

<p>Présidence de la République Commissariat à la Sécurité Alimentaire</p> 		<p>APCAM/MSU/USAID Projet de Mobilisation des Initiatives en matière de Sécurité Alimentaire au Mali – Phase II (PROMISAM - II)</p> <p>MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY</p>
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PROMISAM - II

PROJECT TO MOBILIZE FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVES IN MALI – Phase II

(Projet de Mobilisation des Initiatives en Matière de Sécurité
Alimentaire – Phase II)

Annual Report: FY 2010
October, 2009 –September, 2010

October, 2010

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Michigan State University
Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics
Food Security III Associate Agreement
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Project to Mobilize Food Security Initiatives in Mali—Phase II (PROMISAM II)
[Projet de Mobilisation des Initiatives en Matière de Sécurité Alimentaire au Mali]

Annual Activity Report, October, 2009-September, 2010

Strengthening the Capacity of the Malian Government to Develop Analytical and Market-Based Food Security Responses

Project Summary and 2010 Highlights

PROMISAM II, funded for the period December 2008-November 2011, originally had four objectives: (i) further enhance and develop the technical and analytical skills for the Malian food security commission (CSA) and related support agencies; (ii) assist Mali in implementing local (commune-level) food security plans country-wide through the developing and testing of methods for monitoring plan implementation; (iii) help IPR/IFRA de Katibougou to develop an academic and practical curriculum in agricultural economics and food policy analysis; and (iv) provide technical support to Mali's national team developing the country's NEPAD/CAADP report and national compact. The FY 2010 (October 2009-September 2010) work plan added a fifth objective, helping to organize a border conference between Senegal and Mali in order to facilitate smoother cross-border trade in agricultural products. A further modification implemented in May 2010 established a sixth objective by calling on PROMISAM II to carry out a number of background studies on agricultural development/food security challenges facing Mali over the coming 5-10 years in order to assist USAID/Mali in its strategic planning of future investments and activities. A seventh objective covers cross-cutting activities that were implicit in this project and that support the overall project as well as the broader economic growth objective of USAID/Mali-AEG. (The FY2010 work plan is available at: http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/2010_Annual_Work%20Plan_MSU_PROMISAM_II_final.pdf)

MSU implements the PROMISAM II project in partnership with the Malian Food Security Commission (CSA) and the Permanent Assembly of the Malian Chambers of Agriculture (APCAM). Other key collaborators include the Institut Polytechnique Rural de Formation et de Recherche Appliquée (IPR/IFRA) de Katibougou and the Institut d'Economie Rurale (IER). PROMISAM II represents part of a larger portfolio of applied research, outreach and capacity-strengthening activities on food security implemented by MSU in Mali with funding from an array of sources, including USAID/Mali, USAID/WA, the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, and ECOWAS. The non-USAID/Mali-funded work is complementary to that of PROMISAM II, thus leveraging USAID/Mali's funding.

Key project achievements during FY 2010 included:

- The successful organization and carrying out of study tours to the US and Canada for 12 Malian food policy, IPR/IFRA and USAID/Mali leaders in April, 2010.
- Organizing and facilitating the participation of the Malian Minister of Agriculture in the May 2010 symposium in Washington at which USAID officially launched its Feed the Future initiative.
- Ongoing technical support and capacity strengthening of the Food Security Commission (CSA) and its affiliated organizations to carry out empirically based policy analysis. This included involvement of CSA and IER economists in the continued implementation of farm-level production and marketing studies that PROMISAM continued to implement during FY 2010.
- The launching of training (in conjunction with PGP-2 and Peace Corps/Mali) of local stakeholders in how to monitor implementation of local-level food security plans in 30 pilot communes in Mali.
- Formal approval and launching of the undergraduate agricultural economics program at IPR/IFRA de Katibougou, with the first class of 30 undergraduates admitted in October, 2009.
- The arrival of two IPR/IFRA junior faculty members at MSU to begin English training in anticipation of their beginning the graduate program in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics.
- Holding of Mali's national CAADP roundtable and signing of its CAADP compact in October 2009.
- PROMISAM's continued technical support to the Mali's Planning and Statistics Unit for Rural Development that led to the development of Mali's CAADP Priority National Investment Plan (PNIP), which was subsequently reviewed by a joint ECOWAS/African Union team.
- Preparation of 7 background documents for USAID/Mali June 2010 AEG partners' meeting, and participation of MSU/PROMISAM staff in helping facilitate that meeting.
- Expansion of the number of MSU campus-based faculty members involved in PROMISAM II, in part through their initial participation in the two study tours of Malians to the US.

ANNUAL REPORT, FY 2010

The following sections describe PROMISAM II's major activities and accomplishments from October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010. The activities and achievements are listed each of the project objectives and compared with the targets set out in the project's 2010 Annual Work Plan. The report concludes with a few reflections on the year's work and implications for the FY 2011 work plan. Appendix 1 reports on achievement relative to indicators set out at the beginning of the FY in the project's Performance Management Plan (PMP), while Appendix 2 lists TDYs undertaken in support of project objectives. Copies of all the project's written outputs are available on the project website, http://aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm

Objective 1: Further Enhance and Develop Technical and Analytical Skills for the CSA and Related Support Agencies

During the period, PROMISAM pursued this project objective through the following activities and obtained these key achievements:

Major achievements—Objective 1

CSA and affiliated agencies: Analysis and planning capacity

- a. *Organization and carrying out of a study tour to Michigan and Washington, DC* by key Malian food policy decision makers, from April 11 through April 27, 2010. The delegation was headed by Mme. Lansry Nana Haïdara, the Food Security Commissioner, and included top advisors from the Office of the President and the Prime Minister's Office, the Director of the Planning and Statistics Unit (CPS) for Rural Development and staff members from the Food Security Commission and affiliated agencies. Halima Ouattara-Ayanou of USAID/Mali participated in both the Michigan and Washington components, and Jean Harman of USAID/Mali participated in the Washington portion of the study tour. The Michigan portion of the trip (the first week) coincided with the visit of two faculty members from IPR/IFRA to MSU (described under Objective 2 below), so some of the Michigan-based activities were carried out jointly with this group.

The study tour had four themes, which were developed jointly with the participants: (a) the design of US social safety net systems (especially for food), (b) the ways in which various levels of government (local, state, federal) work together on key policy issues, (c) the system of management of grain inventories in the US marketing system, and (d) the use of analytic data in policy making and how research and policy organizations—including Land Grant Universities—interact with policy makers in the US. Each theme involved both presentations and field visits and was examined both in Michigan and in Washington.

In Michigan, the group had extensive interactions with MSU faculty members, administrators, graduate students, and staff (including Extension personnel); state, county, and township officials; cooperative and private grain handlers; NGO personnel (particularly those involved with food banks), and Michigan-based USDA staff. In

Washington, the group met with staff from the State Department, USAID (AFR and EGAT), USDA (ERS, NASS, and NIFA), the USTR, the World Bank, Congress (House and Senate), the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU), and Congressman Gary Peters of Michigan.

The meetings provided the Malians broad opportunities to learn more about US safety net systems and food policy analysis (including the role of technical agencies, such as those in USDA), network with key agencies and discuss the scope for future technical support (e.g., from USDA/NASS), and to understand the political process through which US food policies and foreign assistance programs are developed. For example, the group attended a Senate Foreign Relations Committee Hearing at which USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah and Deputy Secretary of State Jacob Lew testified on the Feed the Future initiative. The meetings also afforded the Malians the opportunity to present key elements of the Malian CAADP program to various audiences, such as USAID/AFR, the USTR, and the World Bank. These discussions helped set the stage for the Malian Minister of Agriculture to participate in the symposium in Washington in May that officially launched the Feed the Future initiative. They also provided the Malian team valuable feedback on the design of their CAADP program and aspects of program design that will be critical in order to attract donor support.

Upon return to Mali, the Food Security Commissioner sent reports on the trip to both the Prime Minister and the President and discussed the trip directly with the President. Among the key notions that the Commissioner brought back to Mali from the trip was the need to more carefully target food assistance programs to the most needy in order to limit budgetary costs and minimize any market disruption from such programs. She has asked MSU to help her on the issue of designing more effective targeting of programs.

Copies of the agenda of the study tour and of all the presentations made in Michigan and Washington, in both French and English versions, are available on the project website (http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm#visit).

An article on the study tour (“From Mali to Michigan: Sharing Lessons on Food Security”) also appeared in the July 2010 edition of USAID’s Frontlines magazine (http://www.usaid.gov/press/frontlines/Jul10_FrontLines.pdf).

- b. *Joint production of outlook bulletins.* In January and May, Nango Dembélé participated with OMA staff in the production of a semiannual market outlook: *Bulletin de conjuncture*. These joint OMA-PROMISAM publications are widely used by government in planning marketing and import policies.
 - i. In January, the title was *Niveau Exceptionnellement élevé des prix des céréales sèches en début de récolte*.
 - ii. In May, the title was *Stabilité relative des prix liée à la forte demande pour le stockage en début de campagne*. This study focused on the emergence of a new group of private-sector actors in the grain markets in recent years who are engaged in temporal arbitrage and their impact on stabilizing market prices.

