year 2015
- Activities supporting SRID's data collection and analysis capabilities: Explained above under Component 1.

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

Specific Problem	Established PMP Targets/Work Plan Milestones for the Quarter (Qualitative or Quantitative)	Corrective Action	Reasons for not meeting Established Target/Milestones
The presentation to APSP of specific research topics along with TORs that covers each of the six METASIP thematic areas by the METASIP/SAKSS Secretariat is delayed.	Issue RFP for METASIP priority topics and award grants for research studies to be undertaken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APSP identified lead people in each of the six thematic groups and is now working with these leads to develop TORs. - Based on this action, one out of the five TORs was developed in FY2 Q3. - APSP is working with the project's Embedded Advisor at MoFA, to complete the remaining TORs for other thematic areas. - A new tender to be issued in Q4 to undertake these specific METASIP priority studies. 	METASIP Steering Committee (SC) and the SAKSS Nodes were unable to submit to APSP their research priorities, because they had not been meeting for the past year to – among other duties – discuss this issue. In Q2, when they met in planning workshops with support from APSP, they were not able to submit to the project specific priority topics along with fully developed TORs necessary to tender out for implementation.
Issuing Invitations to Ghanaian Universities and other research institutions for selecting graduate dissertations eligible for APSP support is delayed.	<p>Assist with defining potential long term research priorities for graduate thesis topics.</p> <p>Number of high quality research reports published.</p>	<p>APSP has taken many steps to speed up the implementation of research activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Q1 issued a call to universities and academic institutions to present Expression of Interest for collaborating with APSP. • Tendered a major RFA 003 in Q3 to expand the universe of research potential. • Met with faculties and graduate students of academic and research institutions in Q3 to convey the strategic vision to develop research studies that conform to METASIP/SAKSS priorities. 	APSP initially focused on issuing an RFA based on METASIP priority topics and corresponding TORs, so invitations could be issued to universities and research institutions to select graduate thesis and dissertations. With TORs not forthcoming from MoFA, APSP issued the RFA 003 to forestall further delays.

A2c. Outcomes of high level meetings.

Activity	Outcome
Meetings with the Provosts and Deans of selected universities.	Project explained the mechanics of the grants support program for developing research.
Meeting with the Director General of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).	The CSIR Director General agreed and convened in FY2 Q3 a meeting of all 13-research institutes under the council to discuss strengthening collaboration with APSP. Since then, the project has received positive response regarding research applications from the institutes.

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

Objectives (Annual Milestones as established in the Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy of Progress against objectives and results
Publish 2 High Quality Studies	Project not on track. As indicated above, a number of corrective steps have been taken to speed up the process for selection and award of research grants. The implementation of research studies under RFA 003 will assist the project in accomplishing or even surpassing this target.
Improve areas of policy research capacity in assisted research organizations and units.	On track. Assessment of improved areas of policy research capacity among universities and other research institutions started in FY2 Q3.

A3. Component 3: Policy Advocacy

Component 3 is focused on building the capacity of civil society and farmer-based organizations (FBOs) to develop and implement policy advocacy activities, amplifying their voice in the agriculture policy process to:

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

A3a. Progress to date per agreed-upon work plan

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

Revitalize and Strengthen APPDF with the Support of PEF: In Q2, PEF submitted a grant proposal to APSP for supporting the revival of the Agriculture Public-Private Dialogue Forum after six months APSP had issue an unsolicited proposal invitation. APSP rejected the grant application on grounds of not meeting the project’s objectives and requirements. In Q3, the project engaged with the co-chairs of the dormant APPDF to seek other options to initiate the revival of the Dialogue, among the implementation of another stakeholder meeting to take place in July 2015.

