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FEED THE FUTURE AGRICULTURE POLICY SUPPORT PROJECT

**ANNUAL REPORT (OCTOBER 2016 - SEPTEMBER 2016)
PROJECT YEAR 3, QUARTER 4**



November 11, 2016

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Contract No. 641-C-14-00001

Cover Photo: Staff from the Statistics, Research and Information Directorate (SRID) of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), searching for a satellite signal on their tablets. SRID is using this technology for GPS measurement of farm sizes to collect data on farm yields. Community of Tontron, Eastern Region of Ghana.
Photo: USAID/APSP

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ACRONYMS

AAU	Agriculture and Agribusiness Unit
ACAT	Advocacy Capacity Assessment Tool
ADVANCE II	Agricultural Development and Value Chain Enhancement Project II
AESD	Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate
Africa LEAD	Africa Leadership Training & Capacity Building Program
AGRA	Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa
AgSLM	Agriculture Sustainable Land Management
APPDF	Agriculture Public-Private Dialogue Forum
APR	Annual Progress Review
APSP	Agriculture Policy Support Project
APM	Agriculture Policy Matrix
ASWG	Agricultural Sector Working Group
ATTP	Agriculture Technology Transfer Project
BoG	Bank of Ghana
BUSAC	Business Sector Advocacy Challenge
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
CCC	Collaborative Circle of COPs
CD	Chief Director
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEPA	Center for Policy Analysis
CiCOL	Civil Society Coalition on Land
CLIP	Community Life Improvement Project
CLMC	Community Land Management Committees
COP	Chief of Party
COR	Contract Officer's Representative
CRI	Crop Research Institute
CRIS	Centre for Rural Improvement Services
CSIR	Council for Scientific & Industrial Research
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DAES	Directorate of Agriculture Extension Services
DCS	Directorate of Crop Services
DFID	Department for International Development
DG	Director General
DP	Development Partner
DUS	Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability
DQA	Data Quality Assessment
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDRI	Ethiopian Development Research Institute
EG	Economic Growth
EPDRA	Evangelical Presbyterian Development and Relief Agency

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FASDEP II	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy II
FBO	Farmer Based Organization
FinGAP	Financing Ghanaian Agriculture Project
FMSL	Farm Management Services Limited
FTF	Feed the Future
FTFMS	Feed the Future Monitoring System
FY	Fiscal Year
GAABIC	Ghana Agricultural Associations Business & Information Centre
GADS	Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy
GAPS	Ghana Agriculture Production Surveys
GAIDA	Ghana Agriculture Inputs Dealers Association
GARDJA	Ghana Agriculture and Rural Development Journalist Association
GASIP	Ghana Agriculture Sector Investment Program
GCAP	Ghana Commercial Agriculture Project
GIBA	Ghana Independent Broadcasters Association
GIDA	Ghana Irrigation Development Authority
GIMPA	Ghana Institute for Management and Public Administration
GIRSAL	Ghana Incentive-based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
GSID	Ghana Seeds Inspection Division
GSSP	Ghana Strategic Support Program
GTLC	Ghana Trade and Livelihoods Coalition
GOG	Government of Ghana
GPS	Global Positioning System
HAG	Hunger Alliance of Ghana
IAPRI	Indaba Agriculture Policy Research Institute
IFDC	International Fertilizer Development Center
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IMCL	Integrated Management Consultancy Limited
IP	Implementing Partner
IR	Intermediate Result
ISSER	Institute of Social Statistical and Economic Research
ISU	Iowa State University
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
JSR	Joint Sector Review
KEEA	Komenda-Elmina-Eguafo-Abirem
KRA	Key Result Area
LAP	Land Administration Project
LCS	Lands Commission Secretariat
LDP	Livestock Development Policy

M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAFAP	Monitoring and Analysing Food and Agricultural Policies
MDA	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
MEAS	Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services
MESTI	Ministry of Environment Science Technology and Innovations
METASIP	Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan
METSS	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Technical Support Services
MLGRD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
MLNR	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MoFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
MP	Member of Parliament
MoTI	Ministry of Trade and Industries
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NA	New Alliance
NAFCO	National Food Buffer Stock Company
NARI	National Agriculture Research Institution
NASTAG	National Seed Trade Association of Ghana
NBA	National Bio-Safety Authority
NGGA	Northern Ghana Governance Activity
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NORPRA	Northern Patriots in Research and Advocacy
NSA	Non-State Actor
NSC	National Seed Council
NSEZ	Northern Savannah Ecological Zone
NORTHCODE	Northern Corridor Development
OCAT	Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool
PCU	Programme Coordination Unit
PIRS	Performance Indicator Reference Sheets
PITT	Performance Indicator Tracking Table
PMP	Performance Management Plan
POSDEV	Pan-African Organization for Sustainable Development
PPB	Policy Planning and Budget
PPBD	Policy Planning and Budget Directorate
PPRSD	Plant Protection Regulatory Services Directorate
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
MED	Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate
RADs	Regional Agricultural Departments
RADU	Regional Agriculture Development Unit
ReSAKSS	Regional-SAKSS
RFP	Request for Proposal
RUWA	Rural and Urban Women's Association
SADA	Savannah Accelerated Development Authority

SAFE	Small Action for Enterprise
SAKSS	Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System
SARI	Savannah Agriculture Research Institute
SIRDA	Savannah Integrated Rural Development Aid
SC	Steering Committee
SCFACA	Parliament Select Committee for Food Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs
SEEDPAG	Seed Producers Association of Ghana
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
SRID	Statistics Research and Information Directorate
STAG	Seed Traders Association of Ghana
STTA	Short Term Technical Assistance
TA	Technical Assistance
TEC	Technical Evaluation Committee
TOR	Terms of Reference
TVRC	Technical Variety Release Committee
UCC	University of Cape Coast
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UoG	University of Ghana
USG	United States Government
VCU	Value for Cultivation and Use
VPS	Virtual Private Server
VSD	Veterinary Services Department
WACSI	West Africa Civil Society Institute
WIAD	Women in Agriculture Development

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The USAID/Ghana FtF Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP) is pleased to submit its Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2016, covering the period of October 2015 to September 2016. APSP began on December 17, 2013 with the goal of improving the food security-enabling environment for private sector investment in Ghana. APSP will achieve this by increasing the capacity of Government of Ghana (GoG), the private sector, and civil society organizations to implement evidence-based policy formation and implementation, research, and advocacy, as well as perform rigorous monitoring and evaluation of agricultural programs implemented under the Medium Term Agriculture Sector Investment Plan (METASIP).

As Figure 1 shows, to achieve its contractual goals, APSP implements activities through three project components.

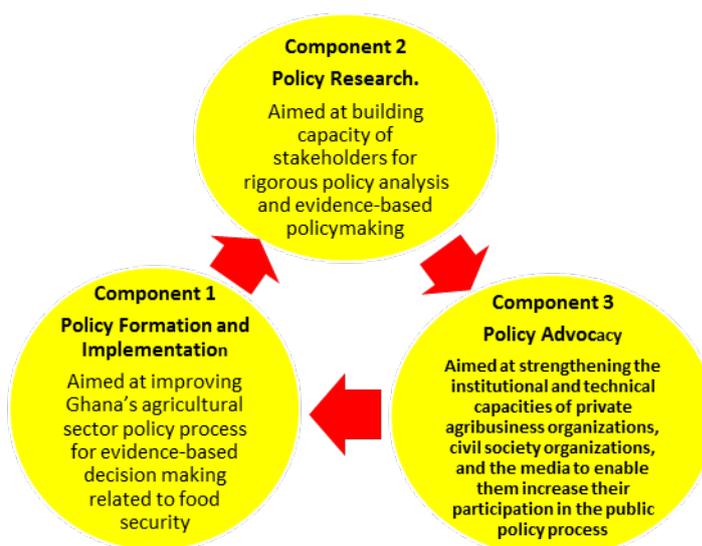
Context on Project Interventions

During FY3, APSP built on its project achievements by further strengthening the agriculture policy process in Ghana. In this sense, APSP has adopted an integrated and consultative

implementation strategy to respond to changing needs and capacity building priorities of the GoG and of all of its policy stakeholders. APSP's approach is: "The agriculture policy agenda of our Ghanaian stakeholders is our agenda." This means that APSP is working to promote the agenda of its stakeholders while ensuring that project interventions respond to both METASIP and GoG priorities and to the contractual mandate. MoFA is primarily responsible for identifying and formulating agriculture policies in Ghana and therefore is APSP's foremost partner for the implementation and accomplishment of project targets.

APSP has provided technical expertise to assess capacity needs of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) and other Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) in order to tailor our training programs to address critical capacity deficiencies. APSP has implemented essential policy studies and training of key stakeholders and has provided embedded technical advice to relevant units of MoFA, such as the Policy Planning and Budget Directorate (PPBD), Statistics Research and Information Directorate (SRID), Women in Agriculture Development (WIAD), Directorate of Crop Services (DCS), Plant Protection Regulatory Services Directorate (PPRS), Veterinary Services Department (VSD) and Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate (AESD). These interventions continue to make positive impacts

Figure 1. Agriculture Policy Support Project Components



on MoFA’s policy analysis, budgeting, planning, coordination, and monitoring and evaluation and thereby contribute to strengthening the agriculture policy process in Ghana. Based on these interventions, the project is on track on relevant project targets. The full implementation of policy recommendations by the GoG, will contribute to transforming the agriculture sector in Ghana. For example, the GoG has adopted its 2016 fertilizer subsidy program recommendations from an APSP-commissioned soil fertility study (in collaboration with other partners). These recommendations enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the program (details below).

In addition, APSP provided technical expertise to the GoG to review and redraft Ghana’s Land Bill, which—when passed as expected next year by Parliament and implemented by the GoG—will transform land administration in the country and promote access to secured agriculture lands. APSP’s support to the implementation of the Plant and Fertilizers Act 803, through the provision of technical expertise to review, draft and develop the seeds regulations and procedures and to train relevant public and private seed stakeholders on its application, is vital to the implementation of the act. Along with an intensive public education program on the law also implemented by the project, these interventions are strengthening the enabling environment to boost private sector investments in the seed industry, a sub-sector highly critical to improving farms yields and increase incomes.

By responding to our stakeholders’ needs and approaching them with transparency and clarity on the extent of the project’s support, we have been able to lay out the foundations for trustful and effective relationships. Our stakeholders have publicly conveyed their satisfaction with the capacity building interventions implemented by the project:

Quote	Stakeholder	Relationship with Policy Area
“APSP’s support to our work has been outstanding and we count on the project for further assistance, going forward.”	Daniel Ohemeng-Boateng, MoFA’s Director for Policy, Planning and Budget at APSP FY4 Work plan session in August, 2016	MoFA’s capacity building through policy analysis trainings of key staff and development of policy studies
“I don’t know how MoFA could have managed its policy structures without APSP.”	Lambert Abusah, MoFA’s Director for Monitoring and Evaluation at SAKSS Coordinators meeting at MoFA, November 2016	MoFA’s capacity building through trainings provided to the METASIP Steering Committee and staff of MoFA and SAKSS Nodes and the logistic support provided to the ministry to operationalize the METASIP’s Secretariat
“The training exercise has introduced us to a wide array of policy topics and stimulated us to continue to improve on our skills to deliver on our institutional mandate.”	Dorothy Effa, Deputy Director in charge of Policy at MoFA’s PPBD, during training for 14 MoFA Policy Unit staff in February, 2016	MoFA’s capacity building through training of the Policy Unit’s staff to develop their skills to undertake policy analysis

<p>"Many donors do not believe in SAFE-Ghana at the beginning. We remain grateful to APSP for the support and capacity building to enable a relatively unknown and young organization to spearhead such a massive work in championing rice production in the Volta Region. APSP's approach is a major new way to deliver support to organizations. We can only continue to deliver positive results with speed for the confidence that APSP has reposed in us."</p>	<p>Patrick K. Avumegah, Small Action for Enterprise-Ghana (SAFE-Ghana), Team Leader, during a monitoring visit to his office at Ho</p>	<p>Building the capacity of local NGOs to strengthen their institutional and advocacy skills</p>
<p>"We have worked with partners, but it was just to help us implement our activities, but APSP is different, it recognized the sustainability of local organizations as strategic to achieving progress and sustaining the gains in the communities beyond the project period; therefore built our capacity in key areas. SIRDA is a success story and our story cannot be told without mentioning APSP. The Board and management of SIRDA wishes to say thanks very much to APSP and especially to the AMERICAN PEOPLE for investing in the organization TOTALLY."</p>	<p>Alima Sagito, Savannah Integrated Rural Development Aid (SIRDA) Executive Director during a monitoring visit to their office in Tamale</p>	<p>Building the capacity of local NGOs to strengthen their institutional and advocacy skills</p>
<p>"At first, I was of the opinion that agriculture could be subsumed under the Economic Planning and Social Welfare Committee of the Assembly. But my involvement in the activities carried out by FMSL has helped me to realize that agriculture forms more than 70% of economic activity in our communities, and the need to plan for all-year round agriculture. Therefore, I changed my mind and spearheaded the activation of an Agriculture Sub-Committee and this committee has become the life-wire of our Municipal Assembly. Your grantee, FMSL, has carved out a brand as an advocate for agriculture and farmers in this municipality."</p>	<p>Municipal Chief Executive of Yilo-Krobo Municipal Assembly on the impact of a project grant activity by grantee Farm Management Services Limited (FSML) 90.3</p>	<p>Building the capacity of local NGOs to strengthen their institutional and advocacy skills.</p> <p>This specific quote reflects the impacts of strengthening the advocacy capacities of APSP's grantees, from the perspective of a beneficiary.</p>
<p>"Before this USAID activity, we operated as individual fish farmers without knowing each other. After attending the advocacy training and policy dialogues for three days, we decided to form a fish farmers FBO – East Akim Aqua Culture Association – we have a constitution registered in January 2016. We have 33 members paying dues and the association is growing steadily. This has amplified our voices and we have already engaged the government official in this region with our problems – Fisheries Commission and MOFAD - and we have had some responses in the form of assistance to improve our businesses."</p>	<p>Victor Ofori, Chairman of the East Akim Fish Farmers Association, a beneficiary from a grant implemented by Pan-African Organization for Sustainable Development (POSDEV)</p>	<p>Building the capacity of local NGOs to strengthen their institutional and advocacy skills.</p> <p>This specific quote reflects the impacts of strengthening the advocacy capacities of APSP's grantees, from the perspective of a beneficiary.</p>

As a unique approach to foster coordination and communication among other Feed the Future projects in Ghana, APSP has been a leading actor in the establishment and functioning of the Collaborative Circle of Chiefs of Party (CCC). The CCC is meeting on quarterly basis since March 2014. At the CCC, projects identify mutual coordination opportunities, share operational lessons and fundamentally discuss and share knowledge on technical interventions to enhance the overall impact of the FtF program in Ghana. From CCC discussions, APSP has established working partnerships with the Agricultural Development and Value Chain Enhancement Project (ADVANCE) II, the Financing Ghanaian Agriculture Project (FINGAP), and the Agriculture Technology Transfer Project (ATTP). APSP works with these partners to implement agriculture policy dialogues and pro-business forums in the Northern Region, to assist MoFA with discussions and design of the Ghana Incentive-based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (GIRSAL), and to support the

GoG with the implementation of Act 803 to develop the seed industry in Ghana, respectively.

APSP has also collaborated with other USAID-funded programs and development partners, such as the Ghana Strategic Support Program (GSSP) implemented by International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Business Sector Advocacy Challenge (BUSAC) Fund, the USAID-sponsored Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services (MEAS) project, German Society for International Cooperation (GiZ), and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on key policy issues such as developing a soil fertility management strategy for Ghana, enhancing private sector advocacy for seed policy reforms, review of agriculture extension policy, etc. This report presents detailed accounts of the activities that APSP has implemented with these development partners. In all, APSP has targeted these collaborative efforts at promoting the participation of the private sector in the policy process while strengthening the enabling environment for increased private sector investments in the agriculture sector.

APSP's approach to strengthening the agriculture policy process has not only involved providing expertise and training to MoFA and other MDAs as explained above, but also has deliberately promoted the implementation of policy dialogues to bring in closer together public and private stakeholders. In this sense, APSP has implemented a three-pronged approach to enable public and private stakeholders to engage in policy discussions on national level policies, sector-specific policy issues and district-level policy concerns. To date, APSP's approach, through FY3 the project has implemented 85 policy dialogues, attended by over 8,000 public and private sector stakeholders, covering 44 districts in nine regions of Ghana.