Review of draft documents for CSA and affiliated agencies.

- iii. PROMISAM staff participated in regular monthly workshops to validate the SAP bulletins describing the local food security situation throughout the country.
 - iv. PROMISAM staff also reviewed a major external report on the cereals banks commissioned by CSA entitled “*Evaluation externe des banques de céréales installées par le CSA*”. Comments and suggestions for improving the report were transmitted to the national consultant-author of the report via a CSA internal review session held in August 2010. The final report will be presented during a national workshop in the coming months.
- c. *Provision of electronic equipment to the SAP.* During 2010, the project provided the Système d’Alerte Précoce (SAP) with six notebook computers, two digital cameras and two projectors in order to allow the SAP to carry out its food security monitoring and reporting activities in a timely way.

Marketing studies

- a. *Farm-level studies.* In partnership with the CSA and the *Institut d’Economie Rurale* (IER), PROMISAM II continued the implementation of its farm-level agricultural marketing study, covering 450 households in 3 zones of Mali. This study is jointly financed by USAID/Mali and a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation.
 - i. The three-round survey began in FY 2009, with the first round of surveys completed in September 2009. During FY 2010, questionnaires for rounds 2 and 3 were designed and implemented, and data cleaning of rounds 1 and most of round 2 were completed. Several MSU-based staff (Duncan Boughton, Valerie Kelly, Abdoul Murekezi, Margaret Beaver and Juha Sohlberg) traveled to Mali during the year to work with PROMISAM staff and IER partners in these efforts. Two MSU faculty members, Valerie Kelly and Abdoul Murekezi, spent a few days of collaborative work with CIRAD in Montpellier, France and integrated the RuralStruct data base collected by CIRAD/IER/MSU in 2007 with the first round of household survey collected by MSU/IER in 2009. This will allow PROMISAM II to create a 3-year panel data after the third round of the survey is completed.
 - ii. Preliminary analysis of the farm-level data began, and some of the findings were included in one of the policy briefs (“Achieving Food Security in Mali: Key Issues and Investment Needs”) produced for the USAID/Mali-AEG partners’ held in Bamako, Mali, June 22-24, 2010.
 - iii. PROMISAM II started preliminary analysis on household coarse grains production and marketing patterns over the last twenty years in the CMDT region and their relationship to the cotton subsector performance in Mali.
- b. *Rapid reconnaissance marketing study.* During the period December 13-19, a joint PROMISAM II – CSA – IER team undertook a rapid market reconnaissance in the CMDT zone of Mali. The objective of the reconnaissance was to explore changes in cereal production and marketing patterns (particularly in light of the decline in cotton

production in the zone) as an input to the design of a forthcoming study of changes in the structure, conduct and performance of the coarse grain sector in Mali. The rapid reconnaissance team included Amadou Samaké, Head of the ECOFIL Department of IER, Tagalfi Maiga, Economist with the CSA, Nango Dembele, MSU Country Representative, and Duncan Boughton, MSU FSIII Co-Director. A report was developed and is available on the PROMISAM II web site.

- c. *Methodological workshop.* On March 19 – 23, PROMISAM II organized a retreat in Segou with the CSA, OMA, IER, and the Regional Directorate of Planning, Statistics, Information Technology, Territorial Development and Population (DRPSIAP) to plan the updating of cereal marketing studies carried out in Mali during the 1980s and 1990s. The report of the retreat is available on the project website.

SNSA communication campaign

- a. *Training in website management.* From September 30 through October 21, PROMISAM II sponsored training of staff from the CSA's Communication and Information Service in how to update and maintain the newly redesigned CSA website. The training focused on how to design web pages, website administration and management of site content, and processing of graphics and visual images. As a result of the training, the CSA has the in-house capacity to keep its web site up to date.
- b. *Design of public information campaign.* The project supported the CSA's Information and Communication Service in developing materials for a public information campaign on the concepts of food security developing a communication action plan and associated budgets. This work involved development of a conceptual note on food security to be used as a background paper for the production of sketches to be aired on national TV on basic food security concepts and their policy implications. Audio tapes will be also produced and broadcast on rural radio throughout the country. The different information products and outreach activities were agreed upon by CSA and PROMISAM and the action plan and its budget have been adopted. The program will be implemented in FY 2011.

Other support to CSA

Throughout the year, PROMISAM II frequently provided advice and counsel to the Commissioner and her staff via informal meetings, telephone discussions, and review of draft documents.

Achievements for Objective 1 relative to benchmarks set out in FY 2010 work plan

Table 1 summarizes progress in implementing objective 1 activities relative to the calendar set out in the 2010 work plan for the four components of this part of the project. With respect to the first component (Further enhancing and developing the technical and analytical skills of the CSA and supporting agencies), the study tour to the US absorbed the most time and effort, and had the highest payoffs. This study tour, which involved more participants than anticipated in the

original project proposal, allowed PROMISAM to achieve the objectives originally set out under Activities A.1.1.1 and A1.2.1 (methodological workshops on the concept of food security for staff of the CSA and affiliated agencies), as those topics were covered in great detail in the discussions in Michigan and Washington. The scheduled training of the SAP in electronic management of documents and archiving, which was to be held jointly with IPR/IFRA, had to be delayed into FY 2011 due to the strike at IPR/IFRA. All other activities under this first component were achieved as planned. With respect to the second component under objective 1 (strengthening the skills of the CSA economists), the main achievements were providing the two economists (one at the CSA and one at the PRMC) with computer equipment and involving them in the ongoing marketing studies. A major question is whether the CSA will designate candidates for graduate training in agricultural economics at MSU. Given the current funding of PROMISAM II only through 2011, the age of the current economists (both within 10 years of retirement) and the need for most Malian students to have extensive English training prior to beginning graduate courses, this graduate training component of the project appears problematic. It will need to be reviewed in FY 2011. On the other hand, MSU currently is supporting, via graduate assistantships, the master's programs of two Malian students (Amadou Diallo and Mariam Sako) who are not affiliated with either CSA or IPR/IFRA, who could potentially make contributions to both organizations once they return to Mali following their master's degrees.

With respect to the marketing studies, good progress was made in implementing the largest of these, the three-round farm-level survey jointly financed by USAID/Mali and the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation. Survey work is complete, but the data entry/cleaning is continuing and has taken more time than originally anticipated. Thus, the analysis and write up phase, originally scheduled to begin in June, will now begin in the first quarter of FY 2011. Similarly, the other two studies have also been delayed. An initial rapid reconnaissance of the marketing systems study was carried out, with more structured surveys to begin in the first quarter of FY 2011, along with the study of the role of the marketing system in supplying the chronically deficit zones. In part, the delays in completing these components of the project reflect a reallocation of effort, relative to the original work plan, of staff resources to the CAADP component of the project in order to meet the tight deadlines of that component.

With respect to the CSA's information campaign regarding the national food security strategy (SNSA), the development of the campaign materials were completed this FY, but later in the year than originally anticipated. This has resulted in shifting the launch of the campaign from the middle of FY 2010 to the first quarter of FY 2011.

Table 1. Project Objective 1: Achievements in FY 2010 compared to targets set out in the FY 2010 work plan

	2010												Status as of Sept. 30, 2010
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
I. Further Enhance and Develop Technical and Analytical Skills for the CSA and Related Support Agencies.													
CSA and affiliated agencies: Analysis and planning capacity													
A1.1: Training module development													
A1.1.1: For methodological workshop CSA workshop	■	■	■	■	■								Objectives achieved with the study tour
A1.1.2: For SAP: Training in electronic management of documents and archiving (joint with IPR/IFRA)					■	■	■						To be carried out in FY 2011
A1.2: Training planned and carried out													
A1.2.1: Methodological workshop - CSA & affil. Struct.						■							Objectives achieved with the study tour
A1.2.2: For SAP: Electronic management of documents and archive (joint with IPR/IFRA)					■	■	■						Following year
A1.2.3: Study tour of Commissioner and key staff													Done in FY 2010
A1.3: Ongoing strengthening of OMA's analytic skills through joint analysis with PROMISAM II staff	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Begun FY2009; continued in FY2010
Strengthen Skills of CSA economists													
A1.4: Provide 2 economists with software and notebook computers						■	■						Notebooks provided in FY2009 to all CSA affiliates
A1.5: Involve in CSA studies	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Done in FY 2010
A1.6: Long-term training for CSA economist													To be reassessed in FY 2011
A1.6.1: CSA selects candidate for training													
A1.6.2: Candidate begins training at MSU					■								
Marketing studies													
A1.7: Study topics identified		■											Completed in FY 2010
A1.8: Planning and implementation													Partially done in FY2009; continued in FY 2010
A1.8.1: Study 1: Farm-level marketing & food security strategies	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Started in FY2009; continued in FY 2010
A1.8.2: Study 2: Major changes in the marketing system					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	FY2009; Rapid reconnaissance
A1.8.3: Study 3: Role of markets in deficit zones of Mali							■	■	■	■	■	■	To continue through new harvest in next year.
A1.9: Results diffused													
A1.9.1: Study 1: Farm-level marketing & food security strategies									■	■	■	■	To be carried out in FY 2011
A1.9.2: Study 2: Major changes in the marketing system									■	■	■	■	To be carried out in FY 2011
A1.9.3: Study 3: Role of markets in deficit zones of Mali													To be carried out in FY 2011
SNSA communication campaign													
A1.10: Campaign plan developed		■	■										Done in FY2010
A1.11: Campaign carried out				■	■	■							To be carried out in FY 2011