Work with Apex Professional Organizations, Think-Tanks, and Other Institutions to Produce Agricultural Policy Materials/ Facilitate Establishment or Expansion of Public-Private Forums for Agricultural Policy Discussions in the Regions and Districts along the Value Chain: In Q3 the project continued implementing activities to progress in the implementation of these agree-upon work plan activities as follows:

Grants to CSOs: In response to the APS, in Q3 APSP awarded four grants to CSOs working in the development of agricultural policy materials and policy advocacy initiative, as detailed below:

- SIFA Agro-Trade Investments Company Ltd held a Smallholder Farmers’ Community Agriculture Policy Fair with the Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs at Kumbungu in the Northern Region. The fair gave farmers the opportunity to communicate their concerns to public officials through the members of the Select Committee. A policy brief developed by the farmers with the assistance from SIFA, was handed in to the Chairman of the Select Committee to be forwarded to the Minister of Food and Agriculture. SIFA also held another one-day Community Agriculture Policy Fair in Zabzugu, one of the three districts covered by the grantee’s activities.
- The Evangelical Presbyterian Development and Relief Agency (EPDRA) facilitated METASIP and FASDEP awareness raising forums for CSO and FBO executives in Yendi, Saboba, and Chereponi in the Northern Region.
- Rural Media Network (RUMNET) organized a policy dialogue session on the Special Needs and Interests of Women-Farmers in Agricultural Development in Tamale on June 4, 2015. Farmers and CSOs validated findings of a study on women participation in the implementation of METASIP in the five districts in the Northern Region, when attending RUMNET’s workshops financed through the project’s grants.
- Pan African Organization for Sustainable Development (POSDEV) organized a workshop in June 2015 on national fisheries and aquaculture policies and plans in the Eastern Region. 52 (26 males and 26 females) fish farmers, processors, and marketers from three districts participated. Participants identified key advocacy issues for discussion with MoFAD and initiated the formation of district based fish farmer associations in the three districts.

COMPONENT 3: KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Three district-level agriculture public-private dialogue forums held for a total of 282 participants in the Upper West Regions resulting in increased district level participation in the policy making process
- Six grantees undertook agriculture policy education and policy advocacy activities in the Northern, Eastern, and Volta Regions resulting in increased stakeholder education and empowerment in the policy making process
- Two training institutions selected to build the capacity of 45 NSAs at the national level (northern and southern sectors).



Some APSP Grantees’ Activities - POSDEV’s Training in National Fishery Policy (June 2015) / Laws in Koforidua; URBANET’s Training on Agriculture policy responsiveness to soybean production in Bimbilla & Tamale in May 2015

Agriculture Policy Education and Sensitization Forums in Upper West Region: This quarter, APSP continued its agriculture policy education and sensitization forums in districts in the Upper West and Northern Regions. The forums educated 282 private and public stakeholders on Ghana’s agriculture policy and METASIP. The forums are conduits for enhancing policy advocacy at the district level and involvement in the agriculture policy process. Participants

represented district assemblies, departments of agriculture, CSOs, the media and value chain productive and service actors. APSP implemented the events in collaboration with the USAID FtF ADVANCE II project. As a major outcome of these forums, participants agreed on the following recommendations to boost agriculture in the districts:

- The establishment of sub-committees on agriculture when the new district assemblies are inaugurated later this year. Currently, agriculture issues are placed under the social development sub-committees of the three assemblies.
- The development of agriculture development/investment plans that would attract private investment in agriculture.
- That to combat the effects of climate change and promote agriculture development, district assemblies will develop mass mobilization programs towards tree planting.



Participants at the District Agriculture Policy Forums in the Upper West Region in April 2015

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

Carry out Advocacy Capacity Assessment (ACA) for Selected Media Organizations. Completed in Q1.

Train NSAs (including the media) on Policy Research, Analysis and Advocacy Communication (ie. Policy Briefs, etc.): In May 2015, APSP received and reviewed 20 long-term institutional capacity building and advocacy applications aimed at enhancing institutional capacity of NSAs for agricultural policy strengthening. Four applications had been shortlisted because their proposals were cogent in view of APSP's goals and objectives and showed the capacity to contribute to the attainment of APSP's key performance indicators. Awards to these applicants will take place next quarter.

Facilitate Training of NSAs in Organizational Performance Management Including Coalition Formation, Service Development and Delivery: The West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) and Integrated Management Consultancy Limited (IMCL), were selected in Q3 through a competitive bidding process to build the capacity of 45 national NSAs that went through APSP organizational and advocacy assessment in calendar year 2014.