For example at the national level, APSP has promoted discussions on Food and Agriculture Sector Development Policy (FASDEP) and METASIP, which have enabled regional and district authorities to understand better the context and objectives of these frameworks, how do these tie in with their own regional/local programs and to assess preparedness of their respective governments to responds to demands from farmers. In addition, the dialogues on national policies have enabled farmer organizations to engage more effectively with policy makers, which enhances mutual accountability in the implementation of policies. For example, the Volta Region Rice Farmer Based Organization (FBO) Network—one of the organizations attending these dialogues—has advocated for increased support from authorities to develop rice value chains in the region given that that farmers are convinced of the region's potential to increase rice production. In the Upper West Region, farmer organizations are engaging with political authorities to push for solutions to improve farmers' access to farm mechanization services, fertilizers, and irrigation facilities.

Policy dialogues on sector-specific issues have already made an impact, including on the law governing plants and fertilizers, the national seed development plan, the subsidy program on fertilizers, agriculture extension, land management, gender mainstreaming, youth in agriculture, among many others. When APSP presented, explained, and discussed the contents and objectives of the Plant and Fertilizers Act 2010 (Act 803) to key stakeholders—farmers, agro input dealers, district level MoFA authorities, extension and security agents—this promoted a surge in the interest of farmers accessing good quality inputs. Agro input dealers have realized that

registration with MoFA to comply with the law gives them a competitive edge compared to dealers operating illegally. Agriculture extension agents now use the text of the law to promote among farmers, good agricultural practices, as it is the intent of Act 803 on the use of adequate input packages, safe handling of agrochemicals, etc.

In fact, at these dialogues and trainings, participants indicated that they did not previously know that such a law existed in Ghana. In addition, APSP has also promoted the engagement of public sector authorities and civil society representatives, including traditional chiefs and private sector agriculture organizations, to discuss land policy reforms, among them, a draft of the Land bill and guidelines for acquisition of large tracks of land. The Land Administration Project (LAP) and the Lands Commission representatives have incorporated many of the suggestions stemming from the dialogues into the final drafts of these policy documents. When parliament enacts the Land Bill and the GoG implements its provisions, these reforms will improve land administration overall in Ghana, and based on safer land rights and transparent titling of interests, will strengthen the enabling environment for increased private sector investments in agriculture.

At policy dialogues on regional and district concerns, farmers, civil society organizations, regional and district level authorities, district assembly members, have engaged in discussions to devote resources to improve services to farmers. Content of the policy dialogues at the district level, ranged from establishing agriculture subcommittees in the district assemblies hitherto non-existent, to review budget allocation to ramp up agriculture programs and services to farmers, especially to expand agriculture extension to women, to addressing environmental degradation arising from indiscriminate cutting of rosewood trees or from bush fires.

On the impacts of these dialogues, for instance, in the Central Region of Ghana at least five districts have already established agriculture subcommittees on agriculture, which will facilitate the planning of agriculture programs and their corresponding budget allocations. In another five districts in the Northern Region, farmers and members of parliament (MPs) have established permanent dialogue platforms to assist in the provision of much needed farm services based on the political capacity of parliamentarians to demand responses from other branches of the GoG, including the Regional and district-level governments. After the policy dialogues, districts assemblies will develop agriculture development plans as blue prints for increased agriculture investments and tie to this planning process, and have committed to increase the budget for agriculture development to about 10 percent of the total annual budget of the district assemblies.

APSP has worked on multiple fronts to reform agricultural policy in Ghana. Through FY3, APSP has assisted its key public and private stakeholders to meet and constructively search for solutions to the myriad of technical and economic challenges that confront the agriculture sector in Ghana. At the same time, all participants came to understand the context and objectives of national, sector, and district policy concerns and about the roles that each one plays in their implementation, contributing to mutual accountability. At the onset of these policy dialogues, the APSP team would ask attendants if they knew about the existence of FASDEP or METASIP or Act 803 and approximately 98 percent of them would respond negatively. APSP's policy dialogues have not only contributed to enhance mutual accountability for policy

implementation as it is understood when both public and private stakeholders commit to it, but also as detailed in the present Annual Report, real policy reforms are taking place that will contribute to shape the pace and future of agriculture in Ghana.

As identified in the needs assessment that APSP conducted in FY2 on METASIP implementing institutions, among them MoFA and the Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (SAKSS) Nodes, the most relevant constraints to formulate agriculture policies in Ghana deal with the weak technical skills of the ministry's staff to undertake policy identification, formation and implementation. The needs assessment found relevant gaps in areas such as the identification of problems that require policy development, the collection of valid research data to support evidence-based policy proposals and the implementation of cost and benefit analysis for public proposals. Underlying this challenge is the inability of MoFA to attract local professionals with relevant post-graduate degrees and policy experience because of low wages in the public sector. This leads to the relevant question, of how could MoFA provide incentives to its talented staff and even retain and improved their capacities. The trainings that APSP implemented in FY3 to benefit MoFA and SAKSS Nodes members, for instance, made it possible for the SAKSS Nodes to identify two priority METASIP research topics, as explained further in the present annual report.

Major Accomplishment through FY3

A summary of the technical activities that APSP implemented in FY3 and a brief explanation on the impacts of these interventions by component is listed below:

Component 1: Policy Formation and Implementation	
Activity	Impacts
Provided permanent policy advice and technical assistance to MoFA's Policy Planning and Budget Directorate (PPDB), through APSP's embedded advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APSP embedded advisor provided technical expertise to draft METASIP II and participated in technical discussions to develop roadmap for drafting METASIP III to guide Ghana's agriculture investment plan for period 2018-2021 • Played lead role to initiate and launch MoFA flagship Ghana incentive-based risk-sharing system for agriculture lending (GIRSAL) policy with objective to enhance access to agriculture credit. • Supported PPBD in particular and MoFA, in general, to develop and implement their annual work plans. • Participated in weekly MoFA policy meetings, chaired by the Chief Director, and provided timely advice on national and international agriculture policy issues.
Trained 50 officials from METASIP implementing agencies in policy problem identification, data analysis, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.	Training is helping MoFA in problem identification. For example, SAKSS Nodes 2 and 4 identified two priority policy research studies, including 1. Changing land patterns and its implication on peri-urban agriculture and 2. Sustainable land management. Both studies, which will be commissioned in FY4, are in line with the government policy priorities under METASIP.
Organized working session with MoFA to agree on framework to strengthen Policy Unit; trained 14 assigned staff and completed organogram and job descriptions.	PPBD received guidance and suggestions for the strengthening of its Policy Unit and based on MoFA's institutional capabilities will work with the project on a feasible action plan and roadmap to advance with the restructuring of the unit.
Established Secretariat for National Seed Council (NSC). Trained members of NSC, staff of Ghana Seed Inspection Division, Technical Variety Release Committee, and researchers of the National Agriculture Research Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APSP intervention in 2014 kick-started implementation of the Plants and Fertilizer Act passed in 2010 (Act 803). • NSC secretariat will improve coordination of the seed industry and enhance the supervisory/regulatory roles of the Council. • Members of these regulatory bodies are fully aware of their critical roles for improving the enabling environment to promote the

	modernization of the seed sector in Ghana.
Produced manuals for MoFA to support implementation of Plant and Fertilizer Act 803, including a Crop Variety Evaluation and Release Manual and Accreditation and Seed Certification Manual.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoFA regulatory and supervisory roles are being enhanced. For example, MoFA is currently discussing strategies for expanding and increasing adoption of newly released seed varieties. Implementation of these protocols is formalizing and modernizing business/contract investments between the research institutes and seed producers, in sync with the objective of the seed law and lessening suspicions and mistrust.
Provided technical assistance to develop and train National Agriculture Research Institutions (NARIs) to develop Licensing Policies, Variety Licensing Agreements, and Basic Seed Production Contracts to help them commercialize their basic seed varieties.	
Trained 110 staff from MoFA, National Agriculture Research Institutions (NARIs) and private seed producers on the content, objectives and technical procedures of Act 803 and its applications, as part of ensuring its effective implementation.	<p>Skills acquired by participants are enhancing the technical skills of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoFA staff to enforce compliance with the law, ensuring that farmers will receive good quality input packages and that proper procedures are adopted by farmers and agro input dealers when accessing to seeds, fertilizers and agrochemicals, including importation of inputs Of researchers to promote the commercialization of breeder seed for multiplication by private seed producers Of private seed producers when engaging in the production of improved and/or certified seeds Of input dealers on the need to register their commercial operations, to ensure that sales of inputs and agrochemicals conform to the law and no economic or environment harm is caused from commercializing bad quality products.
Supported land reform initiatives by providing a technical expert in land laws to help finalize the draft Land Bill. APSP also provided logistics and input into technical discussions to finalize land policy guidelines for acquiring large track of lands.	The Land Bill and policy guidelines will reform overall land administration in Ghana, enhance transparency, secure land titles and provide land tenure security, lessen community agitations, and improve access to land, for long-term agriculture sector growth and development.
Handed-over to MoFA a system to collect, analyze and manage statistical data, along with state-of-the-art hardware and software and accessories to strengthen SRID's management of agriculture data	Based on the Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) system and the digital technologies that SRID will to collect agriculture data, MoFA is moving from paper to digital collection of agriculture data, ensuring relevance, credibility and quality of agriculture statistics as the basis for evidence-based agriculture policymaking.
Logistical support for a 4-day meeting and participated in the meeting to draft the 2015 Annual Performance Review (APR) and for printing 430 copies of the document.	The APR is crucial public sector effort and will be presented and discussed at a joint sector review (JSR) meeting scheduled for November, 2016, as part of Ghana's international obligation to encourage mutual accountability and promote broad-based stakeholder consultations on agriculture sector policy reforms for overall long-term agriculture sector growth.
Completed a review of the FBO Strategy as an effective platform/mechanism for agriculture extension delivery in Ghana.	MoFA has accepted the strategy document and currently developing an implementation plan to roll out the strategy to build strong farmer organizations, improve their operational efficiencies to provide agriculture extension services to their members, enhance farmer production and productivity; thereby increasing incomes and reducing poverty.
In order to enhance momentum of the New Alliance program in Ghana, project provided technical and financial support to MoFA to promote importance of safe handling of food, training 250 basic schoolchildren and teachers in the Ga West Municipality.	These activities sensitized the public, especially women and children, on the importance of safe handling of food, promoted increased consumption of nutrient dense foods, especially among women of reproductive age, and enhanced knowledge on safe, adequate and nutritious food.

Component 2: Policy Research	
Activity	Impacts
<p>Engaged MoFA and other relevant MDAs to develop the terms of reference and monitor the implementation of the on-going following policy studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of National Food Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO) • Situational Analysis of Agriculture Marketing • Assessment and Improvement in Agriculture Data Collection Methodologies for policymaking purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoFA and other relevant MDAs will receive relevant policy recommendations to adjust, improve, develop and/or implement new policies on the following areas: • Both the private sector and the GoG are concerned about the performance of NAFCO, from distorting the markets to missing on its role to establish food buffer stocks. • There is not an agriculture marketing policy in Ghana to improve efficiency and promote quality standards. Then the need to assess the status of agriculture marketing and based on its findings, develop the policy • The quality of data that MoFA collects is weak, affecting its relevance and credibility for policymaking process; then the need to examine options on data collection that will address these challenges.
<p>Commissioned the development of seven agriculture policy research studies through a competitive tender that requested proponents to present research topics as per the following priority METASIP thematic areas:</p> <p>Food Security and Emergency Preparedness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and meta-analysis of national food security in Ghana • Science & Technology Applied in Food and Agriculture: • Assessing the role and effectiveness of mobile phone technology on agricultural extension services delivery in northern Ghana: The case of Tolon district • Productivity heterogeneity and gender dichotomy of rice production in Ghana: Policy implications for farmer and agricultural technology innovations • An assessment of the preparedness of national research institutes and universities for Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) and Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) testing under the newly proposed Crop Variety Release and Registration System <p>Improved Institutional Coordination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyses of value chain approach by Association of Church-based Development Projects/Presbyterian Agriculture Services for development • Qualitative study of gender responsive agricultural extension for improved agricultural productivity in northern Ghana • Increased Competitiveness and Enhanced Integration • Market standardization, grading and pricing in the maize market in Ghana: the case of Ejura-Sekyeredumase municipality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy recommendations stemming from these high-quality research papers will provide the GoG with valuable evidence-based analysis to improve on the policy design and implementation of the METASIP thematic areas. • The awards were made to the University of Cape Coast, University of Development Studies, Council for Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR). • The grants will provide these institutions with the opportunity to empower themselves with public policy concerns, strengthening their relationship especially with MoFA, while building up their capacities on operating and managing donor support programs. • The individuals undertaking the research are building up their capacity as agriculture policy researchers.

Component 3: Policy Advocacy	
Activity	Impacts
<p>Supported the formation of an umbrella association, the National Association of Seed Traders of Ghana (NASTAG) to spearhead the agenda to transform Ghana's seed industry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant support to NASTAG fostered the unification of current splinter groups within the seed value chain, thus strengthening its position to engage government to stimulate the implementation of the seed policy, seed law and the seed plan, advocating all along to enhance the participation of the private sector in the seed industry of Ghana. • NASTAG will advocate for the improvement of the enabling environment to enable the private sector to take the lead in the production and commercialization of certified seeds, including production of foundation seeds and even participating in research into new breeder seed. • NASTAG will work with the policy makers to come out with strategies to mitigate the challenges in the sector from a business perspective to improve local and regional seed market opportunities, especially to take advantage of

	access to Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) markets.
Twelve local grantees have implemented policy advocacy and capacity building initiatives in seven regions of Ghana, including training and public education events on the content and objectives of the Plans and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803). Over 1800 public and private stakeholders have attended the activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant activities have strengthened the relationship between MPs and farmers, as reflected in the establishment of permanent dialogues platforms in six districts in Northern Ghana, as a mechanism to respond to farmers' demands. • At least five districts have established agriculture subcommittees in their assemblies, reflecting on the importance of the sector in the districts and the need to address farmers' concerns from the perspective of local policymakers. • Because of the trainings on Act 803, attended by farmers, agro input dealers, agriculture extension agents, security agencies and even public sector staff, farmers have started buying from registered agro input dealers such as in Saboba, Yendi, Chereponi in the Northern Region of Ghana and other districts in which the trainings were held. • Trainings became by themselves, agriculture extension activities because farmers in particular now are conscious and informed on the use of improved seeds, the safe handling of agrochemicals, the labelling of inputs to assist in the identification of adulterated fertilizers and agrochemicals and now scrutinizing the labels of the inputs before buying them. • Non-State Actors (NSAs) comprising civil society, farmer based and for-profit agribusiness organizations such as Savannah Integrated Rural Development Aid (SIRDA), Rural and Urban Women's Association (RUWA) and Small Action for Enterprise (SAFE) Ghana through APSP's capacity building have developed their capacity in proposal writing and have already won bids to expand their agriculture development activities with support from other donors such as Global Communities, Africa Lead, TB Ghana and Netherlands Development Organization (SNV).
Conducted four district agriculture policy sensitization forums on agriculture policy in Ashanti, Brong-Ahafo and Central Regions. Close to 500 public and private sector stakeholders attended the events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public education activities on Ghana's agriculture policy documents have raised awareness and generated necessary understanding of FASDEP II and METASIP among key public and private sector stakeholders. Dialogue forums have assisted in shaping up the policy agenda in the beneficiary districts with demands for the following actions from the district authorities: • Demand for increase resource allocation by the District Assemblies for agriculture development in the districts. Some districts have already increased budgets to improve agriculture extension services, especially to women. • An increased citizens' participation in local governance through stakeholder participation in 2017 composite budget preparation. • Establishment of sub-committees in agriculture in district assemblies. • Discussions at the policy dialogues concerning limited access of women to agricultural extension services, has resulted in the expansion of these services in six districts in Northern Ghana.
Conducted two advocacy capacity events to benefit FBO networks in the Volta and Upper West Regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The advocacy dialogues and trainings on FASDEP and METASIP, allowed members of the networks to identify specific needs such as absence of certified seed, simple farm machinery, undeveloped inland rice valleys and more. It also allowed farmers to engage with district and regional authorities to discuss the access to these inputs and services and to agree on initiatives to ramp up rice production in the region. • Because of APSP's grants that strengthened the capacity of a grantee, other development partners are providing technical assistance to rice farmers to initiate trials for rice seed production. • Based on advocacy activities of a grantee and Rice FBOs Network in the Volta Region, this has increased awareness on the potential of the region to become Ghana's rice "basket". • SAFE-Ghana is championing this process by way of expanding its support to the network by providing technical assistance and training on rice seed production and on good agricultural practices. To this end, SAFE-Ghana has accessed to grant support from SNV's 2Scale Project. • Women farmers in the Upper West Region have ramped up their access to agriculture extension services.
Trained 137 staff members of 45 NSAs to strengthen their advocacy skills and institutional capacities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the trainings on proposal writing received from APSP, some of the grantees have developed grants proposals and successfully accessed grant support from other development partners. This is the case of SAFE-Ghana that got grant from SNV/ International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC) to train rice producer in the Volta Region, SIRDA and RUWA in the Northern Region got support from Global Communities, FtF Africa Lead, TB Ghana to provide agronomic training to rural women farmers and TB campaign in the Northern Region of Ghana respectively among others. • Based on the technical trainings to develop policy briefs and position papers, grantees such as Northern Patriots in Research and Advocacy (NORPRA)

	and Syecomp have developed such documents to advocate for youth and women participation in agriculture and have advanced proposals to government authorities to mainstream gender and youth into development plans.
Trained 26 journalists of Ghana Agriculture and Rural Development Journalist Association (GARDJA) and Ghana Independent Broadcasters Association (GIBA) in agriculture reporting and storytelling,	Because of APSP's training of NSAs and journalist in policy analysis, policy advocacy and writing of compelling agriculture stories, journalist have published and aired over 100 agriculture stories in the Ghanaian media that will contribute to trigger reforms in agriculture thus stimulating private sector investments.