Objective 2: Developing Monitoring System for Local Food Security Plans

The development of tools to monitor the implementation of the commune-level food security plans is a joint activity of PROMISAM II, the USAID/Mali-funded PGP2 (Shared Governance Program) and the Peace Corps/Mali Food Security Program. MSU/PROMISAM II team works with the PGP2 team to train local officials, affiliated NGOs, and Peace Corps volunteers in monitoring the implementation of the local plans, using a set of tools and associated materials developed by PROMISAM II. The training, in an initial set of 30 communes, began in the first quarter of calendar year 2010.

Major achievements—Objective 2

The key activities and achievements under this objective included the following:

- a. In November, 2009, the training modules were finalized.
- b. Beginning in January, 2010, plans for the training sessions were jointly discussed and finalized among PROMISAM II, PGP2, Peace Corps, and local officials of the 30 test communes, beginning in January, 2010.
- c. The training program itself involved the following 6 sessions:
 - i. January 6-8, in Segou. Training with 37 participants (31 men and 6 women) from communes in the region of Segou.
 - ii. February 4-6 in Sikasso. Training with 43 participants (37 men and 6 women) from 5 communes in the region of Sikasso.
 - iii. April 22-24, in Koulikoro. Training with 33 participants (all men) from 6 communes in the region of Koulikoro.
 - iv. April 27-29, in Kayes. Training of 35 participants (all men) from 5 communes in the region of Kayes.
 - v. July 28-30, in Mopti. Training of 26 participants (all men) from 5 communes in the region of Mopti.
 - vi. July 31, August 2, in Mopti. Training of 32 participants (30 men and 2 women) from Tombouctou and Gao.

Reports on all these training sessions are available on the project website.

- d. These sessions, which included elected officials (mayors and members of the communal councils), were marked by a low participation of women, particularly in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro and Mopti, where women are not represented in the communal councils. Therefore, PROMISAM II will organize additional sessions for these regions early in FY 2011 targeted particularly at women in order to improve the gender balance of those who will be leading the evaluation of the implementation of the local plans in these regions.
- e. During June, 2010, Dr. Mark Skidmore of MSU, an expert on local government and public finance (and a key participant in the Malian food policy makers' study tour to the US) came to Mali on TDY to brainstorm with PROMISAM and PGP2 staff and key

Malian partners, such as the CSA and the OMA, about ways of improving the flow of information on food security issues among communes and from the communes to other levels of government. He and Cheick Oumar Diarra visited the commune of Doumba (in Koulikoro region) to explore these issues. Out of these discussions grew a tentative plan to work with the OMA to adapt its cell-phone-based method of sending market information data from enumerators to the OMA headquarters so that commune leaders could use a similar system to share key information among themselves and with officials in Bamako.

- f. On September 28, 2010, the project organized a workshop in Sikasso to review and compare the experience in undertaking the monitoring of the local plan implementation in the 5 test communes in that region. The evaluation of the experience in implementation in the other test communes will take place in FY2011, as will the national synthesis of the experience and plans for scaling up to other communes in the country.

Achievements for Objective 2 relative to benchmarks set out in FY 2010 work plan

Table 2 summarizes progress on implementing the objectives under this objective. All the scheduled activities scheduled for FY 2010 were completed within the year as planned.

Table 2. Project Objective 2: Achievements in FY 2010 compared to targets set out in the FY 2010 work plan

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Status as of Sept. 30, 2010
2. Developing Monitoring System for Local Food Security Plans													
Development and testing of monitoring tools with PGP2 and Peace Corps													
A2.1: Monitoring methods developed													Completed in FY2010
A2.2: Information, planning and training missions													Completed in FY2010
A2.3: Training sessions													Completed in FY2010
A2.4: Signed contracts for evaluation work													Completed in FY2010
A2.5: Contract monitoring and followup													Started in FY2010; will continue in FY 2011
Evaluation of approach and plans for scale up													
A2.6: Synthesis of results from the 30 test communes during regional workshops													Regional meeting held in Sikasso; rest to be held in FY 2011
A2.7: National workshop to validate the methods													To be carried out in FY 2011
A2.8: Development of final training module													To be carried out in FY 2011
A2.9: Training of trainers session for scale up													To be carried out in FY 2011

Objective 3: Develop an Academic and Practical Curriculum for IPR Katibougou to Help Educate the Next Generation of Malian Food Security Policy Analysts and Agro-business Specialists

Despite a strike of all public university faculty members in Mali (including faculty at IPR/IFRA) from February through July, 2010, good progress was made in achieving many of the goals laid out for objective 3 in the FY2010 work plan.

Major achievements—Objective 3

Major achievements and activities in support of this objective included the following:

- a. *Official launch of undergraduate program.* IPR/IFRA received official approval to go ahead with the agricultural economics and food policy program, based on the plans that were validated at the June 2009 workshop held in Katibougou. The first class of 30 students (23men and 7 women) was admitted and began classes in November.
- b. *Program coordinator named.* In May, 2010, IPR/IFRA officially named Professor Souleymane Kouyaté as the coordinator of the Agricultural Economics program. He has helped lead the design of the program for the last two years. At the suggestion of PROMISAM II, he will report to a program advisory committee that will include members from the IPR/IFRA administration and from other departments at the school. PROMISAM II is providing resources to establish a program coordinator's office at the IPR/IFRA annex in Bamako. PROMISAM II also suggested that IPR/IFRA appoint an assistant to the coordinator, who has strong private-sector experience and whose main task will be to organize internships for IPR students of the new program and build links with potential employers of the program graduates. PROMISAM II helped draft terms of reference for the assistant, and the draft is under review at IPR/IFRA.
- c. *Curriculum development.* MSU faculty and graduate students worked with IPR/IFRA colleagues to help refine the proposed undergraduate curriculum and course content. This work involved several TDYs by MSU staff to Mali (Eric Crawford, Brent Ross, Scott Loveridge, Abdoul Murekezi and Amadou Diallo), preparation of syntheses in French of undergraduate courses taught at MSU and Université Laval, and discussions with two IPR/IFRA faculty members (Souleymane Kouyaté and Kaboro Samassé) during their study tour to MSU and Laval (see below).
- d. *Study tour.* MSU organized a two-week study tour for two IPR/IFRA faculty members to MSU and Université Laval in Québec, from April 10 through April 27 (11 days at MSU and 4 days at Laval). During this study tour, the IPR faculty members met with faculty from both schools, reviewed curricula and educational strategies, learned about the two schools' internship programs for students, participated in classes and discussions with students, participated in a session on grant writing, learned about distance-learning resources available from both schools, and discussed possibilities for expanded collaboration with both universities. They also participated in discussions with policy makers in Michigan about how universities contribute to policy analysis in the US. Upon

their return to Mali, they followed up with the Canadian embassy about the possibility of expanding cooperation with Université Laval (with which IPR/IFRA already is collaborating in the area of natural resource management). Copies of the agenda and presentations of the study tour, as well as the IPR/IFRA team's trip report, are available at http://www.aec.msu.edu/fs2/promisam_2/index.htm#visit.