Train Media Organizations on Reporting and Communication on Agriculture Policy and Advocacy. In June 2015, 20 journalists from different media houses in the southern part of the

country attended a workshop implemented by APSP on Agriculture Reporting, Communication, and Advocacy Skills. This was a follow up to one implemented in FY2 Q2, when participants expressed the need to receive additional training in specific skill areas relevant to reporting on agriculture related issues. Training topics included techniques for agriculture storytelling, documentary and feature article writing, addressing gender in agriculture reporting, and research and investigative tools for tracking agriculture investments, agriculture policy analysis, and advocacy. At the close of the training, the media participants received a certificate of participation.

Issue Grants to Selected NSAs (including APEX FBOs) for implementation of an agriculture policy advocacy program: Completed in Q1 and Q2 by issuing the APDS and RFA 001.

Study Tours to Well Organized APPDFs in Identified Country. Activity not initiated, pending the award from APSP to revitalize the Forum.

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

Train District and Regional NSAs along Value Chain on Policy Analysis, Data Analysis and Advocacy: In response to the APS, in Q3 APSP awarded two CSOs working along value chains, data analysis and advocacy as follows:

- Small Action for Enterprise (SAFE GHANA) organized a three-day training for Rice Farmer-Based Organizations (FBOs) in both Hohoe and Ho to collect primary data for advocacy activities and participatory strategic planning for the development of the rice value chain in the Volta Region.
- Urban Agriculture Network (URBANET) held METASIP and FASDEP training sessions for soybean farmers and dialogue sessions with soybean value chain actors in the Savelugu, Karaga, Bimbilla, Kumbungu, and Tamale districts, in the Northern Region. Farmers used the forums to discuss policies and practices that are affecting their businesses.

Train NSAs on Understanding of FASDEP II and GASIP/METASIP at National, Regional and District Levels: The awards to EPDRA, RUMNET, SAFE GHANA and URBANET explained above are geared to provide this training.

Collaboration with other USAID/Ghana FTF Projects and other DPs: The project collaborated with the USAID FtF Agriculture Development and Value Chain Enhancement (ADVANCE) II Project to organize agriculture education and sensitization forums in Sawla, Jirapa, and Wa West Districts in the Upper West Region of Ghana. APSP also requested USAID FtF Africa Lead Project to support Private Enterprise Federation (PEF) to develop a grant proposal for the revival of Agriculture Public Private Dialogue Forum (APPDF).

Additional Activities not Originally Considered in FY2's Annual Work Plan: During FY2 Q3, APSP developed visual materials and other communicational tools to facilitate the education of stakeholders on Ghana's agriculture policy and investment plans.

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

Specific Problem	Established PMP Targets/Work Plan Milestones for the Quarter (Qualitative or Quantitative)	Corrective Action	Reasons for not meeting Established Target/Milestones
The APPDF has not been revived.	Targeted to be a continuous activity for FY2 (One dialogue forum).	APSP is working with the Co-Chairs of APPDF to facilitate a stakeholders consultative meeting to deliberate on revival of the Forum with APSP support.	[REDACTED]
Although the project has issued three tenders to support capacity building and policy advocacy activities, the number of grantees is presently too small.	Specific Targets (Quarter Target/Achieved): - Campaigns advocating on separate needs of women and men: 5/2 - Number of policy dialogues: 40/30 - CSOs receiving USG assistance: 20/6 - No. of agriculture policy communications: 50/9	- At least 45 CSOs to receive technical training to improve skills, including proposal writing, development of policy briefs, policy analysis and implementation of policy advocacy campaigns. - Training program to begin implementation in FY2 Q4. - A functioning APPDF will also contribute to meet targets.	Grant applications from CSOs have not met the necessary technical requirements nor have proponents demonstrated grant management capabilities. In consequence, APSP has been unable to expand the number of grants, which contribute to meeting these targets.

A3c. Outcomes of High Level Meetings.

Activity	Outcome
Meeting with USAID FtF ADVANCE II's Policy Advocacy Team to plan and organize district agriculture policy forums.	APSP collaborated with ADVANCE II and organized three agriculture policy forums in the Upper-West Region.
Meeting with co-chairs and vice chair of APPDF to discuss the revival of the APPDF and the way forward for the Forum.	APPDF leadership agreed to hold a stakeholders consultative meeting to discuss the modalities for the revival of the forum.