As detailed in the following sections, APSP has made significant progress in Fiscal Year 2016 in meeting its Performance Management Plan (PMP) targets. For instance APSP is on Target on 12 of 14 indicators. One indicator not currently on track is Indicator 3, a new indicator approved by USAID at the beginning of FY3, with activities just now ramping up. For the other, Indicator 8, the project is currently undertaking 11 research studies that will shortly put the project back on track. Annex A provides the details on APSP's progress towards the attainment of contractual targets and will continue consolidating on these achievements over the remaining two years of the project.

A. PROGRESS BY COMPONENT

A1. Component 1: Policy Formation and Implementation

Intermediate Result 1: Improved Policy Process for Evidence-Based Decision Making Related to Food Security

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

1. Improve capacity for policy analysis and evaluation by core METASIP-institutions by standing up the SAKSS node
2. Enhance implementation of improved policies / regulations / administrative procedures as outlined by GoG's endorsed policy documents and agreements between GoG, donors and private sector
3. Improve policies that enable private sector development, commercialization and use of improved agricultural inputs to increase smallholder incomes and productivity
4. Improve execution of the METASIP.

A1a. Progress to date per agreed-upon deliverables

KRA 1.1. Improved Capacity for Policy Analysis and Evaluation by Core METASIP-Institutions by Standing up the SAKSS Node to Enhance Capacity in Policy Analysis and Evaluation.

In FY3, APSP commenced the training for members of METASIP/SAKSS implementing institutions in order to improve their analytical skills in policy analysis, monitoring and evaluation and assisted MoFA to implement METASIP/SAKSS action plans in order to revive these policy structures, to revive , under KRA 1.1, details of which are provided below. APSP will expand its training program in FY4 to continue training other METASIP/SAKSS officials.

Intermediate Result 1 Year 3 Key Achievements

- APSP trained 50 METASIP/SAKSS implementing institutions staff to improve policy analysis
- Based on project support, MoFA has reconstituted the membership of the SAKSS Nodes and their members have received training to strengthen their analytical capacities for policy making.
- APSP handed-over to MoFA a system to collect, analyze and manage statistical data, along with state-of-the-art hardware and software and accessories to strengthen SRID's management of agriculture data.
- APSP supported MoFA with the development, validation and publishing of the 2015 Agriculture Performance Review. APSP financed the printing of 430 of such report for stakeholder distribution.
- APSP provided technical expertise to examine seven policy-related documents:
- Analyzed NAFCO, Marketing Situation Analysis and Methodologies for data collection (stage 1)
- Drafted/adjusted the Land Bill and Agriculture Policy Matrix for public consultation (stage 2)
- Got approved the FBO Strategy Revision and Guidelines for Large Land Acquisition (stage 4)
- APSP facilitated the training of 250 basic schoolchildren and teachers to handle safe food and improve nutrition in West Municipality.
- Completed design of Policy Unit and 14 MoFA's Policy Unit staff received training.
- Supported the functioning of the National Seed Council Secretariat with ICT equipment and office equipment.
- Developed two manuals on variety release and seed accreditation for TVRC and GSID, three seed policies/agreement/contracts completed for NARIs and supported development of guidelines for seed licensing agreements
- Project provided training for 110 public and private sector stakeholders from NSC, GSID, TVRC, NARIs and seed producers to help the GoG with the implementation of Act 803.

Build Capacity of METASIP/SAKSS Members [Indicators 2 and 5]. In FY3, APSP trained 50 (22 in FY3 Q1 and 28 in FY3 Q2) staff members of METASIP/SAKSS implementing institutions from MoFA, Ministry of Trade and Industries (MoTI), research and academia, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD), Ministry of Finance (MoF) and representatives of the private sector in six training modules. The modules include information technology and data management in agriculture; leadership and governance; improved knowledge and practice of policy evaluation; project design, implementation and performance measurement framework; survey research methods and advanced methods, and quantitative data analysis using SPSS and STATA. The training provided the beneficiaries with capacity, tools and mechanisms required to identify, design, analyze, implement, evaluate and communicate evidence-based agriculture policy priorities. Based on the training, beneficiaries were able to identify two-policy research studies; namely, land use patterns and its effects on peri-urban agriculture, and sustainable land management, in line with METASIP priorities, as explained under Component 3. APSP will commission the two priority studies in FY4 Q1.

Implement Action Plans for METASIP/SAKSS [Indicators 2 and 5]. APSP provided expertise and logistic assistance to MoFA to organize SAKSS Thematic Working Groups meeting in FY3 Q1 to re-constitute membership of the Nodes to make them active, as part of project support to implement the action plans. APSP provided the conference space and related logistics for the meeting and project technical staff participated in the discussions and made useful suggestions towards achieving meeting objective. The interventions will continue to assist METASIP/SAKSS Nodes to identify policy priorities for research to provide evidence-based policy recommendations to formulate and implement investment-friendly agricultural policies that will attract increased private sector investments.

KRA 1.1 Collaboration with Other Partners

Mechanism	Members	Objective of the Collaboration
Technical Exchanges (meetings, email exchanges, permanent discussions, etc.)	APSP and Re-SAKSS	METASIP Secretariat established to coordinate the operations and management of MoFA policy structures. The METASIP Secretariat is since providing technical backstopping for organizing all policy structures at MoFA, including METASIP, SAKSS, Agricultural Sector Working Group (ASWG) and its Sub Groups (i.e. Operations and Policy Sub Groups, JSR.)

KRA 1.2. Enhance Implementation of improved Policies, Regulations and Administrative Procedures as Outlined by GOG-endorsed Policy Documents and Agreements between GoG, Donors, and Private Sector.

Many of the activities identified and planned under KRA 1.2 for FY3 were largely achieved whilst other initiatives were started and at the close of FY3, are currently in progress. The completed activities include support for government land reform initiatives; review of the FBO strategy; sensitization and education on the Bio-Safety Act and sensitization of the Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy (GADS), among others. Others are still in progress including an assessment of NAFCO and the passage of the Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills.

Support Implementation of Relevant Joint Sector Review (JSR) Activities [Indicators 4 and 12]. In FY3 Q3, APSP provided both technical and financial assistance to MoFA to draft and print 430 copies of the 2015 Annual Progress Review (APR), in line with project support to implement selected JSR activities. The project technical staff participated in a 4-day meeting to write up the report, paid for the meeting space and related logistics and finally paid for the printing cost of the APR. The APR is a conditionality under the African Union-sponsored Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) and its preparation is important in promoting mutual accountability among sector players because it reports progress on METASIP implementation at JSR meetings. The assistance therefore helped Ghana to meet its international obligations and promoted broad-based stakeholder consultations on agriculture sector policy reforms and overall development and growth that will improve the food security-enabling environment for increased private sector investments.

Support Drafting and Passage of Land Act to Improve Access to Agriculture Land [Indicators 4 and 5]. In FY3, APSP supported the GoG MLNR, in two land reform initiatives:

- APSP supported the Lands Commission Secretariat (LCS) to validate their proposed “Guidelines for Large Scale Land Transactions” in two workshops organized for traditional rulers, who are custodians of lands in Ghana. Other FBOs, civil society organizations, MoFa officials, and private sector operatives attended the workshops. The guidelines are a novelty in Ghana, since this is the first time that the GoG undertakes an initiative such as this. At the close of FY3, the GoG has already approved the guidelines and the Lands Commission is implementing them at the regional level. The purpose of the guidelines are to safeguard the interest of local communities, including traditional ruler in their engagement with private investors seeking access to traditional lands.
- APSP provided technical assistance, through Landesa—a US-based organization with extensive international land management expertise—to support the Land Administration Project (LAP) to adjust and redraft the fourth version of the Land Bill in order to improve its contents and enhance its chances of passage by Parliament. Inputs from APSP’s recommendations included proposals to enhance transparency and accountability, enhance women’s land rights, reduce costs of registration and clarify recording rights and to make land administration services widely accessible, among others, along the lines of international best practices. The Land Bill will improve land administration in Ghana, create an enabling environment for expanded private sector investments in land for agriculture, and provide land tenure security for long-term agriculture growth and development thereby ensuring sustainable food security.

Review MoFA’s Farmers Base Organizations (FBO) Strategy [Indicators 4 and 14]. The review and development of the FBO strategy was completed and submitted to MoFA in FY3 Q4 with focus on comparative analyses on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of farmer organizations formed by MoFA and those formed by private operatives. An important finding of the review is that privately-formed FBOs, especially by food processors and marketers, are more viable than those

formed by MoFA, because they operate as businesses. APSP and the Directorate of Agriculture Extension Services (DAES) of MoFA have discussed the strategy and its implementation and this Directorate is currently preparing an implementation plan to roll out the strategy. Implementation of the strategy will strengthen FBOs and improve their operational efficiencies in the short-term and among other services, will support their members to adopt good agricultural practices to improve their productivity, production and incomes, as well as enhance their livelihoods and reduce poverty. It should be noted that MoFA's Agriculture Extension Policy targets FBOs as natural entry points for agriculture extension services delivery in Ghana.

Passage of Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills into Law [Indicator 4]. APSP supported MoFA with technical and financial assistance to draft the Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills in FY2, on the hypothesis that a thriving livestock sector will result in increased demand for Feed the Future priority crops like maize, rice and soya for animal feed. MoFA finalized the draft bills in FY3 Q3 but the GoG delayed submitting them while waiting for the completion and approval by Cabinet of the Livestock Development Policy at the end of FY3. The two Bills are now due for presentation to Parliament in FY4 Q1. When passed and implementation begins, they will assist to resuscitate the declining livestock sub-sector by expanding animal production and productivity, and thereby increasing the demand for animal feed and improvements on the livelihoods of animal farmers, especially in the Northern, West, and Eastern Regions of Ghana where animal production is a major farming practice.

Assessment of the National Food Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO) [Indicators 4 and 8]. APSP commissioned the NAFCO assessment in FY3 Q1, in response to a priority demand that came from MoFA to USAID as members of the Agriculture Sector Working Group had considered it an important policy area to examine. In addition, there were concerns from the private sector that NAFCO was distorting market prices in Ghana. In FY3 Q4, project subcontractor, Center for Policy Analysis (CEPA), submitted an initial draft report to APSP, which is currently under revision. USAID will present the finalized study to MoFA for forward action. The implementation of the study's recommendations by MoFA will enable the GoG to take the necessary steps to improve NAFCO operations, avoiding distortions that destabilize the market and foremost, strengthening instead NAFCO's role of establishing buffer stocks to enhance food security.

Build Capacity of Parliament Select Committee [2, 5, 6, and 14]. In FY3, both APSP and the Parliament Select Committee on Food Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs developed a joint capacity-building program to strengthen the skills of committee members in budget analysis, expenditures tracking and policy analysis in order to sharpen their skills in carrying out their oversight role. However, APSP did not implement the initiative because the Parliament of Ghana commenced an exercise to re-structure all Parliamentary Select Committees, including the one on agriculture, with potential changes to their mandates. Ghana will inaugurate a new Parliament in January 2017, and APSP will engage with the new leadership of the Committee in February 2017, to revive the planned training program.

Enhance Momentum of New Alliance [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8]. Food and nutrition are development issues that underpin the New Alliance (NA) values to achieve full social, mental and physical potential of Africa’s population. APSP’s intervention as indicated in the box next is in line with MoFA’s request to USAID to coordinate donor support for new alliance activities to help the country meet its international obligations. In FY3 Q1, APSP made contact with FAO to obtain and make available to MoFA recorded videos as teaching materials to undertake four public education sub-activities to help enhance Momentum of the NA program in Ghana and further paid for the cost of organizing the activities. These activities sensitized the public, especially women and children, on the importance of safe handling of food, promoted increased consumption of nutrient dense foods, especially among women of reproductive age, and enhanced knowledge on safe, adequate and nutritious food. This pilot was geared to improve overall nutrition status of vulnerable groups like women and children of school going age in the beneficiary communities.

Activities to Support New Alliance Food & Nutrition

- 250 basic school students and their teachers participated in an educational program on food and nutrition in the Ga West Municipality in the Greater Accra region
- Students from three colleges in the Greater Accra Region participated in a quiz competition on food and nutrition.
- Representatives from MoFA participated in radio sensitization and education discussions held on Africa Day.
- MoFA issued two press releases on “Africa Day for Food and Nutrition Security” placed in the Daily Graphic and Ghanaian Times.

Support Education and Sensitization of Bio-Safety Act [Indicators 4, 6 and 11]. APSP assisted the newly established National Bio-Safety Authority (NBA) of the Ministry of Environment Science Technology and Innovations (MESTI) to implement aspects of its communication plan in FY3, including its institutional logo and the design of its website. This assistance to the NBA will enhance its capacity to educate the public on the benefits of biotechnology as a safe and reliable driver for long-term development and modernization of Ghana’s agricultural sector.

Sensitization of the Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy [Indicators 2, 3, 6, 7 and 12]. In 2015 MoFA launched its Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy (GADS) to provide a blueprint for mainstreaming gender considerations into agriculture development. In line with APSP’s mandate to promote gender considerations into agriculture policy, in FY3 Q4 the project provided funding to develop training materials on the GADS and teamed up with MoFA’s WIAD Directorate to embark on public sensitization/training of trainers on the strategy. MoFA staff is championing and overseeing the incorporation of the strategy into the operations of other public institutions while the staff of nine CSOs that attended the training—one from Ashanti region, one from Brong Ahafo region, and seven from Northern regions—are incorporating the information received into their annual work plans. By sensitizing different sectors on the objectives of GADS, it promotes women rights at the center of Ghana’s agriculture development agenda, thus promoting all-inclusive national development.

Development of an Agriculture Policy Matrix. In FY2 APSP provided technical assistance to MOFA to develop an agriculture policy matrix aimed at strengthening coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs. PPBD and APSP completed developing the policy matrix in FY3 to MoFA’s

management satisfaction. Now MoFA will present it to all development partners for discussion at the next ministerial retreat scheduled for FY4 Q1. By following up on the policy matrix, MoFA will be able to improve overall sector resource allocation and monitoring and evaluation; and by so doing, enhance efficient resource utilization for long-term sector impact.

KRA 1.2 Collaboration with other partners

Mechanism	Organizations	Objective of the Collaboration
Collaborative Circle of Feed the Future Chiefs of Party	ATTP, Africa Lead, FinGAP and APSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported the GoG in implementing the Bio-Safety Act (Act 831) to promote wider acceptance of biotechnology as a driver for long-term development and modernization of Ghana’s agricultural sector. Collaborated with ATTP in providing coordinated assistance to the seed industry. (Please see table KRA 1.3 Summary of work on the implementation of the Seeds and Fertilizer Act 803 for details.) Collaborated with Africa Lead in JSR organization and follow up implementation. Collaborated with FinGAP to jointly organize a six-day retreat for MoFA and the Bank of Ghana (BoG) to brainstorm the design and implementation of GIRSAL.
Technical staff exchanges	World Bank, MEAS, FAO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated with the World Bank to support the GoG for the development of the Land Bill and Guidelines for Large Scale Land Transactions to improve private sector access to agricultural lands and safeguard smallholder lands. Worked with FAO’s MAFAP in enriching content of the SOW for undertaking the assessment of NAFCO. Completed the review of the FBO strategy as agreed with MEAS in the joint extension forum in FY2, to improve agricultural extension delivery to FBO members and to promote agricultural commercialization. Commissioned NAFCO assessment after agreeing on terms of reference (ToRs) with FAO’s Monitoring and Analysing Food and Agricultural Policies (MAFAP) and Department for International Development (DFID) to introduce policy reforms that adjust NAFCO’s operations to improve domestic market efficiency. Collaborated with FAO in mounting the public education on food and nutrition as part of intervention to enhance momentum of New Alliance program.
Technical Staff exchanges APSP, GiZ, Ghana Commercial Agriculture Project (GCAP), CIDA		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated, provided technical direction, and assisted in drafting and printing MoFA’s APR. Coordinated with GCAP in developing, launching and sensitizing the public in GADS. Coordinated with CIDA in completing the agriculture policy matrix.