- e. *Computer resources.* In June, MSU acquired and transferred to IPR/IFRA 40 new computers (36 desk-tops and 4 notebooks), 36 UPS's, and 2 printers for the new Agricultural Economics program.
- f. *Identification of library resources.* MSU and Laval faculty presented IPR/IFRA faculty lists of texts (in French) that would be useful in the new agricultural economics program. IPR/IFRA will explore the possibility of acquiring some of these texts directly in Mali. In addition, some MSU faculty members donated texts (mainly in English) for the IPR library, which the IPR faculty members brought back to Mali after their study tour. In August, 2010, MSU graduate research assistant Miriam Sohlberg, who was in Mali working with PROMISAM, visited IPR/IFRA to explore with the IPR librarian and faculty member Koboro Samassé the needs of the IPR library and possible organization of IPR's internal computer network in order to make electronic resources more available to faculty and students.
- g. *IPR junior faculty members begin studies at MSU.* In May, 2010, two IPR/IFRA junior faculty members, Jacob Coulibaly and Abdrahmane Berthé, began English courses at MSU in anticipation of their beginning the graduate program in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics. Coulibaly is a current IPR/IFRA faculty member, while Berthé is an economist from the Central Bank who also teaches at the University of Bamako and who has signed a letter of commitment to teach at IPR upon his return to Mali.
- h. *Introductory course in analysis of the food system and food policy.* MSU graduate student Amadou Diallo (who also has an undergraduate degree from MSU in Agribusiness Management) developed a short-course introducing students in the new IPR program to basic concepts in agricultural economics and their application to analysis of the food system and to food policy analysis. In June, he traveled to Mali in anticipation of teaching the course at IPR. The continuing strike of University faculty members in Mali prevented him from doing so during this quarter, but he refined the outline and was subsequently able to offer the course at Katibougou in July and August, when the strike ended in July. The course, taken by all 30 agricultural economics students, was very well received by both students and IPR faculty members.
- i. *Further support for the undergraduate and masters programs.* Following the visit of the IPR/IFRA faculty members to MSU and Laval, further discussions led to the following recommendations:
 - i. MSU recommended that IPR postpone the opening of its professional masters program in Agricultural Economics (originally scheduled for October, 2010) and concentrate its efforts on establishing a high-quality undergraduate program.

PROMISAM II recommended, and IPR/IFRA accepted, a proposal to organize a workshop in early November to revisit the course content of the proposed curriculum, with the aim of increasing the economics content in order to assure the undergraduate program is competitive with other programs in the region.

- ii. Selected IPR/IFRA faculty members who are going to teach some courses in the new program were identified. Some of them will travel to MSU in FY 2011 to “shadow” MSU professors who teach similar courses.
- j. *Further support for institutional and staff development.*
- i. During his TDY to Bamako in June, MSU faculty member John Staatz met with USAID/Mali consultant Dick Wall to discuss the needs assessment that Wall was conducting for IPR as a whole. His findings will likely be helpful in further refining the agricultural economics program.
 - ii. During his TDY to Bamako in May, MSU faculty member Abdoul Murekezi helped two faculty members of IPR, Belco Tamboura and Assétou Kanouté, apply for the USDA Cochrane Scientific Exchange Fellowship Program.

Achievements for Objective 3 relative to benchmarks set out in FY 2010 work plan

Table 3 summarizes PROMISAM II’s achievements with respect to Objective 3 compared with the time table laid out in the FY 2010 annual work plan. While several of the activities were completed as planned (e.g., curriculum development, beginning of the training of junior-level IPR faculty members at MSU; faculty and student exchanges), the impact of the university-wide faculty strike is evident. The upgrading of the library resources, the training in electronic document management, the writing of a faculty development plan, and the creation of an external advisory panel, all have had to be rescheduled for FY 2011. Now that the strike is resolved, the project hopes to move expeditiously on these items.

Table 3. Project Objective 3: Achievements in FY 2010 compared to targets set out in the FY 2010 work plan

	2010												Status as of Sept. 30, 2010
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
3. Develop an Academic and Practical curriculum for IPR Katibougou to Help Educate the Next Generation of Malian Food Security Policy Analysts and Agro-business Specialists													
A3.1: Analysis of needed skill sets													Done; will re-evaluate these as program progresses
A3.2: Development of a curriculum	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Done in FY2010; will continue in FY 2011
A3.3: Upgrading computer equipment/systems			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Done in FY2009
A3.4: Upgrading library resources for Agricultural Economics													Following year
A.3.4.1: Needs assessment			■	■									Completed in FY2010
A.3.4.2: Acquisition of materials including access to electronic resources					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Begun in FY2010, but bulk of work reprogrammed for FY 2010
A.3.4.3. Training in electronic management of documents and archiving (joint with SAP)					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Reprogrammed for FY 2011
A3.5: Plan for additional training/recruitment			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Reprogrammed for FY 2011
A3.6: Staff retention strategy			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Reprogrammed for FY 2011
A3.7: Faculty/graduate student exchanges				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Started in 2010
A3.8: Development of a guest lecture series					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Started in 2010
A3.9: Student recruitment strategy		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Completed in FY2010
A3.10: External advisory panel			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Following year
A3.11 Long-term training for IPR staff member													
A3.11.1 IPR selects candidate for training			■										Completed in FY2010
A3.11.2 Candidate begins training at MSU											■	■	Started in 2010

Objective 4: Follow-up Support to the Malian CAADP Process

Work to support the Malian CAADP process was a major focus of PROMISAM II's efforts in FY 2010, as it had been in FY 2009. Indeed, over the two years, this objective absorbed much more time of senior staff (particularly of Dembélé and Staatz) than anticipated in the original project document. This emphasis reflected the increasing importance assigned to the CAADP process by both the Malian government and the technical and financial partners (PTF) as a tool to move Mali towards a sector-wide approach to agricultural development and to align donor and government efforts (including the USG's Feed the Future initiative) in support of that objective. PROMISAM II's ability to support the Malian government's efforts was strengthened by MSU's simultaneous participation, with non-USAID/Mali funds, in providing technical assistance to ECOWAS in the development of its regional CAADP program. This participation helped MSU facilitate greater coordination between Mali's national effort and the regional West African CAADP approach.

Major achievements—Objective 4

Highlights of the work under this project objective during FY 2010 included:

- a. *Signing of the national CAADP compact.* On October 12-13, 2009, Mali held its Malian national CAADP roundtable, which included the signing of Mali's CAADP compact by the Malian government, its technical and financial partners, and representatives of civil society. The signing of the compact culminated a very intensive set of work by PROMISAM II over the previous 10 months to help bring the CAADP process to this stage.
- b. *Supporting the technical analysis for developing the National Agricultural Sector Investment Plan (PNISA).* Following the signature of the compact, PROMISAM II agreed to a request from the *Cellule de Planification et de Statistique (CPS)* of Rural Development to work with it in helping to further refine the analysis needed to design the details of Mali's National Agricultural Sector Investment Plan (PNISA) and to provide the GAMS software needed to model the impact of different investment alternatives. PROMISAM II collaboration with the CPS-Rural Development on the elaboration of the PNISA also involved participating in some of the ongoing consultation with domestic stakeholder groups and participating in meetings with the technical and financial partners' (PTF) agriculture group to help ensure full integration of the PNISA-CAADP process and the program with the move to a sector-wide agricultural planning approach that had been supported by the PTF group under a separate initiative over the past 3 years.
- c. *Study tour discussions in Washington.* The Washington portion of the April study tour, described under Objective 1 above, was extremely useful in sharpening the understanding of the Malian team of the perception of key partners, such as USAID and the World Bank, of the CAADP process and their expectations about the elements that need to go into a solid national CAADP plan. The study tour involved the key Malian leadership on CAADP, both on the technical side (Fousseyni Mariko, Director of the CPS-RD) and the

political side (Food Security Commissioner Mme. Nana Lansry, Presidential advisor Modibo Makalou, and Advisor to the Prime Minister Manda Sadio Keita). Through their discussions and presentations in Washington, they were able to clearly articulate what Mali was seeking through its CAADP program and to modify the design and presentation of the program based on the feedback received. Their discussions in Washington led subsequently to the invitation to Mali to send high-level representation to the May symposium at which the US Government's Feed the Future initiative was officially launched.

- d. *Facilitation of Mali's high-level participation at the Feed the Future launch.* Based in part on the discussions held during the April study tour, Mali was invited to send high level representation to a symposium in Washington on May 20, sponsored by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, at which the U.S. Government officially launched its Feed the Future initiative. The Malian government was represented at this symposium by the Minister of Agriculture, Agatham Ag Alhassane, who participated in one of the Symposium panels and met with USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah. Minister Ag Alhassane was accompanied by presidential advisor Modibo Makalou (a participant in the April study tour), who carried a letter from President Touré of Mali to President Obama concerning Mali's support for the Feed the Future initiative. John Staatz and Cheick Oumar Diarra of MSU traveled to Washington to brief Minister Alhassane on Feed the Future and on the symposium and to facilitate contacts and discussions in Washington. (Staatz served as translator for many of the minister's discussions during the Symposium). The participation of Minister Alhassane and Mr. Makalou also helped consolidate links with key partners in Washington (e.g., in USAID and USDA) established during the April study tour and helped build high-level political support within the Malian government for the CAADP/FTF agendas. Upon his return to Mali, the Minister made a report of his participation in the symposium to the Council of Ministers and briefed the President Touré on Feed the Future.
- e. *Support for the development of Mali's Priority National Investment Program (PNIP) for the agricultural sector.* Under CAADP, Mali is developing its National Investment Plan for the Agricultural Sector (PNISA), a highly participative process that is scheduled to be completed at the end of 2011. In the interim, in order to begin high-priority investments in the context of the West Africa-wide CAADP process led by ECOWAS and to take advantage of donor funding to support these initial investments, Mali's CAADP team, led by the CPS-Rural Development, prepared a Priority National Investment Program (PNIP). This plan was submitted to donor groups and a joint African Union/ECOWAS review team in early June and subsequently revised based on comments received. PROMISAM II supported the preparation of the PNIP through the following actions:
 - i. The project provided financial and intellectual support for a retreat of a team of 16 experts, including Nango Dembélé of PROMISAM II, who met in Segou May 1-23 to develop the initial draft of the PNIP. A smaller group worked over the period May 24-30 to refine the document.
 - ii. Nango Dembélé, John Staatz, and Cheick Oumar Diarra of MSU provided extensive comments on the draft PNIP.