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

Objectives (Annual Milestones as established in the Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy of Progress against objectives and results	
Policy advocacy campaigns that focus on the separate needs of men and women smallholder farmers held.	Project has achieved 40% of quarter target	- Increasing number of grants for policy advocacy and capacity building will effectively assist the project in accomplishing and even surpassing these targets. - Project is monitoring the implementation of the more than 60 policy recommendations so far developed.
Public-private dialogues focused on policy that supports private sector investment.	Project has achieved 75% of quarter target.	
Recommendations at private public dialogues agreed and are implemented.	Project is not on target.	
Food security NSA Organizations/Associations receiving USG assistance.	Project has achieved 30% of quarter target.	
Agriculture policy communications developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption.	Project has achieved 18% of quarter target.	

B. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER BY COMPONENT

Activity	Component 1 Policy Formation and Implementation	Component 2 Policy Research	Component 3 Policy Advocacy
High-Level Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss a way forward on developing legislation on land access for agriculture with the Ministry of Land and Natural Resources. Discuss identification of activities for supporting Biotechnology in Ghana with MESTL. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with METSS and Economic Growth Office on FtF Monitoring System Database. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with USAID ADVANCE II Project on continuation of Agriculture Policy Formation in Northern Ghana.
Technical Assistance, Trainings, and Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support meeting of Agriculture Extension policy Committee to consider implementation of policy recommendations. Support workshop for the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, Food and Cocoa Affairs to assess MoFA's Agriculture Performance Review. Work with GIMPA to complete the development of training modules for MTASIP/SAKSS members and to commence training of members. Initiate the process for the development of the Land Bill and Regional Spatial Development Framework with the Ministry of Land and Natural Resources. Work with the METASIP/SAKSS Secretariat to start implementation of work plans developed in FY2 Q2. Undertake the 4th sensitization exercise on the Plants and Fertilizer Act for stakeholders in the Western and Central regions. Coordinate and pursue actions to build capacity of members of the Parliamentary Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the assessment of policy research capacities of selected organizations and determine how to strengthen their capacities. Develop a monitoring system for routine performance monitoring of all project activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct second media training for agriculture journalists working in the SADA zone. Conduct training for NSAs in gender mainstreaming.
Grants, Subcontracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up to receive and evaluate applications for research grants based on RFA-003. Provide technical oversight and monitor the implementation of subcontract APSP-FPSC-2015-115 (FARMERLINE) for Computer Assisted Paperless Interviewing system for SRID. Issue RFP/RFA for specific prioritized research topics from METASIP/SAKSS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sign subcontracts with WASCI and IMCL to provide institutional capacity building for more than 45 NSAs. Award grants for short-term policy advocacy activities to at least six NSAs. Award grants up to four NSAs for long-term capacity building activities.
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue work with AGRA's MIRA to develop matrix on joint activities. Develop matrix of common activities with ATT and BUSAC for supporting the Seed industry in Ghana. Engage with the Ghana Investment Promotion Council to identify potential areas for project support. 		

C. PROGRESS ON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

C1. Gender

The APSP Gender Specialist was on-boarded in FY2 Q3 for her one-year assignment. The Gender Specialist developed a work plan for gender mainstreaming APSP activities, based on the project's Gender Strategy already submitted to and approved by USAID. In May 2015, the specialist conducted a gender capacity audit of APSP staff and used the results to train them in gender mainstreaming.

The APSP Gender Specialist has also collaborated with MoFA's WIAD and provided technical assistance to organize and implement a Gender in Agriculture Development Strategy workshop in FY2 Q3. The project has developed training materials for mainstreaming gender into NSAs activities. In the context of the media trainings, the Gender Specialist presented to participants on gender mainstreaming into media reporting. Additionally, the specialist is working with the APSP technical team to incorporate gender into the activities of project grantees, one being the inclusion of a specific item on gender and nutrition activities as part of the Merit Review Criteria on all of APSP's tenders.