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

Ghana’s development paradigm has shifted from that of public sector-led to private sector-led strategy; In line with this paradigm shift, the central focus of MoFA’s METASIP is to address challenges that prevent expanded private sector participation in order to promote increased private investments in agriculture. During FY3, APSP collaborated with MoFA to develop and implement laws, policies, and/or draft legislation that will contribute to achieving this objective.

Support for GoG Investment Plan [Indicator 4]. Implementation of MoFA METASIP I ended in 2015. By the end of FY3, MoFA requested APSP’s technical assistance to undertake a post-implementation assessment of METASIP I and II. MoFA will then incorporate the recommendations from this assessment into the development of the next METASIP proposal.

Development of an Agricultural Marketing Policy [Indicators 4, 8, 11 and 14]. In FY2, MoFA and Ministry of Trade and Industries (MoTI) requested APSP's assistance to develop an agricultural marketing policy for Ghana. Then in FY3 Q1, APSP commissioned CEPA to undertake an initial "Situation Analysis of Agriculture Marketing in Ghana" aimed at providing recommendations to develop the policy document. CEPA submitted to APSP a draft of this document in September 2016 and the project expects to complete its development at a stakeholder workshop in FY4 Q1, after which the document be submitted to USAID and MoFA for initiating the development of the marketing policy itself in FY4 Q2. APSP will provide technical expertise for this purpose. Implementation of the agriculture marketing policy will promote efficiency in commodity markets, will introduce quality standards to promote competition among farmers, will strengthen marketing and pricing systems, and will be instrumental in modernizing Ghana's agriculture sector to achieve higher sector productivity and competitiveness. The agriculture marketing policy will contribute to supporting an enabling environment for increased private sector agricultural investments.

Support to the Seed Industry. In FY3, APSP intensified its technical assistance to both the public and private sectors to support efforts at implementing the Plant and Fertilizers Act, 2010 (Act 803) and the National Seed Development Plan, as explained in detail below. The support included technical expertise provided by APSP sub-contractor, Iowa State University (ISU) to assist GoG entities to strengthen their regulatory functions and oversight of the seed industry through the development and implementation of manuals and procedures. APSP also collaborated with other FtF projects to organize a consultative forum for seed industry players in the Northern Region to find solutions to challenges bedeviling the industry, including poor quality seeds and inadequate supply and use of certified seeds, and map up strategies for addressing same, including:

- *Development of Manuals [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 13 and 14].* In FY3 Q1, APSP provided technical assistance to MoFA to develop two important manuals: A manual on procedures for seed variety evaluation, release and registration for use by the Technical Variety Release Committee (TVRC) and a manual for seed certification and accreditation for seed inspectors, seed samplers, institutions and seed testing laboratories for use by the Ghana Seeds Inspection Division. The members of the TVRC and staff of the Ghana Seeds Inspection Division (GSID) validated the manuals and APSP completed its development in FY3 Q2. Together both will strengthen the variety evaluation and release system in Ghana, build capacity and operationalize its implementation, and further improve and enhance seed quality assurance. The NSC should approve both manuals in FY4 to pave way for their implementation by MoFA. The implementation of these procedures will introduce standards into the seed industry and facilitate the production, distribution, sale and use of quality seeds to increase agriculture productivity and production.
- *Development of Licensing Agreements [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 13 and 14].* APSP also helped to develop institutional licensing policies, variety licensing agreements and basic seed production contracts for selected NARIs including Savannah Agriculture Research Institute (SARI), Crop Research Institute (CRI), University of Ghana (UoG) and Cape Coast University (UCC). The

licensing agreements are binding commercial contracts between private seed producers and NARIs. These contracts will support efforts of the NARIs to adopt business principles when authorizing private parties to multiply their breeder seed into foundation seed, will create incentives to enhance their research efforts, and raise revenues to sustain their research activities to ensure long-term reliable supply of breeder seed as part of an overall MoFA policy to modernize the seed value chain.

- *Support to GSID to develop Guidelines for implementing Licensing Agreements [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 13 and 14].* APSP provided technical advice to the GSID to develop the guidelines and paid for meeting space and related logistics to implement a stakeholder meetings where the guidelines were discussed and completed. These guidelines will manage the engagement between NARIs and seed producers. Although GSID completed the guidelines and submitted them to MoFA’s principals, the ministry has not yet approved them at the close of FY3.
- *Training of Members of GSID/TVRC/NARIs [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 13 and 14]*

Unit Receiving training	Staff Trained	Purpose of the Training
Technical Variety Release Committee (TVRC)	14	To understand the manual and procedures for implementing the release of new seed varieties and enable members to apply the procedures
Ghana Seeds Inspection Division (GSID)	19	To understand the Manual and procedures for implementing seed certification and accreditation and enable staff to apply them
National Agriculture Research Institutions (universities and CSIR institutes)	77	To understand the procedures for variety evaluation and Seed licensing agreements and promote NARIs to develop their own specific licensing contract

The trainings helped to build capacity of seed industry players, make them more efficient and effective in their service/product delivery to help hasten the pace to modernize and commercialize Ghana’s seed industry and create the enabling environment for private sector investments. For example, the TVRC is currently discussing strategies for improving and expanding adoption of newly released seed varieties in the country

aimed at encouraging increasing production and use of certified seeds.

- *Establishment of Secretariat for National Seed Council (NSC) [Indicators 2, 4, 5, and 14].* In FY3 Q2, APSP helped to establish a Secretariat for the NSC and furnished it adequately for effective functioning. The NSC is the overarching body regulating and promoting the development and growth of Ghana’s seed industry; therefore, this intervention will help improve the council’s coordination and administration functions and thereby increase its operational efficiency for a more effective implementation of Act 803. By so doing, it will create the required enabling environment to attract increased private sector investments into the seed industry.
- *Pilot Program to promote seed contracts [Indicators 2, 4, 5 and 14].* Private sector production of foundation seed is a novelty in Ghana and an important policy reform introduced by Act 803 to break MoFA’s production monopoly. In FY3 Q3, APSP initiated action to operationalize this reform by proposing to MoFA, researchers and private seed producers the implementation of a pilot program to support the signing of licensing contracts between the NARIs and

private seed producers. APSP had planned to implement the pilot through a small grant fund to enable NARIs produce and deliver agreed quantities of breeder seeds to private seed producers for multiplication into foundation seed production. In this context, the project organized a stakeholder consultation in Kumasi to explain and agree on modalities for the grant mechanism. Licensing agreements help attract private sector investments into the seed industry, improve seed production efficiency; thereby encouraging expanded use of improved seeds to achieve productivity and production increases.

- Understanding MoFA's concerns on the participation of private seed producers in the production and distribution of foundation seed, APSP took all the necessary steps—stakeholder consultations, discussions with MoFA's principals and relevant Directorates and divisions as requested by the ministry—before launching the pilot grant fund. Notwithstanding these efforts, because MoFA finally never approved the guidelines, the pilot came to an abrupt halt. In order to move forward with this activity, APSP agreed with NASTAG to incorporate this issue into the organization's advocacy activities and keep demanding actions from MoFA to promote the participation of the private sector in the development of the seed industry in Ghana. Details on NASTAG is in Component 3.
- *Passage of Harmonized Seed Regulations [Indicators 2, 4, 5 and 12].* APSP supported MoFA in FY2 to harmonize Ghana's seed regulations with the ECOWAS protocol. However, the parliamentary approval of these regulations stalled in FY3 because Parliament sought to pass first the ECOWAS protocols before enacting the Ghana Seeds Regulations. As of the close of FY3, Parliament has just passed the ECOWAS protocols and from the onset of FY4, APSP will collaborate with NASTAG and other FtF projects to advocate for passage of the regulations by mid-2017. On its passage, the regulations will help Ghana to meet its international obligations and promote fair regional seed trade across the ECOWAS sub-region, expand access to improved seeds at competitive prices to encourage adoption and use of certified seeds for increased agriculture production and incomes; and accordingly, expand private investments in agriculture for long-term agriculture growth and development.

Develop New Irrigation Policy [Indicators 2, 4, 5, 11, 12 and 14]. In FY3, APSP and the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority (GIDA) of MoFA completed the tender for the assignment and identified three consultants that APSP will commission in FY4 Q1 to develop a new irrigation policy, an irrigation management manual and a legal instrument for implementing both policy and manual. The underlying vision of the policy and manuals that GIDA will develop with APSP's support is to help attract private sector investments into the provision and management of irrigation facilities, expand irrigation infrastructure across the country and improve access to the facilities. Availability of efficient and well-run irrigation facilities in turn promote year round production and increase farmer incomes, bringing down poverty.

Develop Business Plans for Aquaculture Investments [Indicators 2, 4, 5 and 14]. As part of APSP's plans to support the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MoFAD) to implement its Aquaculture Development Strategy, the project accepted MoFAD's request in FY2 to develop business plans out of the strategy document to help guide and attract private sector investments into the fish industry. APSP presented MoFAD with a technical report on aquaculture business

models developed by ISU. Although MoFAD’s representatives found that the business models were technically interesting, indicated as well that these do not apply to the local context. Considering this, APSP ceased to continue working on this subject area.

Strengthen the Policy Unit in MoFA [Indicators 1, 2, 4, 5 and 14]. In FY3 Q2, APSP and MoFA met to discuss issues related to the restructuring of its Policy Unit. This discussion was enriched and complemented by experiences shared by officials from the Zambian Indaba Agriculture Policy Research Institute (IAPRI) and the Ethiopian Development Research Institute (EDRI), two of Africa’s leading agriculture policy think-tanks. The presentations from IAPRI and EDRI demonstrated that these institutions over the years have achieved relative political, financial and logistical independence that have promoted their work.

Following up on the recommendations from the brainstorm session, throughout FY3 APSP undertook the following activities:

- Follow-up training to assess professional level of Policy Unit staff.* With technical assistance from ISU to conduct a training activity, APSP organized a week’s training for 14 out of the 15 MoFA staff assigned to the unit. Training curricula included such topics as basic algebra and excel; basics of final consumer decisions and producer decisions (supply and input demand); competitive market equilibrium; policy analysis with price policy interventions; taxes in non-traded markets (output and input distortions); policies in importable and exportable markets; arbitrage over space (world markets with large exporter), and time with simple storage problem. After the training, ISU instructors assessed that only two out of the 14 staff attending the training had the competence and potential for policy analysis. Accordingly, APSP and MoFA met and agreed to engage the Institute of Social Statistical and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana to provide further hands-on training and mentorship needed to upgrade skills of all unit staff. In FY4 Q1, APSP, PPBD and ISSER will meet to discuss potential training modules and agree on a training plan for enhancing the technical competence of the unit staff.
- Organogram and Policy Unit Job Descriptions.* In FY3 Q3, APSP submitted to MoFA a proposal on the “ideal” organogram and job description for the strengthening of its Policy Unit, as ISU had proposed it. In a meeting with the PPBD Director to discuss the way forward on implementing this structure. PPBD’s Director indicated that although they agreed in general with APSP’s proposal, MoFA was not in the condition to staff and structure the Policy Unit

Recommendations from brainstorm Session on Strengthening of MoFA’s Policy Unit

- Continue to host the policy unit within MoFA to make it more relevant for the ministry’s work. MoFA has allocated extra offices for the unit and management has assigned 15 MoFA staff to the unit.
- A follow-up training supported by APSP will help assess the professional level of the unit staff
- APSP was tasked with developing an organogram and staff job descriptions for discussions with MoFA
- APSP to engage ISSER/CEPA to rope them into providing hands-on training of unit staff.
- MoFA will make budgetary allocations to the unit but will hold further discussions to authorize the unit to engage in consultancy services to raise funds.

as proposed by APSP, both because of budgetary challenges and as a result of the hiring freeze imposed on all GoG's units. Based on this discussion, PPBD and APSP agreed to continue working on the strengthening of the Policy Unit within the current structure, with the understanding that other local players, ISSER for instance, could play a critical role in training to enhance the technical and professional capacity of the current Unit staff.

- *PPBD's Action Plan to Restructure the Policy Unit.* In FY3 Q4 PPBD submitted a formal request to APSP to receive technical and logistic support to strengthen the current Policy Unit. The project and MoFA will develop and implement a roadmap to strengthen the policy unit in FY4, including targeted staff training and provision of equipment and tools, in line with the Ministry's show of commitment. The Chief Director of the Ministry has been personally interested in this intervention, including chairing both the meetings to discuss report of the initial reconnaissance survey commissioned in FY2 to assess the feasibility of this re-structuring exercise as well as the larger roundtable discussions to discuss specific governance, operational, financial and sustainability issues of the unit in FY3 Q2. Since then, the Chief Director posted extra staff to the unit and made available extra office spaces to accommodate the extra staff. The strengthening of the unit will provide opportunity for the unit to improve its effectiveness in providing evidence-based analysis and advice for decision-making.

KRA 1.3 Collaboration with Other Partners

Mechanism	Organization	Objective of the Collaboration
Technical staff exchanges	FAO and APSP	To examine content of ToR for the assessment of NAFCO
		To coordinate with MoFA and FAO in the development of METASIP II
	International Water Management Institute (IWMI)	To jointly discuss and develop the TOR for undertaking the development of the irrigation policy document
	APSP, GSSP of IFPRI, ATTP	To support and attend a forum to discuss with MoFA the status and perspective of the seed industry in Ghana

KRA 1.4. Improved Execution of METASIP Programs

METASIP Steering Committee (SC) is Ghana's overarching agricultural policy body that drives sector policy design and implementation; and to achieve this objective, the SC does prioritize and commission agriculture research studies to provide needed evidence base for policy formulation. In line with its objective, APSP worked with the SC in FY3 to assist the committee to better execute its programs.

Support METASIP Activities [Indicators 2, 4, 5 and 14]. In FY3 Q2, APSP organized a platform for the METASIP Steering Committee (SC) to engage with the Lands Commission Secretariat (LCS) to discuss the proposed "Guidelines for Large Scale Land Transactions". After the meeting, the SC submitted a memorandum to the Commission for consideration into the new policy initiative. The meeting provided opportunity for the SC to present evidence-based recommendations that guided the

drafting and finalization of the land policy guidelines to enhance access to secure agriculture lands for increased private sector investments. Selected SC's recommendations accepted and incorporated into the guidelines include a proposed training of communities in land negotiations and the establishment of Community Land Management Committees (CLMCs) to oversee community land transactions to make them transparent.

METASIP (SC) quarter meeting. In FY3 Q4, APSP paid for the venue and related logistics that facilitated the meeting and its staff provided technical advice on the discussions that took place at the meeting. The meeting resolved to seek audience with the newly appointed Hon. Minister of MoFA to brief him on its mandate and to discuss with him the SC's priority to pursue policies to promote youth in agriculture initiatives. Decisions from the meeting will help secure the support from the Hon. Minister for the work of the SC to improve its visibility and relevance in the sector policy process, enhance its access to resources to undertake its mandate and enable the committee to fulfill its role as a coordinating and monitoring body for implementing METASIP programs.

Improve Agriculture Sector Data Collection, Analysis, Management and Reporting. The activities implemented by APSP in FY3 to accomplish this important work plan intervention include the following:

- APSP fully developed and deployed a computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) data collection system
- Procured a Virtual Private Server (VPS) to host the information collected through CAPI
- Supplied 85 Mobile Tough Terrain 3G Tablets with GPS and internet access capability for field data collection
- Trained 75 SRID staff in the handling and use of the equipment, in support of the Ghana Agriculture Production Surveys (GAPS) and the Market Surveys being implemented by MoFA SRID.

The CAPI system equipment was handed over to MoFA management in FY3 Q4 in a public ceremony attended by USAID's Mission Director to Ghana, MoFA's Deputy Ministers, the Chief Director and several other area Directors and staff. The use of the ITC equipment (software and hardware) and accessories will provide SRID with an integral capacity for quality agriculture data collection including GIS plotting, analysis and management, improve data accuracy and enhance sector data credibility for effective evidence-based policy analysis, decision-making and implementation.