- iii. PROMISAM II financed the participation of Souleymane Ouattara of the CPS at an ECOWAS conference in Dakar June 3-8 that provided an initial review of the draft PNIP, in anticipation of a larger ECOWAS Business Meeting in Dakar on June 14-17 to review the plans with the development partners.
- iv. Nango Dembélé worked extensively with Fousseyni Mariko of the CPS during the period June 3-10 to revise the draft PNIP based on the comments received from various reviewers. This led to a revised PNIP that was presented at the June 14-17 ECOWAS Business Meeting in Dakar.
- v. Campus-based staff contributed heavily to drafting the Executive Summaries of the PNIP, in both French and English.
- vi. John Staatz of MSU participated in the June 14-17 ECOWAS Business Meeting in Dakar, working closely with the Malian delegation to help facilitate their presentations and interactions with PTF and ECOWAS officials. The Malian delegation was led by the Minister of Agriculture, Agatam Ag Alhassane, and Staatz helped arrange meetings for him with USAID administrator Rajiv Shah and FTF coordinator Ambassador William Garvalink.
- vii. PROMISAM II provided support to CPS to finalize the PNIP in July-September 2010 by integrating of the comments of the UA/ECOWAS review committee and an inter-ministerial committee. A retreat was held in Segou in July 2010 with Malian experts and MSU participation to finalize the PNIP which later presented to the PTF, the inter-ministerial committee and the signatories of the national CAADP compact.
- viii. The project also provided to the development of Malian proposal to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) managed by the World Bank by working with CPS and African Development Bank through reviewing and providing suggestions on the draft proposals submitted.

Achievements for Objective 4 relative to benchmarks set out in FY 2010 work plan

Table 4 summarizes progress in achieving the targets under objective 4 set out in the FY 2010 work plan. All activities programmed in the FY 2010 work plan under this objective were completed as planned. In addition, as detailed above, the project made numerous contributions under the rubric “further analytic work to better target investments” (activity A4.4) to the development of Mali’s action plans for CAADP implementation.

Table 4. Project Objective 4: Achievements in FY 2010 compared to targets set out in the FY 2010 work plan

	2010												Status as of Sept. 30, 2010	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep		
4. Follow-up support to Malian CAADP process														
A.4.1 Holding of the CAADP national roundtable	■													Completed
A.4.2: Identification of support needs with CPS			■											Completed
A.4.3: Purchase of GAMS software			■											Completed
A.4.4: Further analytic work to better target investments				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Done in FY2010; work continues in FY 2011
A.4.5: Planning and implementation				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	Done in FY2010; work continues in FY 2011

Objective 5: Mali-Senegal Border Conference to Facilitate Agricultural Trade

The 2010 PROMISAM II work plan added a new objective to the project: helping organize a Mali-Senegal border conference to facilitate agricultural trade. This border conference, which will bring together private sector actors, local elected officials, and agencies charged with governing cross-border trade (e.g., customs, police, gendarmerie) from both countries, is aimed at clarifying the conditions that need to be met to trade agricultural products legally across the Senegal-Mali border. The initiative is modeled on a successful border conference that MSU helped organize between Mali and Guinea in 2009, with funding from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. The Senegal-Mali border conference will be jointly supported by USAID/Senegal through its *Projet de Croissance Economique* (PCE), of which MSU is an implementing partner; and USAID/Mali, through PROMISAM II.

The FY 2010 PROMISAM II work plan called for the conference to be held in March, 2010. Because of changes in the PCE staffing in Dakar and requests from the Senegalese stakeholders with whom we are working, all parties agreed to postpone the conference, to be held in Kayes, until November 2011 to allow more time to get all the stakeholders mobilized, the agenda agreed upon, and the logistical arrangements made.

Major achievements—Objective 5

During FY 2010, PROMISAM II undertook the following actions to prepare the conference:

- a. *Consultations with stakeholders in Mali.* Over the period December 23-30, 2009, Abdramane Traoré of PROMISAM, two members of the national agricultural traders organization (CONOESAM), and a representative of the Malian Chambers of Agriculture (APCAM) carried out a preliminary mission to identify and inform key Malian agricultural traders involved in trade with Senegal about the objectives of the conference and to seek their input and support. The mission, from December 23 through December 30, covered the markets of Ségou, Koutiala, Sikasso, Niéna, Bamako and Kati Draal. Traders in all these markets expressed strong support for the conference and signaled their willingness to participate.
- b. *Mission of Malian stakeholders to Senegal.* On January 17-24, Abdramane Traoré led a delegation of 4 Malians (two private-sector actors, a representative from the Malian Chambers of Agriculture – APCAM, and Mr. Traoré) to Dakar to meet with Senegalese counterparts, members of the Presidential Commission on Investment subcommittee on ECOWAS trade, the USAID/Senegal supported PCE project, and John Staatz from MSU (who was in Dakar at the same time) to discuss plans for the border conference. Tentative agreement on topics and venue were reached, and it was agreed that the Senegalese would in turn send a delegation to Mali for further preparation of the conference.
- c. *Contact with Malian government authorities.* Following the January mission to Dakar, Abdramane Traoré, John Staatz, and Nango Dembélé of PROMISAM II met with the Malian Minister of Territorial Administration and Local Government to brief him on the planned conference and to ask for his support and advice. He supported the idea of the

conference and recommended that PROMISAM II get in touch with other relevant ministries (agriculture, commerce, finance, and African integration) to brief them on the planned conference.

- d. *Follow-up joint meeting with USAID/Mali and USAID/Senegal.* In June, 2010, while they were in Dakar for the ECOWAS/CAADP meetings, John Staatz of MSU and Jean Harman of USAID/Mali met with USAID/Senegal and PCE staff to discuss next steps for the preparation of the border conference. Staatz had further follow-up discussions with the new PCE staff member most directly involved in planning the conference from the Senegalese side, Souleye Wade, and with his supervisor, Andy Keck. Plans were finalized for a visit of a Senegalese delegation to Bamako in July to meet with Malian counterparts to continue planning for the conference.
- e. *Mission of Senegalese organizers and stakeholders to Mali.* From July 19-21, PROMISAM hosted and organized a visit of 6 Senegalese stakeholders involved in organizing the conference to Bamako. Participants included two agricultural traders (Tamsir Ibrahima Niane and Kalidou Thierno Diallo), two PCE staff members (Andy Keck and Souleye Wade), a representative of the national committee to facilitate transport (Pape Soulye Faye) and a consultant hired by PCE to help organize the conference (Amadou Dramé). During their time in Mali, the Senegalese group and PROMISAM staff met with the Malian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Director of the Cabinet of the Prime Minister, the President of the Malian Council of Truckers, the director of the cabinet of the Minister of Transport, the National Director of Transport, the President of the Malian Council of Shippers, and the President of the Malian Chambers of Agriculture (APCAM). The meetings were very useful in clarifying the issues that the Malian partners want addressed in the conference. The Malian partners also expressed their strong support for the conference.

Achievements for Objective 5 relative to benchmarks set out in FY 2010 work plan

Table 5 shows the achievements under Objective 5 relative to the timing set out in the FY 2010 work plan. As mentioned above, the holding of the conference, originally scheduled in the FY 2010 work plan for March 2010, was postponed until November 2011 at the request of the Senegalese partners. This has led to a more extensive process for planning and stakeholder mobilization, particularly in Senegal, which took place throughout FY 2010.

Table 5. Project Objective 5: Achievements in FY 2010 compared to targets set out in the FY 2010 work plan

	2010												Status as of Sept. 30, 2010	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep		
5. Mali-Senegal Border Conference to Facilitate Agricultural Trade														
A5.1: Mission within Mali to inform traders of conference and solicit their input			■											Completed; financed by PROMISAM II
A5.2: Mission of PROMISAM II staff and trader and APCAM representatives to Dakar to plan conference				■										Completed; financed by USAID/Senegal
A5.3: Preparatory mission of Senegalese to Mali					■									Completed in July; financed by USAID/Senegal
A.5.4: Holding of Conference						■								postponed to early FY 2011 at request of Senegalese partners
A 5.6: Follow-up actions							■	■	■	■	■	■	■	To be carried out in FY 2011

Objective 6: Preparation of Background Documents on Agricultural Development/Food Security Challenges Facing Mali

In April, 2010, USAID/Mali asked MSU to help prepare background documents to assist the AEG team in the development of its strategic plan for the next 5-10 years. This was a new activity that was not originally included in the FY 2010 work plan. Two key elements of this strategic planning process were the holding of an AEG partners' meeting in Bamako on June 22-24 and the updating of a 2002 Agricultural Sector Assessment produced by Abt Associates when AEG last went through an extensive redesign of its portfolio.