C2. Environmental Compliance

As per USAID regulations, APSP activities, including trainings, advocacy initiatives, and research are not expected to have an environmental impact and are therefore categorically excluded from the project's Initial Environmental Examination (IEE). APSP activities in FY2 Q3, including activities carried out by grantees and subcontractors, consisted of trainings, consultative workshops and meetings, research, and strategic planning sessions with stakeholders.

Planned activities for the next quarter will follow the same pattern and are not expected to have any environmental impact. APSP will continue to assess activities of subcontractors and grantees to ensure compliance with the IEE.

D. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

There was progress in FY2 Q3 towards achieving indicator results as set out in the PMP of the APSP. Where progress towards achieving targets is delayed, as is the case for policy research indicators under Component 2, it is expected that as grants activities begin have started in FY2 Q3, and Q4, APSP has ramped up activities to accelerate results in FY2 Q4.

As part of APSP Research Grant Activities under RFA 003, an assessment tool to assess the research capacity of selected universities and research institutions was developed and the "score of improved areas of policy research in assisted research organizations and units" (APSP PMP indicator #10) will be completed in FY2 Q4.

APSP participated in an M&E working group meeting in Tamale which was organized by the Economic Growth Office and METSS, where an agreement was reached between IPs and the Economic Growth Office on the processes to modify and update M&E Plans and to set baselines and targets. It was also agreed that protocols be harmonized for collecting data for same indicators for reporting to the annual Feed the Future Monitoring system (FTFMS).

The M&E team worked on and completed other activities as follows:

- An assessment of capacity needs of members of the Parliamentary committee in the policy process for possible technical assistance by APSP.

Annex A: APSP Indicator Data Table

#	INDICATOR	LOA TARGET	FY15		ANALYSIS OF PROCESSES/RESULTS AGAINST TARGETS																
			TARGET Q1 - Q3																		
1	Score of combined key areas of organizational capacity among direct and indirect local implementing partners	4	3.0	2.70	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baseline for 45 NSAs (local implementing partners) has been completed using the OCA tool and 30 for ACAT. - Embedded Advisor now in place at MoFA to assist in assessment of GoG implementing partners. 																
2	Number of individuals who have received U.S. government-supported short-term agriculture sector productivity or food security training	650	325	1904	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quarterly target exceeded. <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>✓ Grantee training activities</td> <td>970</td> <td>539</td> <td>1509</td> </tr> <tr> <td>✓ APSP Training Activities Component 1&2</td> <td>304</td> <td>91</td> <td>395</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTALS</td> <td>1274</td> <td>630</td> <td>1904</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Male	Female	Total	✓ Grantee training activities	970	539	1509	✓ APSP Training Activities Component 1&2	304	91	395	TOTALS	1274	630	1904
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3	Percent change of key decision-makers reporting that activity-supported data to inform their decisions related to food security and agriculture policy issues contain gender sensitive data.	60	10	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APSP has discussed with the EG Office M&E Specialist the feasibility of reviewing this specific indicator. Submission of a technical memorandum to the COR still under consideration. However, APSP gender specialist and M&E Specialist have developed a tool for quantitative and qualitative assessment of staff of key directorates of MoFA, MoTI, MoFAD, MoF, and Women's Ministry to measure this indicator. 																
Component 1: POLICY FORMATION & IMPLEMENTATION																					
4	Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specific project activities are progressing steadily in achieving results in this indicator, as shown below disaggregated by stages in the policy process: - Additionally, the following activities being conducted by APSP will contribute to the expected results of this indicator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Draft Soil Fertility Study has been submitted by consultants o APSP has submitted a TOR for the review NAFCO policy to USAID and assessment to be commissioned in FY2 Q4 o Assessment on the Ghana Commodity Exchange completed and additional research to be undertaken in FY2 Q4. 																
	Stage 1: Analyzed	40	10	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Seed regulation analysed by public and private stakeholders for re-drafting. ISU has finished the first report on the areas that are needed to improve the National Seed Policy and the Seed Regulations. ✓ National Quarantine Pest List analysed by public and private stakeholders. ✓ Animal Health Bill analysed by public and private stakeholders for drafting. 																