KRA 1.4 Collaboration with Other Partners

Mechanism	Organization	Objective of the Collaboration
Technical Staff exchanges	Re-SAKSS	Continued joint support to METASIP/SAKSS Secretariat. Closely followed-up with two members of the Secretariat to support METASIP/SAKSS activities.
		To coordinate and provide technical input into the assessment of the agriculture commodity trading system.

Additional Activities Not Originally Considered in FY3's Annual Work Plan. Upon requests from other Feed the Future sister projects and other stakeholders, among them MoFA, APSP undertook other activities that were not initially planned for fiscal year but were however important in assisting the project to achieve its overall objectives, as indicated below:

- *Designing of the Ghana Incentive-based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending (GIRSAL) [Indicators 4, 5 and 6].* In FY3 Q1, APSP, FinGAP and MoFA, organized a joint session to discuss the design of GIRSAL. This initiative is led by MoFA, BoG, and Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and will establish a scheme to provide guarantees and insurance to de-risk agriculture lending to motivate banks and other financial institutions to increase lending to the agriculture sector. MoFA and the BoG have completed the basic structure for establishing GIRSAL, launching the initiative in October, 2016. GIRSAL, however, will take off in 2017 with GHC 100 million (about USD 25 million) initial seed funding from the BoG that will start addressing the chronic credit squeeze in agriculture, drive down agriculture sector credit cost and encourage increased private sector investments for an enhanced production and productivity along the agriculture value chain.
- *Roundtable Discussions of the Baseline Survey on Gender and Agriculture [Indicators 6 and 7].* Based on the baseline study on gender and agriculture that APSP supported in FY2, in FY3 Q2 the project and MoFA's WIAD teamed up to implement further workshops on the content of the survey. The project organized the activity to inform stakeholders of the existence of an authentic source of gender disaggregated research data and to encourage them to incorporate the recommendations in their work to help address gender inequalities in national development programs and eventually bridge the gender gap in the agriculture sector. In FY4, APSP will collaborate with the WIAD Directorate to follow-up with selected beneficiary public institutions to assess the extent of compliance in implementing programs to address gender inequalities during Ghana's fiscal year 2017 and beyond.
- *Dissemination Workshop on Two Key Policy Research [Indicators 4, 6 and 8].* In FY3 Q2, APSP, GSSP/IFPRI and the Agriculture and Agribusiness Unit at MoF (AAU-MoF) jointly organized a one-day dissemination workshop on two research studies, including "Towards a Sustainable Agriculture Productivity Strategy in Ghana", conducted by APSP and GSSP and other partners, and "Impact of the Fertilizer Subsidy Program", conducted by AAU. The APSP/GSSP research made three major recommendations, among others; namely, to include organic fertilizers in government fertilizer subsidy policy program; introduce an electronic platform into the program, and to announce program start/commencement early to lessen the state of uncertainties. These recommendations were adopted in the GoG's 2016 fertilizer subsidy program announced in March, 2016. The adoption of recommendations have improved program efficiency in a more cost effective manner, enhanced transparency and helped increase fertilizer use and will enhance production and incomes of farmers. According to an account by Mr. Samuel Anane, a small farmer from the Adenta Municipal Assembly and a beneficiary of the GoG 2016 fertilizer subsidy program, who spoke to APSP technical team in FY3 Q3. Responding to a question on the 2016 subsidy program, Mr. Anane said "I was

electronically registered and given a PIN number that allowed me to receive my allocation with little or no interruptions because only qualified farmers showed up to receive the fertilizer. I also received my fertilizer earlier this year than normal and this helped me to apply the fertilizer in real time.”

- *Research on agriculture data collection methodologies [indicators 8 and 9].* In FY3 Q3, upon request from MoFA, APSP commissioned CEPA to undertake an assessment on data collection methodologies in line with the project’s mandate to improve agriculture data credibility. The initial findings of the research were discussed in FY3 Q4 at a stakeholders’ consultation workshop attended by SRID, the Ghana Statistical Service and later further examined with MoFA’s management. As of September 2016, CEPA is working on adjusting the assessment based on the aforementioned workshops and will submit a final draft for USAID’s consideration in FY4 Q1. The adoption of the recommendations stemming from the study will improve data collection, analysis and management as well as promote agriculture data credibility and acceptability and thereby ensure a more reliable and accurate sector planning and decision-making.

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

Specific Problem	Established PMP Target/Work Plan Milestone for FY3	Reasons for not Meeting Established Target/Milestone	Corrective Action
APSP only trained 50% of the projected METASIP/SAKSS implementing institutions staff slated for training in FY3.	Targeted to train 100 staff of the institutions.	APSP decided to delay the training and to evaluate the impact that it had made on the professional performance of earlier trainees, before continuing the program.	Work plan plan for FY4 has made provision to train more staff from MoFA Programme Coordination Unit (PCU) and MED.
The Steering Committee (SC) of METASIP and the SAKSS Nodes did not meet regularly, making it difficult to plan and provide the agreed on support.	Targeted to be a continuous activity i.e. quarterly	Activities of METASIP/SAKSS within MoFA have slowed, partly due to work overload on the part of MoFA staff and because of severe operational budgets cuts that affected operations.	APSP is supporting MoFA’s to support MoFA’s Minister to implement a Hon. Minister of MoFA is planning process to organize a retreat to be convened by the Hon. Minister of MoFA to address and re-activate sector policy structures, including METASIP and SAKSS.
APSP did not receive requests from MoFA to support the implementation of the 2014 JSR	Targeted to be a continuous activity	MoFA does not seem to have properly laid out plan for implementing JSR recommendations.	Discussions held with USAID/Africa Lead and USAID/METSS to coordinate efforts towards assisting MoFA with improving the effectiveness of the JSR meetings.
Passage of the Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills still delayed.	Activity undertaken in FY2 with road map to have Parliamentary approval by end of FY3 Q1.	The approval of a sector policy by Cabinet is a pre-condition for a ministry to submit a bill for Parliamentary approval. In this case, the delay in the approval of the Livestock Development Policy (LDP) by Cabinet inhibited MoFA to submit the bills to Parliament.	MoFA’s has revised its roadmap to accommodate the delay and has conveyed to APSP its commitment to move forward with the submission of the bills to Parliament in FY4.
Delay in the commissioning of the NAFCO assessment and when APSP received a draft and shared it with the client, the report was of poor	This was a milestone for FY3	In FY3 Q1, APSP commissioned CEPA to undertake the study; however, CEPA’s consultant initiated work in FY Q3 and on Q4 finally	APSP is working with CEPA and the Consultant to undertake further work to restructure and improve quality of the assessment for re-submission in

technical quality and therefore rejected.		submitted a report that lacked adequate qualitative and quantitative analysis for policy-making purposes.	November 2016.
Capacity building activities of Parliament Select Committee for Food Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs (SCFACA) delayed	This was an activity planned for implementation in FY3.	APSP received advice from the Select Committee staffers to defer activity until after Parliament had re-structured all its Select Committees, but the re-structuring has not been completed as of the close of FY3.	Current Parliament is due to dissolve in January 2 2017 for a new House. Given the processes necessary for organizing select committees, this activity may have to be deferred to a later time in FY4 or FY5.
The National Seed Council never convened, inhibiting the capacity of APSP to support its members with specific training and capacity building.	Training of the Council was a milestone for FY3.	It was not possible for the NSC to meet due to technical and administrative bottlenecks. On the other hand, MoFA has informed APSP that there are concerns about the Minister chairing the NSC, given that his agenda as a high-level authority, limits the functionality of the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hon. Minister of MoFA is calling for a retreat in FY4 Q1, and provide high level political support to among other issues, discuss how to have the Council activated and functional, including adjusting who chairs this statutory and regulatory body. NASTAG will advocate for the operational functioning of the NSC.
The approval of seed variety release and seed accreditation manuals developed with technical expertise from ISU is delayed.	Planned to have them approved for implementation in FY3.	The inability of MoFA to convene and organize meetings of the NSC throughout the past FY inhibited the approval of the manuals, since it is the council's responsibility to approve these technical procedures to operationalize the Plants and Fertilizers Act 2010 (Act 803).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once MoFA resolves the issue of who finally chairs the NSC this body will be able to meet regularly. Hence, matters put before the council—approval of technical manuals—will receive due consideration and adequate and timely response. The inception of NASTAG and the advocacy plan that APSP will assist with its development in FY4, will help push this agenda forward.
Parliament did pass Ghana's Harmonized Seed Regulations within projected timeline.	APSP had planned to complete the activity by end of FY3	Parliament needed to approve the ECOWAS seed regulations first as a pre-requisite for approving the harmonized national seed regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ECOWAS Regulation was passed by Parliament in FY3 Q4, paving the way for the Attorney General to forward Ghana's Harmonized Regulations to Parliament for its passage in FY4 Q1. Again the inception of NASTAG will push this forward.
Pilot program to promote implementation of seed licensing agreements between NARIs and seed producers came to a sudden halt and has been suspended	New activity initiated in FY3	Implementation of activity required the approval of guidelines to supervise licensing agreements. Although APSP provided technical assistance to the GSID to develop the guidelines, MoFA did not approve them and therefore halted APSP's pilot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APSP is working with other development partners and projects—GSSP/IFPRI, FiF ATTP—to have a coordinated discussions and agreements with MoFA to enhance the pace for developing the seed sector. APSP is also supporting NASTAG to hasten the process.
Development of Business Plans for Aquaculture investments delayed	Targeted for completion in FY3	The report from ISU describing the different business plans to develop aquaculture were assessed as being inapplicable to Ghana, as indicated by Ministry of Fisheries and Acquaculture Development (MoFAD).	Considering the myriad of priority interventions for the last two years of APSP, support to MoFAD will not continue.
Development of the Agriculture Policy Matrix	APSP had planned to	MoFA delayed for almost a year the development of the matrix	MoFA has informed APSP that the Directors have reviewed the

(APM) is delayed.	complete the activity by end of FY2	on work overload. However, work on the matrix resumed in FY3 and APSP completed its development in FY3 Q2 and submitted a draft to MoFA to receive feedback and review. At the close of FY3, MoFA had not yet completed such review process.	APM and that final high management approval will come at the beginning of FY4 Q1. MoFA and APSP are planning to have the APM presented and discussed at the next stakeholders meeting slated to take place in FY4 Q1.
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A1c. Outcomes of high level meetings

Activity	Outcome
Met the Alliance for Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) in FY3 Q4 to discuss potential cooperation in project implementation.	Parties agreed to collaborate in projects implementation and AGRA would submit specific details of the collaboration to APSP.
Met with MoFA and with the AAU-MoF in FY3 Q4 to discuss collaboration.	Meeting agreed on the need for collaboration between MoFA and AAU, in order to identify overlapping research activities and/or undertake joint operations to support MoFA.
APSP hosted a meeting in FY3 Q4 with Africa LEAD, METSS and MoFA PCU to discuss coordinated technical assistance to the PCU.	The three USAID projects considered the global needs of PCU and agreed on the type of assistance to be provided by each project.
Met with management of a new USAID/Northern Ghana Governance Activity (NGGA) in FY3 Q4	The participants agreed to coordinate and implement joint activities, especially in NSA and community advocacy in FY4 to strengthen agriculture policy process, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting CSOs working on gender • Developing a research study on the impact of decentralization on agriculture performance • Following-up with the implementation of recommendations that came out of APSP policy dialogues at the district level • Sharing information on grants to CSOS avoid duplication of efforts, among others.

A1d. Assessment of the validity and efficacy of progress against the objectives and results.

Objectives (Annual Target Established in FY3 Work plan)	Efficacy of Progress Against Objectives and Results
Train at least 100 METASIP/SAKSS members in policy analysis and program monitoring	Activity behind schedule However, APSP has made progress in FY3 by training 50 staff from the METASIP/SAKSS implementing institutions.
Implement METASIP/SAKSS action plans	Activity behind schedule Both APSP and RE-SAKSS have assisted MoFA with the establishment of the METASIP Secretariat and MoFA has worked on the reconstitution of SAKSS membership. METASIP SC commenced implementation of action plans, including the implementation of two quarter meetings. However, SAKSS Nodes did not commence implementation of action plans and failed to organize quarter meetings due to their work overload,
Support implementation of JSR activities	Activity behind schedule APSP was only able to collaborate with MoFA's MED to develop the 2015 APR and made available 430 of the documents. However, currently the JSR lacks effective support/leadership to implement other activities arrived at the annual meetings.
Support to draft Land Bill and Guidelines for Large Land Transactions to improve access to agriculture land	Activity on track <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Bill drafted and public consultations on the Bill completed. Final draft of Land Bill expected to go for Parliamentary passage by end 2016. • Validation of Land Policy Guidelines for Large Track of Land

	completed and guidelines issued out to the regions for implementation.
Complete revision and validation of farmer-based organizations (FBOs) Strategy	Activity on track <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of new strategy completed and accepted by MoFA in FY3 Q4. MoFA is developing an implementation plan to roll out strategy.
Passage of Animal Health and Livestock Production Bills	Activity behind schedule Cabinet delayed the approval first of the Livestock Development Policy (LDP) as a prerequisite for Parliamentary treatment of the bills. However, at the close of FY3 Q4, APSP was informed that Cabinet approved the LDP, paving the way for submitting the bills to Parliament by the end of FY4 Q1.
Complete NAFCO assessment.	Activity behind schedule First draft report of assessment completed in FY3 Q4, but is now under further analysis to improve report for presentation to MoFA in FY4 Q1.
Build capacity of Parliament Select Committee for Food Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs	Activity behind schedule Parliament is re-structuring all Select Committees, including adjustments to their mandates. Activity will resume on completion of the re-structuring exercise.
Enhance Momentum of New Alliance	Activity on track Supported MoFA to undertake public education on safe handling and consumption of nutritious foods.
Support education and sensitization of Bio-Safety Act	Activity on track Completed in FY3 Q4.
Sensitization of Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy (GADS)	Activity on track. Completed in FY4 Q4.
Complete development of Agriculture Policy Matrix (APM)	Activity on track <ul style="list-style-type: none"> APSP completed development of the APM in FY3 Q2 and submitted it to MoFA for final review. MoFA has committed to have the APM approved by senior management before the end of October 2016.
Commence Development of Agriculture Marketing Policy	Activity on track First draft of the study on "Situational Analysis of Ghana's Agriculture Marketing" completed in FY3 Q4.
Support to seed industry	Activity on track <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 110 seed industry players trained. 2 manuals on variety release and seed accreditation have been developed for TVRC and GSID. Institutional Licensing Policy, Variety Licensing Agreements and Basic Seed Production Contracts produced for SARI, CRI, UCC and UoG. Secretariat established for NSC
Develop new Irrigation Policy	Activity behind schedule Although APSP and GIDA identified three consultants in FY3—one international and two locals—the SOW of work for the assignment was completed in FY3 Q4 and actual technical work to commence in FY4 Q2.
Strengthen MoFA Policy Unit	On track. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder consultation on framework for the assistance completed. 14 staff members of the PPB policy unit trained. Organogram and job description for unit staff completed and accepted by MoFA; however the ministry still believes that filling in the new positions is a challenge that they need to confront and solve . MoFA has submitted formal request for further assistance to APSP.

A2. Component 2: Policy Research

Intermediate Result 2: Increased availability of rigorous policy analysis capacity for evidence-based policy making

Component 2 will increase capacity for agriculture policy research and the availability of rigorous policy analysis capacity for evidence-based policymaking, contribute to, and complement the *Policy Formation and Implementation* component of the project.

A2a. Progress to date per agreed-upon work plan

KRA 2.1 Enhance High Quality Policy Research Capacity

Operationalize small-grants fund [indicators 8 and 9]. In FY3, the project awarded seven research grants to two universities and two institutes of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to undertake research for both MoFA and METASIP policy research priorities, as indicated in box below, comprising three high quality research, two PhD thesis, and two special studies. APSP's grantees will complete these research studies in FY4 Q2/Q3 and will provide evidence-based quantitative and qualitative findings and recommendations that will help to reform agriculture sector policies to remove bottlenecks to private sector investments and create opportunities to increase private investments.