Major achievements—Objective 6

MSU/PROMISAM II undertook the following actions in support of this objective during the quarter:

- a. *Background Documents Prepared for the Partners' Meeting.* MSU faculty members, graduate students, and one consultant (Jeremy Foltz, of the University of Wisconsin) prepared the following background documents for the Partners' meeting. All are available on the project website.
 - i. Duncan Boughton and Valerie Kelly. *Mali's Agricultural Sector: Trends and Performance.* French version: *Secteur Agricole du Mali: évolution et performance.*
 - ii. Duncan Boughton, John Staatz and Nango Dembélé. *Mali's Food Security Challenges: An Overview.* French version: *Les défis de la sécurité alimentaire au Mali: aperçu général*
 - iii. Duncan Boughton, Nango Dembélé, Valerie Kelly and John Staatz. *Achieving Food Security in Mali: Key Issues and Investment Needs.* French version: *Atteinte de la sécurité alimentaire au Mali: enjeux et besoins d'investissements*
 - iv. Robert B. Richardson. *The Contribution of Tourism to Economic Growth and Food Security* (Report).
 - v. Robert B. Richardson. *Tourism and Food Security in Mali* (Policy Brief).
 - vi. Jeremy Foltz. *Opportunities and Investment Strategies to Improve Food Security and Reduce Poverty in Mali through the Diffusion of Improved Agricultural Technologies* (Full Report, plus executive summaries prepared in both English and French).
 - vii. Miriam Brady Sohlberg and Mariam Sako. *Nutrition in Local Mali Food Security Plans*

John Staatz also prepared a 2-page summary of Mali's Priority National Investment Plan for Agriculture. These documents provided much of the empirical background for the issues debated during the partners meeting.

- b. *Participation in and Facilitation of the Partners' Meeting.* John Staatz and Nango Dembélé worked with USAID/AEG staff and the two consultants that USAID hired to facilitate the Partners Meeting (Dick Wall and Jawara Lumumba) to help finalize plans for the meeting and the various presentations and discussions. The following

MSU/PROMISAM faculty and staff members participated in the meeting, with most serving as small-group discussion facilitators: Nango Dembélé, Abdramane Traoré, John Staatz, Mark Skidmore, Robby Richardson, and Cheick Oumar Diarra. Dembélé and Staatz made an overview presentation at the beginning of the meeting to help frame the issues to be discussed. (Niama Nango Dembélé and John Staatz. *Performance récente de l'Agriculture malienne et enjeux pour le futur*— available on the project website).

- c. *Updating of Agricultural Sector Assessment.* MSU faculty, graduate students and Bamako-based staff began working on the update of the agricultural sector assessment in July. A partial draft was provided to the mission on October 1, 2010, with the final to be completed early in FY 2011.

Achievements for Objective 6 relative to benchmarks set out in FY 2010 work plan

This was a new objective for PROMISAM II, added at the request of USAID/Mali, after the submission of the FY 2010 work plan. Therefore, there is no calendar from this work plan with which to compare implementation.

Objective 7: Cross-cutting Activities

In addition to work aimed at supporting the 6 specific objectives of the project, PROMISAM II undertook a number of cross-cutting activities that supported several project objectives simultaneously and the broader agricultural development objectives of USAID/Mali-AEG.

Major achievements—Objective 7

These activities included:

- a. *Project planning and reporting.* In addition to the normal preparation of the annual work plan and quarterly reporting, in August and September, PROMISAM II revised its PMP to conform with the outline presented to partners at the June 2010 USAID/Mali-AEG partners' meeting.
- b. *Participation in partners' meetings.* In addition to the June, 2010 partners' meeting described under objective 6, Bamako-based and campus-based staff participated in the in the USAID/Mali-AEG Partners' meeting on December 8-10, 2009. This meeting offered the opportunity to share with other partners the work of the project and explore ways of building synergies across the AEG portfolio. PROMISAM II was represented by Mali based coordinator, Niama Nango Dembélé, Abdramane Traoré, the project contact person for USAID/Mali and by Professors Duncan Boughton and Eric Crawford, Co-Directors of the Food Security III Cooperative Agreement.
- c. *Mali CAADP food security coordinator.* In December, 2009, Nango Dembélé was named by the Malian government as the coordinator of Mali's CAADP network of food

security experts, whose task is to advise both the Malian government and NEPAD on food security issues.

- d. *National Council of Agricultural Research.* Dr. Dembélé continued to serve on the Scientific Commission of the Mali's National Council of Agricultural Research, which reviews the proposals submitted by researchers at Mali's national agricultural research institute (IER) and IPR/IFRA for competitive research funding. This activity makes an important contribution to strengthening the capacity and quality of the Malian agricultural research system.
- e. *Development of an issues paper.* In February, 2010, Nango Dembélé and John Staatz developed an issues paper for the Forum de Bamako (Feb. 16-20) on food security challenges facing West Africa and policy strategies to address them (*Sécurité alimentaire en Afrique de l'Ouest : Enjeux et Eléments Stratégique pour sa Réalisation* – available on the project website). This paper helped frame the debate at the conference.
- f. **Participation in PRMC technical committee meetings.** At the request of USAID/Mali, PROMISAM II staff in meetings of the PRMC technical committee throughout the year.
- g. *Support of Peace Corps/Mali training.* At the request of Peace Corps Mali, during FY 2010, Abdramane Traoré participated in three training sessions on food security held by Peace Corps for its volunteers in Sikasso, Kayes, and Koulikoro.
- h. *Meeting with USAID consultants.* Throughout the year, PROMISAM II staff met with various consultants referred by USAID/Mali who were working on aspects of food security and agricultural development in Mali.

Table 6 shows the projects cross-cutting activities relative to those foreseen in the FY 2010 work plan. All the anticipated cross-cutting activities were undertaken as planned. In addition, the project carried out several other cross-cutting activities that arose during the year (e.g., contributions to the training of Peace Corps volunteers in concepts of food security) in order to help other USG-funded activities benefit from the expertise of the project.

Achievements for Objective 7 relative to benchmarks set out in FY 2010 work plan

Table 6 compares implementation of the cross-cutting activities with the benchmarks set out in the FY 2010 work plan. The work plan foresaw these as ongoing activities throughout the year, which has proven to be the case. All the activities were implemented as scheduled. In addition, as noted above, other cross-cutting activities not originally foreseen in the FY 2010 work plan have also been implemented.

Table 6. Project Objective 7: Achievements in FY 2010 compared to targets set out in the FY 2010 work plan

	2010												Status as of Sept. 30, 2010	
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep		
7. Cross-cutting actions to support USAID/Mali's agricultural development agenda														
A6.1: Dembele serves as coordinator of Malian national CAADP food security network														Carried out throughout FY2010; will continue in FY 2011
A6.2: Dembele serves on National Agricultural Research Council														Carried out throughout FY2010; will continue in FY 2011
A6.3: Graduate Education of Malian graduate research assistants														Carried out throughout FY2010; will continue in FY 2011
A6.4: Meet with USAID consultants and staff on GFSR and other agricultural development initiatives														Carried out throughout FY2010; will continue in FY 2011

Achievements Relative to Performance Indicators

Appendix 1 presents the performance of PROMISAM II in achieving the performance indicators outlined in the projects Performance Management Plan (PMP). The indicators are those in the revised PMP submitted to USAID/Mali in September 2010, but the targets are those set out in the PMP that was in force at the beginning of the FY.¹ In most cases, the project met or exceeded the targets set out in the PMP, although in the case of local training in monitoring plan implementation, the gender balance was not adequate, requiring remedial action in FY 2011. Cases where targets were not met were due to delays in implementation of specific activities, as explained in the last column of the appendix table and in the text above.

Concluding Remarks

PROMISAM II achieved notable successes in FY 2010, particularly with respect to the organization of the study tour to the US for Malian policy food policy makers, in helping push forward Mali's progress on CAADP, and in the launching of the agricultural economics program at IPR/IFRA. The research components of the program have had a longer gestation period, but in FY 2011, increased empirical findings from the farm- and market-level research should help improve the level of food policy debates in Mali and give CSA, IPR, and IER colleagues increased experience in carry out empirically based food policy analyses. In anticipation of the 2012 elections, many local and government officials may be less available for policy outreach during the second half of 2011. But the elections also offer an opportunity for the project to provide to the public empirical findings regarding the agricultural development and food policy opportunities and challenges facing Mali, which may help to frame to political debates.