#	INDICATOR	LOA TARGET	FY15		ANALYSIS OF PROCESSES/RESULTS AGAINST TARGETS
			TARGET	Q1 - Q3	
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Livestock Production Bill analysed by public and private stakeholders for drafting. ✓ Fertilizer subsidy analysed as part of Soil Fertility study to be presented to GoG. ✓ Ghana Agriculture Extension Policy analysed and to be reviewed
	Stage 2: Drafted for public consultation	35	9	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Seed Regulations consulted with stakeholders, drafted and under consideration of MoFA. ✓ Animal Health Bill consulted with stakeholders, drafted and under consideration of MoFA. ✓ Livestock Production Bill consulted with stakeholders, drafted and under consideration of MoFA.
	Stage 3: Presented for legislation	20	5	0	None
	Stage 4: Passed/approved	10	3	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Harmonized National Quarantine Pest List approved for implementation as an administrative procedure from MoFA.
	Stage 5: Passed for which implementation has begun	5	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Technical dissemination of Act 803 for compliance is taking place through the sensitization workshops held by APSP.
5	Number of government units or divisions that have received short-term training.	10	5	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicator under progress and APSP is on track. - MoFA Directorates - PP MED, WIAD, RADU, PPRSD, DCS,=5 + VSD, APD, MOFAD=3 ✓ PP MED – Technical Assistance to METASIP / SAKSS Nodes. ✓ PP MED – Reviewing the MoFA Policy Matrix. ✓ Training on mapping Donor Support to MoFA Regional Directors. ✓ WIAD – Baseline study for Gender in Ag Development in Ghana. ✓ PPRSD & DCS – TA for Seed & Fertilizer Act 803 sensitization. ✓ VSD & APD – Tech Assistance towards the drafting of two bills.
6	Number of agriculture policy communications, developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption	200	50	10	<p>APSP's progress toward achieving this target has been delayed, but will accelerate as grants activities begin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advert on Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security (AFFNS) for public consumption. ✓ Publication of "Agriculture in Ghana - Facts & Figures" document. ✓ Television discussion on Soil Fertility in Ghana. ✓ News Paper Article "Feeding Ghana's Future" in Daily Graphic of May 2015 ✓ POSDEV held 3 Radio Programs. ✓ Policy brief issued by grantee (SIFA) to Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture. ✓ Baseline Survey report on Women in Agriculture Development in Ghana

#	INDICATOR	LOA TARGET	FY15		ANALYSIS OF PROCESSES/RESULTS AGAINST TARGETS
			TARGET Q1 - Q3		
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ One SIFA press clip. ✓ Policy Briefs to be issued from the following activities: Study on soil fertility in Ghana, assessment of NAFCO, feasibility study for the establishment of a GCX ongoing, Ghana agriculture extension policy review, needs of women farmers in the north by RUMNET.
7	Number of policy advocacy campaigns that focus on the separate needs of men and women small holder farmers	20	5	2	<p>APSP's progress toward achieving this target will accelerate as grants activities begin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Grantees: RUMNET (2) - More Policy campaigns will be issued from grantees policy advocacy campaigns in FY2 Q4.
Component 2: POLICY RESEARCH					
8	Number of high quality research reports published	6	2	0	<p>Progress has been made in FY2 Q3 towards results for this indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APSP issued an RFA 003 in June to receive proposals for policy research from universities and other research institutions - One TOR out of five METASIP thematic areas received. - RFP to be issued for proposals to undertake specific studies on TORs. - High quality study on Soil fertility Management to be completed in FY2 Q4. - APSP has submitted TOR to USAID for assessing NAFCO. - High quality assessment on the GCX ongoing.
9	Score of improved areas of policy research capacity in assisted research organizations and units	4		-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APSP sent out an assessment tool to universities and other research organizations for this assessment to be completed in FY2 Q4.
Component 3: POLICY ADVOCACY					
10	Score of the capacity of the private sector to advocate for pro-business agriculture sector reform in Ghana	4		2.50	<p>Advocacy Capacity measured from ACA results for 45 NSAs. There is no specific target, but improving capacities and getting CSOs to a score of 4 is a process and the assessment tool administered already indicate a current standing at 2,5.</p>
11	Number of public-private advocacy dialogues focused on policy that supports private sector investment	90	40	47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indicator under progress and APSP is on track. - Fourteen District Agriculture Policy dialogues, education, and sensitization FY2014 up to Q3 [i.e. UE (4), UW (3), NR (3), VR (2), ER (1), GAR (1)] - 16 Policy Dialogues held by NSA grantees [SIFA (6), URBANET (5), EPDRA (19e), RUMNET (2), POSDEV (1)].
12	Percent of recommendations agreed upon during public-private dialogues that are implemented	30	5	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - APSP is following up on 60 recommendations agreed-upon with 15 District Assemblies at agriculture policy dialogues, which involved public-private stakeholders agreed upon on a number of recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Districts to develop Agriculture Investment Plans. ✓ Districts to create a sub-committee on agriculture as a standing committee of the assembly.