The table below describes the set of research studies that as of the close of FY3 are now under implementation:

Institution	Gog Policy Priority/Title Of Proposal	Objective Of Study	Expected Impact
University of Cape Coast	Food Security and Emergency Preparedness Review and meta-analysis of national food security in Ghana	To research the status of GoG policies and programs for food security and emergency preparedness	Implementation of recommendations will contribute to national efforts to enhance food security and emergency preparedness in Ghana
University of Development Studies	Sci. & Tech Applied in Food & Agriculture Assessing the role and effectiveness of mobile phone technology on agricultural extension services delivery in northern Ghana: The case of Tolon district	To inform policy-makers on the adoption and use of most effective mobile technology in the delivery of extension services within the context of METASIP	Findings will assist GoG and development partners to initiate policy interventions that will promote the adoption and use of relevant mobile technologies in Ghana to improve agriculture extension delivery for increased agriculture production and growth.
	Sci. & Tech Applied in Food & Agriculture Productivity heterogeneity and gender dichotomy of rice production in Ghana: Policy implications for farmer and agricultural technology innovations	To research gender dynamics in rice productions and recommend to policy makers the technologies that will enable women farmers to increase productivity	The adoption of the recommended technologies will support smallholder women farmers in Ghana to address their resource constraints, help increase their productivity and incomes, improve their livelihoods and reduce their poverty.

Intermediate Result 2 FY3 Q4 achievements

- APSP has commissioned 7 policy research studies to two universities and two CSIR institutions
- APSP issued a tender to commission two priority METASIP/SAKSS studies that staff from MoFA identified, developed and submitted for APSP's consideration, after the training on developing policy analysis skill provided by the project in FY3.
- APSP developed guidelines to entuse local research organizations to receive project support for enhancing their research capacities

	<p>Improved Institutional Coordination</p> <p>Analyses of value chain approach by Association of Church-based Development Projects/Presbyterian Agriculture Services (ACDEP/PAS) for development</p>	<p>To analyze and recommend strategies to enhance the agricultural crop value chain approach as a model for improving the livelihoods and incomes of rural households</p>	<p>Implementation of the recommendations by public and private agents working in value chain development, will help develop Ghana's agriculture value chain, strengthen the linkages to be more effective and rewarding and help fast-track the country's agriculture development.</p>
CSIR-STEPRI	<p>Improved Institutional Coordination</p> <p>Qualitative study of gender responsive agricultural extension for improved agricultural productivity in northern Ghana</p>	<p>To research gender responsive strategies and practices that will enhance technology adoption by women farmers</p>	<p>Findings will shed light on how to address women access to productive resources, including access to agriculture extension services, and adopt new technologies and good agricultural practices to enhance their productivity and incomes.</p>
CSIR-Crops Research Institute.	<p>Increased Competitiveness and Enhanced Integration into Dom. & Intl. Markets</p> <p>Market standardization, grading and pricing in the maize market in Ghana: the case of Ejura-Sekyeredumase municipality</p>	<p>To research standards used in crop marketing and provide policy makers with options for introducing standards in the grading and marketing of maize in Ghana</p>	<p>Based on the experiences from the research, the case for the adoption of grade standards across the board will be advanced and implemented thereby promote market efficiency, stabilize commodity pricing and make them rewarding to create opportunities for increased private investments.</p>
	<p>Sci. & Tech Applied in Food & Agriculture</p> <p>An assessment of the preparedness of national research institutes and universities for DUS and VCU testing under the newly proposed Crop Variety Release and Registration System</p>	<p>To assess the status of preparedness of research institution to conduct Distinctiveness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) and Value for Cultivation and Use (VCU) testing in Ghana to improve the availability of quality seeds for farmers</p>	<p>Based on the recommendations from the assessment, research institutions and seed organizations will be technically prepared to test for quality seed and encourage its use for increased production.</p>

Issue tenders for specific METASIP research studies [indicators 8 and 9]. APSP issued a tender and received six proposals from two universities and CSIR-Crops Research Institute, for two METASIP/SAKSS Nodes 2 and 4 priority research areas. The areas of research are: i) land access for peri-urban agriculture; and; ii) how public and private sector service providers can promote and use sustainable land and water management technologies. Below are details of the METASIP/SAKSS priority research studies:

SAKSS Node	METASIP Thematic Area/Title Of Proposal	Objective Of Study	Expected Impact
Node 2	<p>Increased Growth in Incomes</p> <p>“Changing access and use pattern of land in urban and peri-urban areas: A threat to agricultural production?”</p>	<p>To assess the impacts on the use of land in urban and peri-urban areas and make policy recommendations for sustainable management of land and environment.</p>	<p>GOG will have empirical evidence for enacting policy to improve the management and use of land in urban and peri-urban areas for agriculture and avoid the threats to the agriculture sector associated with land demands coming from other sectors of the economy</p>

Node 4	Sustainable Management of Land and Environment “Documenting the various sustainable land and water management technologies into forms that can be used for extension service provision by both public and private sector service providers”	To document sustainable land and water management technologies and make recommendations in support of sustainable management of land and environment.	Farmers will greatly benefit if extension services understand and provide information on the water management practices assessed in the research, thereby improving the overall condition of agriculture production in Ghana
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Other research initiatives [indicators 8 & 9]. APSP also commissioned other policy research studies and assessments, including “Situational Analysis of Agriculture Marketing in Ghana”, “Assessment of NAFCO” and “Assessment of Agriculture Data Collection Methodologies,” details of which are provided in Component 1 above.

Building Capacity for research among research institutions [indicator 9]. APSP recognizes that some research institutions may need complimentary funding for institutional strengthening to improve their policy research capacity. In FY3, APSP developed guidelines to assist selected research institutions to access small grants to improve their policy research capacity. Research institutions are guided in their requests that limited assistance will be considered in the following areas: i) provision and/or update of ICT capacity for agricultural research; ii) analytical and modelling software packages and training in modelling for researchers; iii) subscriptions to professional journals, and support for professional research meetings. In FY4, the project will identify and issue grants to target research institutions and organizations. This will build up capacity of beneficiary institutions to produce high quality agriculture research, thus assisting the GoG with evidence-based analysis for policy making purposes.

While these specific grants are yet to be awarded, currently the research grantees are receiving operational and administrative support from APSP to manage the grants; thus building up their organizational capacity.

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

Whilst the project has met the target of number of research studies to be developed, the target of improving institutional capacity for policy research has lagged behind. The specific problem and corrective measures to be taken are discussed below.

Specific Problem	Established PMP Targets/ Work Plan Milestones for the Year	Reasons for not meeting Established Target/Milestones	Corrective Action
Institutional capacity building of research institutions has not been initiated.	Improve areas of policy research capacity in assisted research organizations and units	APSP had expected that applicants for the tender to develop research studies (RFA 003) would have made requests for capacity building activities. However, none of the selected applicants applied for this type of grant support. Therefore, in the absence of specific demands, APSP had to develop specific guidelines to enthruse research organizations to seek funding support for the strengthening of their research capacities.	APSP has finalized guidelines for the selection of proposals for institutional capacity building for research, and grant awards will commence in FY4.

A2c. Outcomes of high level meetings

Activity/Meetings	Outcome
Project met with MoFA management to resolve bottlenecks in the participation of MoFA representatives to participate in a Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) to select research studies.	After further discussions with the MoFA Chief Director the matter was resolved and the TEC completed its evaluation and made 6 awards for research studies.
Meetings with Deans two universities and with Directors of two research institutes of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	Project assigned grant agreements with the Deans and Directors to award 6 research grants for four high quality research studies and two PhD thesis dissertations

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

Objectives (Annual Targets Established In The Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy Of Progress Against Objectives And Results
Operationalize Small Grants Fund	Activity on track APSP commissioned 6 high quality research, thesis dissertations and special studies/METASIP priorities studies based on RFA 003; one unsolicited study, and a subcontractor, CEPA, was commissioned to undertake three other research studies.
Engage with MoFA to issue RFP based on TORs for Specific METASIP Research Studies	Activity on track Tender issued for two METASIP/SAKSS Nodes 2 & 4 priority studies in FY3
Building Capacity for Research among research institutions	Activity Behind Schedule Although APSP has developed specific guidelines to provide this type of support, there is yet to identify institutions interested in receiving support. In FY4 the project will award grants based on developed guidelines to improve capacity policy research.
Follow-up on Research Recommendations	Activity on track <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APSP has initiated discussion with MoFA and other stakeholders on the recommendations of several of the APSP's funded research or policy studies. (Please see Annex C). Moreover, given that there is a number of research initiatives in progress, APSP has not yet commenced discussions on their findings and will do so in FY4 once studies are completed. • APSP will present and discuss the findings of its research activities at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meeting of the 2017 JSR ○ Meetings of the Agriculture Sector working Group in Accra and Tamale ○ At least two other presentations with relevant stakeholders to showcase the findings of the research studies

A3. Component 3: Policy Advocacy

Intermediate Result 3: The voice of the private sector (civil society, private organizations, farmer associations and media) in the public policy process clarified and amplified

Component 3 is focused on building the capacity of civil society and 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.

- 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 Improved Engagement of the Private Sector in Food Security Policy Reforms and Implementation:

Revitalize and Strengthen the Agriculture Public-Private Dialogue Forum (APPDF) [indicators 4, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14]: APSP in FY3 worked with the Co-chairs of APPDF to revive the agriculture public-private dialogue forum. Although APSP provided the guidance to work through the application process with the APPDF stakeholders, the attempts to revitalize the forum failed due to the inability of its representatives for over one and half years to submit a revised grant application that will conform to the agreed terms discussed with the project. Notwithstanding this setback, by the end of FY3, APSP started to look for an alternative towards achieving this intermediate result and to this end, evaluated a number of existing champion networks/coalitions with proven experience in public-private dialogue forums on issues such as policy analysis, food security, gender mainstreaming, and land reform to collaborate with in FY4.

The three such Ghanaian champion coalitions/ networks that were identified are namely, Hunger Alliance of Ghana (HAG), Civil Society Coalition on Land, Ghana (CiCOL) and Ghana Trade and Livelihoods Coalition (GTLC) for partnership. These champion CSOs will take the lead to organize other private sector players to undertake public private dialogues needed to reform the agriculture sector and promote private sector investment.

Facilitation of Policy Advocacy Activities through Strengthening FBO Networks: In FY3, APSP trained 82 farmers of regional FBO networks from Volta and Upper West regions on Ghana's agriculture policy document and policy advocacy. Some of the impacts of these activities follows:

- APSP training of the Volta Region Rice FBO Network in policy advocacy encouraged the network supported by APSP grantee SAFE-Ghana to begin to present the potentials of the region in the production of rice and discuss the challenges farmers face through radio programs and stakeholder workshops attended by regional and district-level authorities. Through the grant activities, farmers were able to advocate for increased support from authorities to develop rice value chains in the region as well to attract the interest of other development partners to support rice production. SAFE-Ghana has been able to

Intermediate Result 3 Year 3 Key Achievements

- APSP supported the establishment of the NASTAG as a major institutional development to unite seed producers in the country
- More than 1,400 agriculture sector stakeholders participated in grantee activities in agriculture policy advocacy and training.
- 12 grantees undertook agriculture policy education, training and policy advocacy activities in 4 regions of Ghana
- 463 agriculture sector stakeholders participated in policy dialogues in four districts in three regions of Ghana
- 82 members of two regional FBO Networks in Volta and Upper West Regions received training from APSP in policy advocacy.
- APSP trained 137 individuals from 43 NSAs to improve their organizational performance and policy advocacy
- 26 journalist received training from APSP in policy analysis, media advocacy, analytical writing and reporting, agriculture feature article writing etc.

facilitate the formation of 47 FBOs comprising 6,531 farmers in the five clusters. The regions has 43,363 rice farmers cultivating 43,186 hectares of land. The total land area available for rice production is 120,578 hectares.

- The advocacy activities resulted in SAFE-Ghana receiving a grant from the SNV’s 2Scale Project, which so far has led to the establishment by the Volta Region Rice Network of five rice clusters to expand rice production and to implement 25 pilots in rice seed production. SAFE-Ghana working with the 2Scale Project are planning to expand the five clusters to eight to account for the increased interest of other farmers to engage in modernizing and expanding rice production in the Volta Region.
- The 2Scale project with support of SAFE-Ghana have trained 25 lead rice farmers in the region to become certified rice seed producers and started farm machinery demonstrations in strategic rice production districts in the region, among other interventions.
- In the Upper West Region, the network engaged political authorities to push for solutions to improve farmers’ access to farm mechanization services, fertilizer, and irrigation facilities, and to address environmental degradation arising from indiscriminate cutting of rosewood trees.
- In the Upper West Region, the network joined other groups to advocate for an end to environmental degradation, forcing the Upper West Region Coordinating Council to ban the felling and transportation of rosewood trees in the region. The ban coupled with reforestation activities will contribute to diminish the impacts of climate change and eventually positive impacts on micro climatic conditions, will contribute to support agriculture production.

Facilitate Expansion of Public-Private Forums for Agriculture Policy Discussions in the Regions and Districts: In order to promote agriculture policy making at the grassroots level, in FY3 Q1 and Q2, APSP organized education and sensitization forums on Ghana’s FASDEP II and the METASIP policy documents. These trainings on Ghana’s agriculture policy motivated the participation of 463 public and private stakeholders coming from the following districts:

Districts	Regions	Participants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abura-Asebu-Kwankese • Komenda-Elmina-Eguafo-Abirem (KEEA) 	Central	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Assembly members • Officials from Districts Departments of Agriculture • Representatives of FBOs and CSOs, • Agriculture input dealers, agribusinesses and farmers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ejura-Sekyedumase Municipal 	Ashanti	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katampoi Municipal 	Brong Ahafo	

As the forums gave participants the opportunity to advocate for a strong private sector participation in the identification and development of agriculture policies and programs in the districts. The following recommendations are the outcome of the policy advocacy engagements that took place in the districts.

- Resources allocation to the district assemblies for agriculture development should be increased to about 10 percent of the total annual budget of the district assemblies.

- The Assemblies are to establish sub-committees on agriculture. KEEA in the Central Region currently has agriculture subsumed under the Economic Development Planning Committee
- The Assemblies are to develop agriculture development plans as blue prints for increased agriculture investment and development.
- The Kintampo Municipal Department of Agriculture is to use the radio to step up the campaign on the vaccination of dogs to reduce the rising cases of rabies in the municipality.
- The Ejura-Sekyedumase Department of Agriculture is to present to the sub-committee on agriculture its agriculture development plan and subsequently to the whole assembly.

Strengthening NSAs Participation through Small Grants Fund. In FY3, APSP awarded 12 grants for policy advocacy, institutional capacity building and training to enhance private sector advocacy skills. APSP awarded seven grants in Q1 and five grants in Q2 as follows:

Grants Status	Activity	Actual and/or Expected Impacts
FSML Multimedia Ltd (Rite 90.1FM) (on-going)	Advocate for increased resource allocation to the Department of Agriculture in six districts namely, Yilo Krobo, Lower Manya, Upper Manya, Asougyaman & Akuapem in Eastern region and in Shai-Osudoku in the Greater Accra region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio programs about the importance of agriculture in the districts and pressure from informed farmers on public policies, compelled public officials to increase resource allocation for agricultural programs and awarded contract for the repair of roads network in the districts to improve commodity transport and agricultural marketing. • The Municipal Chief Executive of Yilo Krobo indicated that the grant activity convinced him about the importance of establishing and supporting the Agriculture Subcommittees in the District Assemblies • Five Districts where the grant activity took place, have established agriculture sub-committees to develop sector-specific by-law • Responding to demands from farmers participating in the grant activities, the Volta River Authority took specific actions to clean the river banks out of aquatic weed that was affecting fishing • An increased awareness on citizens' participation in local governance motivated stakeholder to participate in 2017 composite budget preparation which was unprecedented in the annals of the 6 district assemblies • Grant activities helped to bring into district assemblies discussions on the situation of farmers with disabilities. Now District Assemblies will seek to make functional a fund that seeks to assist the special needs of physically disadvantaged farmers
Syecom Ltd. (on-going)	Analyse the challenges and opportunities for mainstreaming gender in Ghana's youth policy and youth in agriculture policies and programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The position papers, blog articles produced out of the forums will compel policy makers to introduce and implement policy interventions that can positively affect the livelihoods of youth and women. • The youth and women that participated in the advocacy programs will be attracted to agriculture thus complimenting government's policy of attracting the youth into Ghana's agriculture. • Pursuance of appropriate policy interventions will encourage all-inclusive shared growth, address challenges of and provide jobs and incomes for women and youth who are among the vulnerable in society, • Promote equity in national resource allocation and reduce poverty for long-term sustainable economic growth and development.
CREAT (on-going)	Undertake an assessment of Ghana's Agriculture Sustainable Land Management (AgSLM) strategy and action plan implementation in five municipal assemblies in the Volta Region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The research and other policy dialogue forums for stakeholders both public and private will produce recommendations to contribute with the adoption of policy reforms geared at promoting agriculture sustainable land management regime in Ghana. • Farmers have received so far valuable knowledge and training on practices for Agriculture Sustainable Land Management (AgSLM), a novelty for the vast majority of attendants at the events. This will have a direct and positive impact on the way farmers now will