¹ The revised PMP reduced the number of impact indicators for the project, as well as provided more detail on how they were measured, how the data are managed, and quality assurance measures.

Appendix 1. PROMISAM II FY 2010 Achievements Relative to PMP Performance Indicators

Indicator number	Program Elements and Indicators	Targets and Actuals					Comments
		Baseline 12/2008	Target for 9/30/2009	Actual for 9/30/09	Target for 9/30/2010	Actual for 9/30/10	
	Program Element: Program Support/Program Design and Learning Indic.						
1.1	Number of Evaluations (p.18)	0	0	0	10	30	Completed pilot commune evaluations ahead of schedule
1.2	Number of Information Gathering or Research Activities (p.19)	0	0	0	3	2	
1.3	Number of People Trained in Monitoring and Evaluation (p.20)	0	0	0	130	164	
	- Men	0	0	0		152	
	- Women	0	0	0		12	Will undertake additional training in FY 2011 targeted at women to improve gender balance
	Program Element: 2.1 Trade and Investment Enabling Environment						
2.1	Number of consultative processes with private sector as a result of USG assistance. (p. 31)	0	1	1	2	1	Delay in holding border conference accounts for only 1 consultation achieved (CAADP)
2.2	Number of USG supported training events held relating to the trade and investment environment (p. 36)	0	1	1	1	1	
2.3	Number of participants in trade and investment trainings (SD) (p. 36)	0	38	38	10	10	
	- Men	0	37	37	6	6	
	- Women	0	1	1	4	4	

Appendix 1. PROMISAM II FY 2010 Achievements Relative to PMP Performance Indicators (continued).

Program Elements and Indicators		Targets and Actuals					Comments
Indicator number	Program Element numbers are taken from the EG Handbook and page numbers below refer to the page in the EG Handbook where the indicator is defined.	Baseline 12/2008	Target for 9/30/2009	Actual for 9/30/09	Target for 9/30/2010	Actual for 9/30/10	
Program Element: 5.1 Agriculture Enabling Environment							
3.1	Number of individuals who have received USG supported short-term agricultural enabling environment training (Disaggregated by gender) (p. 82)	0	4	4	14	8	
	- Men	0	2	2	8	5	
	- Women	0	2	2	6	3	
3.2	Number of individuals who have received USG supported long-term agricultural enabling environment training (Disaggregated by gender) (p. 82)	0	3	3	7	5	
	- Men	0	1	1	2	1	
	- Women	0	2	2	5	4	
3.3	Number of policies/regulations/administrative procedures analyzed with USG assistance (p. 83)	0	2	2	2	1	Lower "actual" reflects delay in implementing border conference
3.4	Number of policies/regulations/administrative procedures drafted and presented for public/stakeholder consultation as a result of USG assistance (p.84)	0	2	2	2	0	Lower "actual" reflects delay in implementing border conference
3.5	Number of Institutions/organizations undergoing capacity/competency assessments as a result of USG assistance (p. 88)	0	4	4	1	1	
3.6	Number of institutions/organizations mature/viable in the competency areas strengthened as a result of USG assistance (p. 91)	0	2	2	1	1	

Appendix 1. PROMISAM II FY 2010 Achievements Relative to PMP Performance Indicators (continued).

Program Elements and Indicators		Targets and Actuals					Comments
Indicator number	Program Element numbers are taken from the EG Handbook and page numbers below refer to the page in the EG Handbook where the indicator is defined.	Baseline 12/2008	Target for 9/30/2009	Actual for 9/30/09	Target for 9/30/2010	Actual for 9/30/10	
	Program Element: 5.2 Agricultural Sector Productivity						
4.1	Number of individuals who have received USG-supported long-term agricultural sector productivity training (p. 103)	0	30	30	6	33	Increased numbers relative to target reflect successful launch of IPR/IFRA ag. econ. program
	- Men	0	23	23	3	25	
	- Women	0	7	7	3	7	

Appendix 2. PROMISAM II TDYs during FY 2010

The following TDYs were carried out in support of the project objectives during the quarter. Many of the TDYs were co-financed by MSU's non-USAID/Mali food security projects in Mali, as the MSU staff frequently combined trips to work on more than one project.

Margaret Beaver (Computer/statistical analysis specialist, MSU)

- **February 20-March 15, 2010.** Assisted PROMISAM II personnel complete data cleaning of first round of cereal production and marketing survey and prepare for round 2. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (45%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (55%).

Duncan Boughton (MSU faculty member and co-director, Food Security III Cooperative Agreement)

- **Nov. 28 – Dec. 20, 2009.** Building on earlier discussions with Bamako based MSU team, IER and other colleagues in April-May, he undertook a rapid appraisal of maize and other coarse grain marketing channels in the southern CMDT zone with collaborating CSA staff to understand changes in structure, conduct and performance of cereal markets. He also participated with USAID Mali partners meeting December 8 – 7 (Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation)
- **January 24 – February 6, 2010.** PROMISAM II-funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) briefing USAID mission staff on observations from CSA/IER/MSU rapid appraisal/key informant interviews with cereal producers and traders in December 2009; (b) reviewing progress in data cleaning for first round of household level cereal production and marketing data; (c) finalizing round 2 questionnaire and enumerator training program; and (d) consulting with SAP, DNSI and other partners on design of study of role of cereal markets in assuring food security in vulnerable areas. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (60%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (40%).
- **March 14-27, 2010.** PROMISAM II-funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) reviewing final cleaning outcomes of first round of household level cereal production and marketing data; (b) undertaking preliminary analysis of cleaned data with IER colleagues and Abdul Murekezi (MSU); and (c) participating in methods workshop for rapid appraisal of changes in structure, conduct and performance of cereals markets over the past two decades with OMA and CSA colleagues. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (75%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (25%).
- **May 16-29, 2010.** Prepared a synthesis paper to highlight the nature of the food insecurity challenge in Mali for the planned June 2010 USAID/Mali partners' meeting, participated in the presentation of the agricultural productivity synthesis paper by Jeremy Foltz (prepared for the same partners' meeting) and prepared comments on the draft paper, and worked with Nango Dembele on follow up to the March cereal marketing studies planning workshop.
- **July 24 – Aug. 6, 2010.** PROMISAM II-funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) work with Nango Dembele to develop terms of reference and implementation plan for a rapid reconnaissance survey to determine/update major cereals marketing axes (identification of production zones, markets, and major channels) within Mali and their links to West African regional market; (b) monitor progress with last round of data collection on household cereal production and marketing patterns; (c) follow up with local counterparts on

preliminary information gaps for the agricultural sector review being carried out by MSU. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (75%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (25%).

Eric Crawford (MSU faculty member and co-director, Food Security III Cooperative Agreement)

- **Nov. 30 – Dec. 9, 2009.** The PROMISAM II portion of his TDY (75%) was devoted to collaboration with IPR/IFRA de Katibougou, MSU/PROMISAM staff in Bamako, and MSU TDY Professors Loveridge and Ross to develop a work plan for developing course content and implementing the planned new licence-level and masters level specializations in agricultural economics, agribusiness, and agricultural policy at IPR/IFRA de Katibougou. Other activities included contacts with USAID/Mali regarding implementation of FS III Associate Award, discussion with Peace Corps/Mali regarding PROMISAM II-Peace Corps collaboration, participation in the USAID partners meeting on December 8 and 9, and contributions to project management discussions. (Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II and MSU's grant from the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture).

Amadou Diallo (Graduate Research Assistant, Dept. of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, MSU)

- **June 6 – August 27, 2010.** PROMISAM II funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) develop and teach a 6-week course at IPR/IFRA to 1st-year students on introduction to the agro-food system and on food policy analysis and (b) work with Mali-based MSU team, IER, CESA, and CSA colleagues in carrying out a rapid assessment study of major constraints and opportunities in the maize value chain in Mali and its links to regional markets. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (75%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (25%).

Cheick Oumar Diarra (Visiting scholar at MSU and former Malian ambassador to the U.S.)

- **June 19-28, 2010.** Work focused on: (a) strategizing with PROMISAM II team, CPS and other GOM colleagues on the best ways to ensure efficient implementation of Mali's CAADP program; (b) participating in the USAID/Mali partners' meeting on June 22-23; and strategizing with PROMISAM II, IER, IPR/IFRA, and APCAM colleagues on ways of strengthening coordination.

Jeremy Foltz (Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Independent Consultant)

- **May 16 – June 1, 2010.** Prepared a synthesis paper, as background for the USAID/Mali-AEG partners' meeting in June, focusing on the potential to improve food security and reduce poverty in Mali through the diffusion of improved agricultural technologies in the main crop and livestock subsectors.