#	INDICATOR	LOA TARGET	FY15		ANALYSIS OF PROCESSES/RESULTS AGAINST TARGETS
			TARGET	Q1 - Q3	
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Districts to institutionalize district agriculture forums. ✓ Districts to establish by-laws on bush burning, degradation of the environment, forestation and land use. - More Agreements are expected from Grantee Activities in FY2 Q4
13	Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and agribusiness associations (such as farmer based organizations), and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance	45	20	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Six grantees are receiving Grants from APSP. These grantees are in turn working with local Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and this will accelerate results for this indicator in the next quarter. - APSP also signed two subcontracts to provide technical assistance in capacity building training to 45 NSAs in Q4.

Annex B: Participation in APSP Activities in FY2 Q3

ACTIVITY	DATE	RESULTS	Number of participants	TOTAL
Agriculture Extension Policy Forum	May 2015	Ghana Agriculture Extension Policy Forum brought together 62 participants in May from public/private sector and from NSAs.	19F 43M	62
Stakeholders meeting for the Animal Health & Livestock Production Bills	June 2015	Experts helped to put finalise discussions on the Animal Health Bill and the Livestock Production Bill.	7F 15M	22
Finalisation of harmonised Seed regulations	May 2015	Seed Regulations harmonization also brought together 16 experts to finalize the regulation.	5F 11M	16
Training of Trainers for public Sensitisation on Act 803	May 2015	Training of Trainers (ToT) for public sensitisation workshops on Act 803 – regulations for Ag inputs in Tamale for the USAID Feed the Future Zone of Influence area (region in Ghana above the 8 parallel)	35 M, 4 F	39
District Agriculture Policy Education and Sensitization Forums	April 2015	District Agriculture Policy Education and Sensitization Forums in 3 districts for district officials, nucleus farmers, out growers, aggregators and NSAs.	187 M, 95F	282
Engaging the Ag Committee of the Parliament of Ghana	June 2015	Meeting with Ag Committee of Parliament.	14M 2F	16
Per-Application meetings on RFA 003 - Policy Research	June 2015	RFA 003 – Pre-Application Meetings for Policy Research proposals in Tamale, Kumasi and Accra attended by faculty members, graduate students and researchers.	14F 91M	105
2nd Media training on Agriculture reporting	June 2015	Training for NSAs in southern zone including training in gender mainstreaming into NSA activities.	7F 15M	22
GRANTEE ACTIVITIES	Six project grantees implemented major in policy advocacy and policy training activities in April - June 2015			
URBANET	April, May, June, 2015	Training: Increasing farmers' knowledge on Agricultural Policies; FASDEP and METASIP at five different locations; District level policy dialogue forum on Soya bean.	265M, 190 F	455
SIFA Policy dialogue session	May, June 2015	Policy Brief: Policy dialogue session and Community Agricultural Policy fair.	94M, 31 F	125
Rural Media Network (RUMNET)	April, June 2015	Workshops on the assessment/study of FASDEP/METASIP, and policy dialogue on needs of women-farmers in agriculture in ZOI; creation of women-farmers platform for policy advocacy. Draft Policy Brief.	18M, 79F	97
SAFE Ghana	May 2015	Participatory strategic planning for rice development in the Volta Region.	32M 8F	40
POSDEV	May, June 2015	Assistance to FS enterprises: A 3-day capacity building/training workshop for fisheries based FBOs, 3 Radio Panel Discussions.	27M, 25F	52
EPDRA	April, June 2015	Training: Forums for Agricultural Policy dialogue, and policy formulation process for FBOs, CSOs, Input Dealers, and District officials.	649M, 304F	953
		TOTAL		2286