		<p>manage their plots of land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The grant activities has brought up into district discussions the need for implementing land use plans; thus managing the impacts of productive activities on lands without agriculture aptitudes • Grantee is developing a comparative study on how much farmers in different regions of Ghana are willing to invest/expend on SLM, which will then indicate policy makers the need to take action on policies and programs to enhance AgSLM in the country. • Initial findings of the research pertain to specific and valuable recommendations on AgSLM that APSP will share with the FtF projects and development partners
Roots Link-Africa (on-going)	Public education activities on Ghana's Plant & Fertilizer Act 803 to improve fertilizer use, reduce pesticides and agrochemical use and abuse by commodity value chain actors in Assin North, Assin South and Gomoa East districts of the Central Region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This sensitization of stakeholders on the Plants and Fertilizer Laws will contribute to improved law enforcement / compliance, increased capacity of private sector stakeholders in the law implementation process, and improve access to quality agro-inputs to promote good agriculture practices for increased in the districts in the Central Region. • Trainings on the content of Act 803 have turned into actual agriculture extension service delivery activities, since farmers attending the grant events are taking stock of basic good agricultural practices, are being informed on the use of improved seeds, safe handling of agrochemicals, on the identification of fake and/or adulterated fertilizers and agrochemicals, etc.
NORPRA (on-going)	Support grassroots farmers, particularly youth and women farmers in the Savannah Accelerated Development Authority (SADA) zone, to advocate for their concerns and priorities to be incorporated into the new Medium Term Development Plan of SADA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of issues identified at the regional consultative that are integrated into SADA's medium term development plan will help create opportunities for these vulnerable groups (women and youth) to work and improve their incomes, improve their livelihood and reduce poverty for a more sustainable development and thereby contribute to the overall development of northern Ghana. • Concerns of women, FBOs, and youth related to issues such as inadequate access to land, extension services, financing, and technical education, will be incorporated in the SADA's MTDP.
CLIP (on-going)	Public education activities on Ghana's Plant & Fertilizer Act 803 to improve public knowledge on the plant and fertilizer and regulate agrochemical use and abuse by commodity value chain actors in agricultural production in Karaga and Mion districts of the Northern Region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This sensitization of private stakeholders on Plants and Fertilizer Act 803, 2010 will contribute to improved law enforcement / compliance, increased capacity of private sector stakeholders in the law implementation process, and improve access to quality agro-inputs to promote good agriculture practices for increased in the districts in the Northern Region. • Trainings on the content of Act 803 have turned into actual agriculture extension service delivery activities, since farmers attending the grant events are taking stock of basic good agricultural practices, are being informed on the use of improved seeds, safe handling of agrochemicals, on the identification of fake and/or adulterated fertilizers and agrochemicals, etc. • Agriculture Extension agents report that their set of skills for providing advice to farmers has exponentially increased after being trained and informed on the content of Act 803 • Attendants report that the events gave them the opportunity to know for the first time about the existence of Act 803. • Findings about farmers being unknowledgeable about the differences between grain and seeds and their impact on farm productivity, on the safe and adequate use of agrochemicals, on labelling and registration requirements for commercialization of agro inputs, especially fertilizers, etc signal that their capacity to adopt new technologies and hence improve their overall performance, hinges on strengthening agriculture extension delivery. APSP will share these findings with other FtF projects.
POSDEV (completed)	Strengthen the capacity of fisheries-based organizations Akyem North, Shai-Osudoku, Asuogyaman districts (Eastern Region) for inclusion in agriculture policy processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building of Fishery groups deepen their understanding of the fishery laws and regulations and empowered them to advocate for recognition and participation in the fisheries and aquaculture policymaking process and regulatory regime. • The South Akyem Aquaculture Association through its advocacy efforts and group cohesion have attracted support from the Fishery Commission in the Eastern Region of Ghana to expand its aquaculture business. • Because of the grant activities, aquaculture producers in the East Akyem District have established a new Aquaculture Association, now fully functioning and actively advocating for the benefit of its members. The association now is working towards structuring the

		<p>business of members based on a value chain approach to enhance economies of scale both to purchase inputs and to commercialize their product.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The association has attracted the interest of MoFAD to provide them with technical assistance on aquaculture. • Awareness on MoFAD's policy has increased interest on expanding investments in aquaculture, since according to beneficiaries of the grant activity, "business is good".
EPDRA (completed)	Public education on the Plant and Fertilizer Act, 2010 (Act 803) among farmers, input dealers, MoFA staff and security agencies such as the Police, Customs and Immigration officers within Yendi, Saboba, Chereponi, Zabzugu and Tatale districts of the Northern Region through public fora and radio talks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sensitization program has enhanced knowledge on the Law and improved its enforcement and compliance by all relevant stakeholders. Trainings led to the realization that: • There were too many unlicensed agro-input dealers in the communities, selling expired products to unsuspecting farmers. • Stakeholders have started requesting for copies of the Act 803, 2010 for future reference, which was unforeseen. • Policy and Fire Service officers attending the grants events, indicated that they did not know about the existence of Act 803 and therefore, were not aware of the several areas that fall under the control of Ghana's security agencies in their role as law compliance officers. • Agro input dealers have indicated that based on their knowledge of Act 803, they have been able to improve the marketing of their products and have improved their skills to inform farmers what do they really need.
NORTH CODE (completed)	Assess the support for women farmers and persons with disabilities (PWDs) under the Agriculture Input Support Program of SADA and MoFA to promote increased food and nutrition security in Northern Ghana.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This grant heightened awareness among SADA and Regional Department of Agriculture Officials to include women and vulnerable groups under all SADA agriculture investments for increased food & nutrition security within the Northern Savannah Ecological Zone (NSEZ). Recommendations from the grantee include the following: • To enhance institutional support and recognition with respect to agricultural production challenges of these vulnerable groups in this zone. • To expand the opportunities of women and vulnerable groups to access opportunities in all SADA & MOFA agriculture sector investments. • To incorporate the needs of women and vulnerable groups into SADA's medium term development plan and programs towards increased food security & nutrition security within the NSEZ. • To promote stronger collaboration between SADA / MOFA and the CSOs and the media in the implementation of agriculture development programs in the zone. • The grantee presented these recommendations to SADA and MoFA representatives in FY3 and based on this advocacy, NORTCODE's concerns are being incorporated into SADA's development plans. This will lead to improved opportunities for women and vulnerable groups in the SADA zone.
RUWA (completed)	Strengthening Capacities of Women & FBOs on FASDEP II and METASIP to Access Department of Agriculture Extension Services in 3 districts in Upper West Region of Ghana (Wa West, Wa East & Wa Municipal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The women farmers have started to access agriculture extension services in the districts and indicated their readiness to contribute to the agriculture policy making process. • Before the grant activity, women farmers did not know that the access to agriculture extension services was demand-driven. This is particularly important for AEs which do not receive adequate public funding to fulfill their role. • Grant activity has strengthened the relationship between women's farmers groups and AEs and now they are setting up some funding to facilitate fuel expenses so the agents can visit their farms.
SIRDA (completed)	Strengthening Capacities of Women & FBOs on FASDEP II and METASIP to Access Department of Agriculture Extension Services in 3 districts in Northern Region of Ghana (Nanumba North, Nanumba South & Kpandai districts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women farmers have learned how to access agriculture extension services in the districts and have become ready to contribute to the agriculture policy making process. Their confidence to demand for agriculture extension services has increased, thereby broadening their enormous contribution to Ghana's development of agriculture. • Three radio stations in the districts have given free airtime to encourage women leaders to the studios to talk on agriculture issues and advocate for change. • The Nanumba North and South Districts have now incorporated funding support to agriculture extension activities in their annual composite budgets, which was non-existent. • Because of the grant activities, new FBOs have been established

		<p>after farmers realized that getting organized to demand services and advocate for technical support from MoFA and other district-level offices benefit their productive activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant activities have made a contribution to increasing yields because of the training received on good agricultural practices
SIFA-Agro Ltd. (completed)	Public education on Act 803 (2010) among agro-input dealers and agricultural stakeholders in 5 districts in Northern Region of Ghana: Yendi, Walewale & Bimbila, Sawla-Tuna-Kalba & Tamale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The voice of smallholder farmers being heard in the agriculture policymaking process by policy makers at the district and national level especially the Parliamentary Select Committee on Agriculture and Cocoa. • The awareness on the policymaking process have emboldened the small-scale farmers on their right and role in the agriculture policy process. • Because of the grant activity, grantee has promoted the establishment of six permanent dialogue platforms between MPs and farmers in their respective constituencies. An account from these dialogues shows that an MP in the Kumbungu District (Northern Ghana) has been able to mobilize machinery service delivery to benefit farmers.
GAABIC (completed)	Smallholder Farmer Community Agriculture Policy Fairs with Parliamentarians in Northern Region, in 3 districts; Bunkpurugu, Karaga, Sagnarigu districts, in the Northern Region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased awareness among public and private stakeholders on Act 803 (2010) through the grant activity has led to the establishment of regular discussions and concerted efforts among PPRDS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and members of the GAABIC and the Ghana Agri-input Dealers Association (GAIDA). • Top of their discussion agenda is how to deal with the menace of proliferation of unlicensed agro-input dealers, selling fake and expired agro-chemicals to unsuspecting farmers in the Northern Region. • Increased knowledge of the private sector stakeholders on the Act 803 (2010) has resulted in improved their access to quality agro-inputs, owing to the heightened interest among farmers to apply certified and good quality agro-chemicals.

In sum, the NSA grant activities in FY3 contributed to increasing local level understanding and appreciation of Ghana’s agriculture policy. The grant activities helped to increase awareness of the need to develop sector specific bye-laws, it provided opportunity for five out of the six district assemblies to establish agriculture sub-committees, and empowered farmers to put pressure on public officials to increase resource allocation for agriculture programs. Because of the understanding of the plant and fertilizers law, farmers will benefit from accessing to better quality input packages and have indicated that they will increase their purchases from registered agro-input dealers.

In summary, the principal outcomes stemming from these 12 grants activities at the close of FY3 are as follows:

Participants	F	M	Pro-Business Forums	Policy Advocacy Comms Materials for Public Consumption	Districts	Regions
2,481	754	1727	58	149	73	7

The activities, outcomes and impacts of all of APSP’s grantees are presented in further detail in Annex F of the present annual report.

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

Capacity Building for NSAs & Post Training Monitoring [Indicators 2 and 13]. In FY3 Q1, APSP trained 137 persons drawn from 43 NSAs across the country in

management practices, financial management, operations and human resources management, coalition building, policy analysis and advocacy, and monitoring and evaluation, through a subcontract executed by the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) and Integrated Management Consult Limited (IMCL). Several of the NSAs receiving these trainings were also project's grantees.

In FY3 Q3, the project carried out a post-training monitoring and evaluation of 26 out of the 46 NSAs. From the evaluation results, the training helped to improve operations of the NSAs in governance, financial management, management practices and proposal writing; however, technical challenges, like inability to source funding to prosecute advocacy programs for policy reform still persist. As indicated below, the impacts from APSP's training and capacity building are starting to show up:

- The project's grant to SAFE-Ghana and the training received by his core staff, have both activities created the conditions to enable the organization to receive support from other development partner, to the point that now SAFE-Ghana is a reference for the development of the rice value chain in the Volta Region.
- FSML Multimedia Rite 90.3 FM) through the training has been able to strengthen its project's coordination activities and has ramped up its capacity to improve the technical content of its radio programs.
- POSDEV indicates that the training and the capacity building received from APSP has strengthened its capabilities for networking and coalition forming.
- Training of SIRDA in proposal-writing increased the organization's capacity in grant proposal writing and enabled it to apply for and receive grants from development projects such as Africa Lead, Global Communities and the Northern Region Governance Program.
- Training on proposal-writing to RUWA has enabled the organization to develop and submit three grant applications to Parent Child Development, Stop TB Ghana and to TB Reach, which according to the NGO's representative they have good chances of winning.
- The staff of Centre for Research in Efficient Agriculture Technology (CREAT) among other areas, received training in fund-raising and financial management, which has assisted the organization in securing a long-term lease for its office with the Ho Technical University.
- EPDRA has developed three training manuals of their own, based on the training received from APSP; these include training manuals for management, advocacy and fund raising activities. The manuals constitute a powerful service platform to assist the organization in providing training to other smaller organizations, thus enhancing its sources of funding.
- Based on the trainings received through APSP, now the Community Life Improvement Project's (CLIP) staff are well equipped with the capacity to write quality grant proposals and now are able to reach out to a larger number of development partners to work with them. The grant activity with CLIP has enabled the organization to identify several training gaps to implement Act 803, which now will thrive to undertake through other donor supports.

The gradual completion of the grants and its continuous monitoring, including post-grant activities, will identify even further impacts on the capabilities of these organizations to provide technical and institutional services, while building up their sustainability.

Establishment of National “Umbrella” Organization to Represent Seed Value Chain Actors: In FY3 Q1, APSP facilitated the formation of an umbrella seed organization, NASTAG. NASTAG brought together Seed Producers Association of Ghana (SeedPAG), Seed Traders Association of Ghana (STAG) and Ghana Agriculture Inputs Dealers Association (GAIDA) to foster unification within the seed value chain. In FY3 Q3, APSP received, reviewed and fine-tuned an unsolicited application from NASTAG for grant support to strengthen its institutional and advocacy activities. APSP will award the capacity building and capacity grant to NASTAG in FY4 Q1, in line with the USAID’S priority to support the development of the seed sector in Ghana. NASTAG will champion policy reforms to modernize the seed industry in Ghana. Among the priority areas is the advocacy for the implementation of seed licensing agreements to enable private seed producers to multiply breeder seed into foundation seed. In addition, NASTAG will be advocating for the enactment of Ghana’s Seed Regulations and for the development of an implementation strategy to roll out the National Seed Development Plan.

Train Media Organizations on Reporting and Communication on Agriculture Policy and Advocacy. In FY3, APSP trained 26 members of the Ghana Agriculture and Rural Development Journalist Association (GARDJA), the Ghana Independent Broadcasters Association (GIBA) and selected MoFA staff to enhance their technical skills as per the topics indicated in the box. This training was aimed at encouraging and motivating journalists to expand coverage of agriculture policy issues in the Ghanaian media. The content of the trainings helped to increase writing of compelling agriculture stories in social media platform dubbed “*Agric Journalists Ghana*” GARDJA website www.gardja.org and other local Ghanaian radio, online and print newspaper publications for public consumption. What follows are but few examples of the media reportage on agriculture that were made possible due to the new skills that enabled the journalists to put them up.

APSP Training Activities for Ghanaian Journalists

- Analytical writing of agriculture stories
- Effective communication on agriculture policies
- In-depth analysis of agriculture policies
- Agriculture reporting
- Gender mainstreaming
- Media advocacy, and;
- Agriculture budgeting and public expenditure

- AGARDJA member reported that “women farmers need financial support” (Daily Graphic newspaper, July 30, 2016): GARDJA’s call in addition to that of other farmer groups and civil society organizations for financial support to small holder farmers including women farmers has motivated the government to join with the Bank of Ghana to roll out a special credit fund to support smallholder farmers including women farmers starting from 2017 cropping season.
- “USAID gives IT equipment to enhance agriculture data” (The Herald newspaper, September 14, 2016): Article showcased USAID’s support to strengthening MoFA’s capacity to improve the collection and management of good quality data for policymaking purposes.
- SADA must be transparent, accountable (Ghanaian Times newspaper, June 29, 2016): “market-related agricultural value chains – constraints and opportunities” (facebook/agricjournalistsghana, September 23, 2016): The article demanding accountability and transparency from SADA management has compelled the organization to start explaining its operations and use of

funds to the public at press conferences, public forums and through newspaper articles.

Provide Civil Society Support for the Policy Efforts of the Other Ghana Feed the Future Projects

Collaborate With Other USAID Ghana FTF Projects and Other Development Partners: [Indicators 2, 7, 11, 13 and 14]. The project collaborated with the USAID FtF Agriculture Development and Value Chain Enhancement (ADVANCE) II Project to train FBO Networks from five districts in the Upper West Region on policy advocacy. The policy advocacy activities of the Network were carried out through radio programs and engagement with policy makers on issues affecting farmers such as poor fertilizer distribution system, lack of tractor services, and environmental degradation through cutting of rosewood. The advocacy activities of the network in conjunction with other civil society groups compelled the Upper West Region Coordinating Council to ban the cutting and transportation of rosewood in the region.