Valerie Kelly (Associate Professor, International Development, Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics, MSU)

- Period in Mali working on PROMISAM II, **May 22-29, 2010** (part of a longer trip to Senegal and Mali co-funded by 3 projects). PROMISAM II-funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: Work with Duncan Boughton, Nango Dembele, and collaborators at IER

and CSA to help develop background paper for USAID/Mali-AEG partners' meeting in June on potential of new agricultural technologies (with particular emphasis on the potential contributions of soil and water conservation technologies and issues of input (particularly fertilizer) supply) on improving economic growth and food security in Mali. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (25%), MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (25%), and USAID/Senegal-funded PCE project (50%).

Steve Longabaugh (Specialist, International Development Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics, MSU)

- **January 3-16, 2010.** Improve project administration and reporting by helping PROMISAM II staff install and implement a system to monitor the progress of project deliverables; developing a system that on an on-going basis, assembles completed outputs and forwards them for posting to the FSG website; and developing a weekly routine to backup project computers. Work with the CSA to assure that its web site and other formats (CDs, paper copies) of key documents support the work of the local committees. Conduct a user needs survey of IPR/IFRA regarding getting their publications, scanned and on the web to help support the new program in agricultural economics.

Scott Loveridge (MSU faculty member and director of the graduate program in agricultural, food and resource economics at MSU)

- **Nov. 30 – Dec. 9, 2009.** TDY was devoted to collaboration with IPR/IFRA de Katibougou, MSU/PROMISAM staff in Bamako, and MSU TDY Professors Crawford and Ross to develop a work plan for developing course content and implementing the planned new licence-level and masters level specializations in agricultural economics, agribusiness, and agricultural policy at IPR/IFRA de Katibougou.

Abdoul Karim Murekezi (Assistant Professor International Development, Dept. of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, MSU)

- **March 14-27, 2010.** Met with IPR/IFRA colleagues to discuss syllabi and content for the courses of the their new curriculum and guest lecturer series; reviewed the preparation of the IPR faculty members' visit in April to MSU and to Laval University; reviewed final cleaning outcomes of first round of household level cereal production and marketing data; undertook preliminary analysis of cleaned data with IER colleagues and Duncan Boughton. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (75%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (25%).
- **May 9-29, 2010.** PROMISAM II funded portion of the trip focused on the following activities: (a) integration of the RuralStruc data base collected by CIRAD/IER/MSU in 2007 with the data base currently being collected by MSU/IER to create a 3-year panel; (b) undertaking preliminary analysis on the combined RuralStruc and MSU/IER data sets; (c) help design and test the questionnaire for the upcoming income survey covering the 2008/09 year; (d) train interviewers in the use of the instrument and launch the 3rd round of the survey; (e) provide general backstopping of the data collection, entry, and cleaning procedures, and (f) help in the data sets management through data checking, update data bases and in monitoring of data cleaning and documentation. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (50%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (50%).

Souleymane Ouattara (Head of the Planning Unit, *Cellule de Planification et de Statistique du Secteur du Développement Rural*, Ministry of Agriculture of Mali)

- **June 3-8, 2010.** Travel from Mali to Dakar, Senegal, As part of PROMISAM II's support to the Mali CAADP team and at the request of the Ministry of Agriculture and of USAID/Mali, PROMISAM II supported Mr. Ouattara's travel to Dakar to participate as part of the Malian delegation to the ECOWAS regional meeting at which priority national CAADP investment programs were reviewed in preparation for the ECOWAS/CAADP Business Meeting on financing the CAADP plans, June 13-17, 2010.

Robert Richardson (Assistant Professor, Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation, and Resource Studies, MSU)

- **June 12-25, 2010.** Met with PROMISAM II team, USAID/Mali AEG team members, and USAID partners to discuss potential collaborations in Mali related to tourism development and food security; visited Global Sustainable Tourism Alliance's activities in the Dogon country; and participated in the USAID/Mali-AEG's partners' meeting, serving as small-group discussion facilitator.

Brent Ross (MSU faculty member)

- **Nov. 30 – Dec. 9, 2009.** TDY was devoted to collaboration with IPR/IFRA de Katibougou, MSU/PROMISAM staff in Bamako, and MSU TDY Professors Crawford and Loveridge to develop a work plan for developing course content and implementing the planned new licence-level and masters-level specializations in agricultural economics, agribusiness, and agricultural policy at IPR/IFRA de Katibougou.

Mark Skidmore (Professor and Morris Chair in State and Local Government Finance and Policy, Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, MSU)

- **June 19-26, 2010.** Participated in USAID/Mali – AEG's partners' meeting; served as small-group discussion facilitator; Met with Food Security Commission staff to consider how to improve the targeting of the programs; met with local leaders of Doumba commune (Koulikoro region) to discuss challenges they face in implementing decentralization policies; met with OMA staff to consider how to adapt OMA's cell-phone based data collection system to the gather information about local conditions and policies; and met with staff of MSI to review the PGP2 program.

Juha Sohlberg (Statistical Specialist, Department of Agricultural Food and Resource Economics, MSU)

- **July 26-September 8, 2010.** Worked with PROMISAM II's data management specialist Sidibé Thiam to develop/improve data cleaning routines for the ongoing farm-level survey (round 2) and develop cleaning techniques for round 3 of the survey. Provided additional SPSS training to Ms. Thiam so that she will be better able to carry out training with Malian partners such as the SAP and IPR/IFRA. Consulted with SAP on their needs for help in modifying their computer program that helps classifies communes in terms of their degree of food insecurity. Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (75%) and MSU's grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation (25%).

Miriam Brady Sohlberg (Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural Food and Resource Economics, MSU)

- **July 20 – August 30, 2010.** Activities included: (a) work with Abdramane Traoré, PGP2, and Peace Corps staff on design and implementation of program to monitor the implementation of the local food security plans, including participating in the training of the local monitors in the Mopti region; (b) conducting further analyses of the content of the local food security plans, at the request of the Food Security Commission; (c) working with IPR staff on the design of a system to manage IPR's library and electronic resources to be used in the agricultural economics program; and (d) working with PROMISAM II's database specialist, Sibé Thiam, on the implementation of the PROMISAM output-tracking database system.

John Staatz (Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Agricultural, Food and Resource Economics, MSU)

- **January 16-31, 2010,** including travel to both Senegal and Mali. Travel to Senegal (supported by USAID/Senegal) included work with SAGIC/CRE project colleagues, USAID/Senegal staff, Senegalese partners and a visiting Malian delegation from APCAM, ROESAO, and PROMISAM II to plan a Senegal-Mali border conference aimed at facilitating agricultural trade along the Dakar-Bamako corridor. PROMISAM II-supported activities in Mali included: (a) work with IPR/IFRA colleagues on course-development, plans for strengthening library resources (including electronic resources), equipment acquisition, faculty strengthening and faculty exchanges in the agricultural economics program; (b) work with CSA and IER colleagues on and implementation of marketing studies, on training program for CSA staff on food security issues, with USAID and CSA on planned trip of food policy leaders to the US April; (c) work with Mali-based team, USAID-Mali, and CPS teams on identifying follow-up actions on the CAADP agenda; and (c) work with Bamako-based team on PROMISAM II's quarterly report for the period Oct-Dec., 2009. . Trip co-financed by PROMISAM II (50%), MSU's grant from the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture (37.5%), and USAID/Senegal's PCE project (12.5%).
- **June 12-29, 2010,** including travel to both Senegal and Mali. In Senegal, participated in ECOWAS regional CAADP meeting, where national and regional priority implementation plans were discussed and validated. Spent one day discussing with Jean Harman, Peter Trenchart of USAID/Senegal, and PCE staff the latest plans for Mali-Senegal border conference on regional agricultural trade. In Mali, PROMISAM II-funded activities included: (a) Helping prepare and participating in USAID/Mali - AEG's partners meeting; (b) working with Mali-based team, USAID-Mali, and CPS teams, and Cheick Oumar Diarra from MSU on identifying follow-up actions on the CAADP agenda, building on results of Malian delegation's study tour to the US and the Feed the Future symposium in Washington in May; (c) working Mark Skidmore to introduce him to the work on local food security plans, monitoring issues, IPR/IFRA program and food security targeting; (d) in collaboration with PROMISAM-team, finalize list of project performance indicators. Trip co-funded by PROMISAM II (50%), Syngenta Foundation (37.5%), and ECOWAS (12.5%).

El Hadji Tamboura (Technical Advisor, APCAM), Souleymane Nimaga (cereals merchant, Bamako), Dramane Diarra (livestock trader, Segou), and Abdramane Traoré (PROMISAM II),

- **January 17-24, 2010** from Bamako to Dakar. Trip was to meet with Senegalese counterparts, USAID/Senegal and PCE officials, and John Staatz of MSU to help plan the Mali- Senegal border conference for later in the year.

TDY of CSA group to MSU and of group plus **MSU faculty (Staatz, Skidmore, Boughton)** to Washington (**April 11-24, 2010**).

TDY of 2 IPR faculty members (Kouyaté and Samassé) plus MSU faculty (**Crawford and Murekezi**) to Université Laval in Québec (**April 11-24, 2010**).