

## **Quarterly Report for AID-OAA-A-14-00031**

### **Quarter 3, FY'16**

The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD) held one public meeting this quarter at North Carolina A&T University in Greensboro. The themes of the public meeting were collaboration in leadership, innovation, and sustainable technology to meet the demands of global agriculture. Questions were taken from the in-person and on-line audiences and a discussion were held. BIFAD members Deaton, Martin, Ash, Fowler and Anderson attended in person. There was also a substantial outreach effort to the campus communities by BIFAD members, USAID staff, and invited speakers. The outreach sessions included discussions of the role of Feed the Future in meeting the challenges of food security, including university opportunities, internationalizing US faculty and students and career opportunities in agricultural development; and agricultural and development economics.

There was significant time spent planning the public BIFAD meeting that will be held early in Q1 of FY'17 in Des Moines and the intensive learning executive session for BIFAD during Q4 of FY'16 to be held in Washington, DC. Several conference calls were also held with the NC A&T University staff to coordinate planning.

The BIFAD Secretariat met numerous times this quarter in either face-to-face meetings or on conference calls. The focus of the meetings was planning for the executive planning session, and the upcoming BIFAD public meeting in Greensboro, NC. APLU arranged these meetings and either hosted the meetings in our office or hosted the conference calls.

A working group was established by BIFAD to look at university concerns concerning TrainET, ADS 252/253 and other visa related issues. BIFAD member James Ash chaired this working group, which held conference calls and developed a number of informational items that articulated the concerns. A web-enabled listening session is planned for Q4 of FY'17. APLU organized the conference calls, helped develop the informational items and sent invitations for the listening session. APLU will host the listening session in Q4.

The Senior Counselor and APLU sent numerous communications to the US higher education community. The Senior Counselor directly supported BIFAD working groups.