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SNAPSHOT

Smallholder Farmers in the Northern Region Connect with Public Officials to Voice their Concerns

Encouraging dialogues between smallholder farmers and public officials contributes to establishing an enabling environment for economic growth and social inclusion



A Farmers' Representative presenting their concerns to the Government of Ghana during the Forum

Photo: USAID/APSP

“Today marks a significant day in our farming activities. We have always longed for such an opportunity to cry out to our Government but never had one before. We are happy and grateful to USAID APSP for providing us this opportunity,” said [REDACTED] a farmer from Tatala.

Through the efforts of the USAID/Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP), the hopes of many smallholder farmers from Kumbungu, Zabzugu, and Tatala-Sanguli districts in the Northern Region of Ghana to voice their concerns to government officials have been realized. For the first time, smallholder farmers from these districts had the opportunity to interact with and present their concerns to members of Ghana’s Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs at an Agriculture Policy Forum held in Kumbungu.

SIFA Agro-Trade Investments Company Ltd — an APSP’s grantee — organized the forum which brought together the Chairman of the committee, other committee members, smallholder farmers, traditional rulers, and officials from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA).

This encounter followed an early Policy Dialogue Session with Members of Parliament for the three districts where the leaders of 30 Farmer Based Organizations (FBO) were drawn to examine the impact of FASDEP II and METASIP on their productive activities. The FBO leaders developed a briefing paper which they presented to the Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee at the Policy Forum held at Kumbungu.

“Today marks a significant day in our farming activities. We have always longed for such an opportunity to cry out to our Government but never had one before. We are happy and grateful to USAID’S APSP for providing us this opportunity,” [REDACTED] a farmer from Tatala.

The Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee commended USAID and SIFA for their work and promised to take the concerns to the Minister of Food and Agriculture himself for proper action.

APSP is considering supporting members of the Parliamentary Select Committee to embark on a nationwide tour to interact with farmers on agriculture policy issues.

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Strengthening the Agriculture Policy Process through a Partnership with Ghana's Parliamentary Committee

Strengthening the work of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs to impact directly in the development of policies to promote agricultural growth in Ghana



Chairman of the Committee and Ranking member attending the workshop

“This workshop has laid the foundation for a long-term partnership that is expected to impact positively on skills of members of the Committee to perform their parliamentary duties more effectively.”

████████████████████
Chairman of the Committee

Telling Our Story

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In June 2015, the USAID/Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP) hosted a one-day capacity building workshop with members of Ghana's Parliamentary Select Committee on Food, Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs.

The Parliamentary Committee is in charge of overseeing the Ministries of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MoFAD) and responsible for analyzing sectorial legislative initiatives before enactment. Through this workshop, the project was able to engage a key stakeholder in agriculture policymaking critical to achieving the component goals of APSP.

During the workshop, APSP introduced the project and its objectives to the Members of Parliament (MPs) and undertook a rapid needs assessment of the members of the Committee. Officials from USAID also presented on the strategic activities currently being implemented under the Feed the Future Program to support Ghana's agriculture development.

The committee members were enthusiastic about the objectives of APSP and expressed their willingness to collaborate with the project. Based on the results of the needs assessment and input from the MPs, APSP will develop and implement a work plan for capacity-building activities to enhance mutual accountability in the policy process and assist MPs and their staff in policy analysis and monitoring.

Representatives of the committee also agreed to participate in the upcoming stakeholder consultative session hosted by the project for the development of the APSP 2016 Annual Work Plan. At this event, MPs will join officials from MoFA, other MDAs, and representatives of academic, research, and private sector organizations, to provide input on the activities and implementation of APSP.