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 Year	Reasons for not meeting Established Target/Milestones	Corrective Action
The revival of the APPDF has not been accomplished	One national agriculture public private dialogue forum (APPDF) established and functional	Delayed response from the APPDF in developing a grant proposal that could comply with USAID grant requirements. This is general affected the timelines for an effective grant support	In FY3 Q4, APSP identified three Ghanaian champion CSOs; HAG, CiCOL and GTLC for unsolicited grant support to further strengthen their activities to undertake agriculture policy dialogue forums
CSOs have no disaggregated data on agriculture for advocacy	10 CSOs have knowledge and using gender disaggregated data on agriculture for advocacy	The CSOs have limited knowledge on the sources and use of gender data on agriculture for advocacy. In consequence, APSP could not collect any data from the CSOs to enable it meet the target for this indicator	APSP has reached out to 10 local Ghanaian CSOs and will organize training for them on the sources, analysis and use of gender data for advocacy in FY4 Q1

A3c. Outcomes of High Level Meetings

Activity	Outcome
Met with USAID FtF ADVANCE II's Policy Advocacy Team in FY3 Q4 to plan and organize nucleus farmer's network training in three regions in Northern Ghana.	APSP and ADVANCE II agreed to identify and strengthen the technical capacity of three regional level nucleus farmer's network in the Northern, Upper West and Upper East Regions to advocate for agriculture sector policy reforms, and to facilitate their linkage with national level policy dialogue network or platforms. This collaborative activity to be implemented under a cost-sharing arrangement, is expected to amplify the voice of the private sector and civil society organizations in the agriculture policy process.
Met with three champion CSOs; Hunger Alliance (HAG), Civil Society Coalition on Land (CiCOL) and Ghana Trade and Livelihood Coalition (GTLC) for partnership to organize policy dialogue forums on specific agriculture policy issues needed to promote private sector	Specific policy issues on which the partnership with APSP will be executed were streamlined and agreed upon. It was agreed that on collaborative cost-sharing basis APSP will support HAG, CiCOL and GTLC to organize policy advocacy and policy dialogue / engagement activities including development of policy briefs, position papers to contribute to agriculture sector policy

investment in Ghana.	reforms in Ghana.
Met with the Representatives of National Seed Trade Association of Ghana (NASTAG) in FY3 Q3 to discuss grant support from APSP to develop the advocacy and policy regimes of NASTAG to become the mouth of the seed sector stakeholders in Ghana	APSP reached an acceptable level of understanding on the key strategic objectives and seed policy issues to be addressed by specific activities under the grant to NASTAG. This grant to commence implementation in FY4Q1 will assist NASTAG to become the mouth of the seed sector stakeholders in advocating for seed policy reforms, and enhanced private sector participation in the development of Ghanaian seed industry.
Met with the senior management of the Northern Ghana Governance Activity (NGGA) to map out areas of collaboration and mutual support.	Areas of collaboration between the two projects identified and agreed upon. ASPSP agreed to share technical experience with NGGA on issues of agriculture policy reforms, especially within the context of agriculture sector development in Ghana's decentralization process.

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

Objectives (Annual Targets as Established in the Annual Work Plan)	Efficacy of Progress Against Objectives and Results
40 Agriculture policy communications developed and or written for stakeholder consumption.	Activity on track The training provided to 43 NSAs and over 100 journalists in policy analysis, writing of compelling agriculture stories, agriculture reporting and feature article writing and new grants awarded to 7 NSAs in FY3, resulted in the production of 149 agriculture policy communication for public consumption far exceeding the target. (Indicator 6)
Five policy advocacy campaigns that focus on the separate needs of men and women smallholder farmers held.	Activity on track New grants awarded to Syecomp Ltd. and NORPRA for 3 zonal and 5 SADA regional level policy advocacy campaigns that focused on the separate needs of women and men, resulted in meeting the target. (Indicator 7). The campaigns of each of the grantees were on the theme of including women and youth in agriculture policy and programs of Ghana and SADA's medium term agriculture development programs respectively.
Implement 40 Public-private dialogues that focused on policy that supports private sector investment.	Activity on track In FY3, APSP and grantees have implemented 58 public private dialogues, exceeding the target. (Indicator 11)
10% of recommendations agreed upon during public private dialogue forums that are implemented.	Activity on track 60 recommendations agreed on with about 20% implemented by the District Assemblies in FY3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five out of six district assemblies in which a grantee was undertaking policy advocacy activities, have established sub-committees in agriculture. (FSML FM 90.1) • It was recommended that districts assemblies should increase stakeholder participations in the discussion of development plans and preparation of composite budgets. This has been accomplished in the six districts where project grantees was undertaking policy advocacy activities. (FSML FM 90.1)
20 food security private producers' organizations, agribusiness organizations receiving USG assistance.	Activity on track 45 NSAs comprising food security private producers', agribusiness and civil society organizations received training in policy analysis, policy advocacy and institutional/ organizational development.

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"> Meet with Director of PPB at MoFA to develop road map for strengthening policy unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet Deans and Directors of Agriculture Faculties/Research Institutions and discuss progress of on-going research studies. Meet Deans and Directors of Agriculture Faculties/Research Institutions and discuss their interest in receiving funding support from APSP to strengthen their research capacities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet ADVANCE II Project and agree on modalities for co-financing the implementation of advocacy training of nucleus farmers' network in three regions in Northern Ghana Meet with senior management team of NGGA to discuss and identify areas for collaboration and co-financing of agreed upon activities. Meet BUSAC Funds, ATT to discuss support to NASTAG Meet management of three champion CSOs HAG, CiCOL and GTLC to sign MOU for collaboration on implementation of policy dialogues
Technical Assistance, Trainings, and Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate METASIP/SAKSS 1st quarter meetings. Provide equipment to MoFA PCU and MED to enhance their work and commence discussions for training. Commission study to evaluate impact of decentralization on agriculture. Monitor and complete NAFCO assessment and organize stakeholder consultations to discuss recommendations for adoption. Liaise with LAP and LCS on progress for passage of Land Bill and implementation of guidelines. Complete the pilot training on CAPI for deployment. Organize stakeholder consultation on the agriculture marketing situation study report. Commission development of new irrigation policy. Agree with MoFA on roadmap to strengthen policy unit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and select 10 gender CSOs involved in policy advocacy for special needs of women in agriculture. Engage WIAD to organize training in sources and use of gender disaggregated data for policy advocacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor Activities of NSAs Collect data in the districts and regions on agreed policy dialogue recommendations Monitor implementation of grant activities Collect articles to produce newsletter and distribute newsletter. Notify and administer OCA & ACA questionnaires to 43 NSAs Develop concept paper and project activity memorandum (PAM) and seek approval for advocacy capacity building of Nucleus Farmers' Network in three regions in Northern Ghana. Identify 6 champion NSAs for capacity building support
Grants, Subcontracts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage ISU to undertake following assignment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Train private seed producers in quality management Assist NASTAG to develop its strategic plan for long-term growth. Support MoFA to develop bankable projects to implement National Seed Plan. Liaise with CEPA and monitor the improvement and completion of NAFCO assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive and review reports and deliverables from research studies Undertake field visits to research institutions/university faculties that are undertaking research and to discuss how to improve policy research capacity studies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide grant to 3 Champion CSOs; HAG, CiCOL and GTLC for policy advocacy activities Provide grant for policy advocacy and training activities of NSAs Provide grant to GIBA and GARDJA for development of policy communication materials
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss approaches with GSSP/IFPRI on improving agriculture sector data collection, analysis, management and reporting. Discuss with the FtF Agriculture Technology Transfer Project and with BUSAC on approaches to strengthen institutional capacities of public and private stakeholders to 	<p>Collaborate with NGGA and MIRA (AGRA) to engage CSOs working on policy in gender in agriculture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With NGGA on carrying out research on decentralization, processes for grant implementation and implementation of policy advocacy recommendations in the districts under its influence in the three regions in Northern Ghana. With ADVANCE II to implement policy advocacy training for three regional Nucleus Farmers' Networks in three regions in Northern Ghana. With ATT and BUSAC Funds to support policy advocacy activities of NASTAG

	<p>promote the development of the seed sector in Ghana.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• APSP will start out implementing activities with the Northern Ghana Governance Activity, especially with regard to the assessment on the impact of decentralization on the agriculture sector		
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C. PROGRESS ON GENDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

C1. Gender

Implementation of APSP Gender Strategy: The APSP Gender Strategy was led by the Gender Specialist, and in FY3, APSP implemented the following activities: implemented:

- APSP's technical staff received training on gender mainstreaming into project activities.
- APSP Gender Specialist also provided technical assistance to Women in Agriculture Directorate (WIAD) of MoFA in gender mainstreaming training and participated in GADS sensitization workshops across Ghana.
- APSP has also collaborated with WIAD and other stakeholders to organize a National Nutrition Campaign.
- The Gender Specialist also trained selected media staff and for non-state actors in gender mainstreaming into their policy advocacy activities.

Sensitization on MoFA's Gender and Agricultural Development Strategy II (GADS II). APSP deepened its gender mainstreaming activities in FY3, with a sensitization/public education workshop on GADS II in Tamale, Northern region, for staff of Regional Agricultural Departments (RADs), other MoFA staff and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from the Upper-West, Upper-East, Northern, Brong-Ahafo and Ashanti regions and attended by 37 participants (15 females and 22 males). The sensitization highlighted MoFA's gender agenda for increasing productivity of the agricultural sector by examining successes and challenges of the previous GAD I, creating awareness on the gender gaps identified in the gender analysis of the agricultural sector and the related strategic objectives of GADS II with its proposed institutional and implementation arrangements. Key elements and actions required for integration of GADS II into programs and activities of local government authorities were identified and the expected outcomes/impacts and issues of sustainability were outlined.

APSP collaborated with WIAD to bring together agriculture stakeholders to discuss the findings and recommendations in the Gender and Agriculture baseline survey report for selected communities in Ghana. The key objectives of the activity were to inform stakeholders on the:

- Findings and recommendations in the baseline survey report.
- Existence of an authentic source of gender disaggregated research data for gender and agriculture in Ghana; and,
- Assist them to incorporate the recommendations in their work for advocacy purposes and for the development of projects to bridge the gender gap in agriculture. In FY4, APSP will follow up on the adoption of this recommendation.

61 participants comprising of 31 females and 30 males participated in the workshop. Participants were from MoFA Directorates, Local and international NGOs, Farmer Based Organizations, Media, other relevant Ministries and Commissions, Financial Institution, Agricultural Projects in Ghana such as GASIP, LAP, etc. Participants increased their knowledge on women’s relevant participation in the agriculture sector. Based on the relevant data stemming from the report, participants learned that including women’s concerns into the development of agriculture policies would ensure a more equitable and sustainable sector growth.

C2. Environmental Compliance

Project activities are mainly trainings, workshops, meetings and surveys with different stakeholders which by themselves do not have any adverse environmental effects; however, APSP in FY3 ensured that activities implemented with GoG institutions, academia and NSAs did not generate any negative impact on the environment. Consequently, FY3 activities were not subjected to any environmental examination as in the previous two years. The table below shows the activities excluded from initial environmental examination.

Activities under 22 CFR 216 Categorically Excluded	APSP Activities in FY 3 (illustrative)
Activities involving education, training, technical assistance or training programs, except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (constructions, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitization workshops on plants and fertilizer policy • Training of MoFA staff in mobile data collection • Training of CSOs/FBOs in gender and policy advocacy
Activities involving analyses, studies, academic research or workshops and meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training workshops with seed sector stakeholders • Meetings research institutions on conducting studies
Activities involving document and information transfers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing of application software, • Workshop to disseminate gender in agriculture strategy
Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries and organizations to engage in development planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research studies, filed interviews and data collection • Identification of priority research with METASIP/ SAKSS

D. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Review of Project PMP in FY3: APSP reviewed project indicators in its Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) against achievements and proposed changes and adjustments to selected indicator targets to USAID for approval. By the changes, APSP proposed to increase targets for five output indicators and requested to lower target for one output/outcome indicator. Also proposed to replace one indicator altogether. The current set of project indicators are as contained in Annex A.

M&E Capacity Building Support to MoFA’s M&E Directorate and Non-State Actors: In FY3 the project, through subcontractor GIMPA carried out capacity building training for MOFA staff (M&E officers, the Policy Planning & Budget, and the SRID directorates) aimed at improving their capacity in monitoring and evaluation. Two other contractors—WACSI and ICML—carried out organizational and policy advocacy strengthening activities that benefitted 43 NSAs.

Knowledge Management and Learning: The M&E Specialist participated in a USAID M&E, and knowledge management and learning group meetings for Feed the Future implementing partners. The meeting provided training to review AIDTracker software and portals, entering data into the FTF Monitoring System, develop project Performance Narratives and writing comments in support of indicator target deviations. Discussion were also held on collaboration, learning, and adapting for impacts among FtF implementing partners

Routine Performance Monitoring: APSP continuously and routinely monitored the performance of all project activities, grantees, and subcontractor activities on the field. The project is on track in achieving targets in 12 indicators and as indicated, we are behind in two. APSP's fourteen indicators that are reported on are as follows:

	Indicator	Target
#1	Score, in percent, of combined key areas of organizational capacity among direct and indirect local implementing partners (Impact)	80%
#2	Number of individuals who have received U.S. government-supported short-term agriculture sector productivity or food security training (Output)	5000
#3	Number of organizations focusing on women in agriculture policy advocacy, demonstrating knowledge of sources and use of gender disaggregated data on agriculture (in Ghana)	10
#4	Number of agricultural enabling environment policies/ regulations / administrative procedures in the following stages of development as a result of USG assistance. (In the areas of agricultural resources, food, market standards & regulation, public investment, natural resource or water management and climate change adaption/mitigation as it relates to agriculture). (Output and Outcome)	
	Stage 1: Analyzed	20
	Stage 2: Drafted & presented for public consultation	15
	Stage 3: Presented for legislation/deGREE stage	10
	Stage 4: Passed/approved Stage	5
	Stage 5: Passed for which implementation has begun	3
#5	Number of government units or divisions that have received short-term training (Output)	20
#6	Number of agriculture policy communications, developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption (Output)	200
#7	Number of policy advocacy campaigns that focus on the separate needs of men and women smallholder farmers (Output).	20
#8	Number of high quality research reports published (Output)	20
#9	Score, in percent, of improved areas of policy research capacity in assisted research organizations and units (Outcome)	80%
#10	Score, in percent, of the capacity of the private sector to advocate for pro-business agriculture sector reform in Ghana (Outcome)	80%
#11	Number of public private advocacy dialogues focused on policy that supports private sector investment (Output)	120
#12	Percent of recommendations agreed upon during public-private dialogues that are implemented (Outcome)	30%
#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, receiving USG assistance (Output)	90
#14	Number of Local Entities receiving performance improvement assistance (disaggregated by type of entity – government, CSO, Private sector)	110

The status of overall project progress is attached in this report as Annex A.

Data Quality Assessment of APSP monitoring system and FtFMS standard indicators. The USAID EG Office and the USAID Monitoring and Evaluation and Technical Support System (METSS), initiated a Data Quality Assessment (DQA) of APSP. APSP was represented by the Senior Policy Advisor and M&E Specialist. The DQA consisted of a general assessment of the APSP Monitoring & Evaluation System for Performance Indicator Reference Sheets, documentation, and storage of M&E data. There was also an assessment of indicators for which the APSP reports to USAID FtFMS indicator tracking system for validity, reliability, precision, timeliness, and integrity, using the USAID's DQA checklist.

E. FINANCE

Project implementation continued to pick up in FY3, as the project ramped up grants, procurements, and subcontracts resulting in an increase in project spending. The home office Project Management Unit (PMU) worked closely with the field office finance manager and operations director, as well as the home office support divisions, to ensure that expenses were properly documented and booked in our accounting system for prompt invoicing.

ANNEX A: PROJECT PERFORMANCE STATISTICS

A1. Performance Indicator Tracking Table (PITT) – FY3 Q4 Annual Report

#	Indicator	LOA Target	FY16 Target	FY16 Actual	Cumulative Result as at end of FY3	Analysis Of Processes/Results Against Cumulative Targets at End of FY3 Note: Indicator on Track if Within 10 Percent Variance of Cumulative Results as of End of FY3
#1	Score, in percent, of combined key areas of organizational capacity among direct and indirect local implementing partners	4	n/a	-	2.83 (71%)	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In FY1, APSP carried out baseline studies for 45 NSAs (local implementing partners) using the OCA tool. In FY2, the project provided capacity building training in organizational capacity among these NSAs based on gaps identified during baseline studies. In FY3, APSP began a review and follow up of NSAs following the capacity building training. In FY4, the project will administer the OCAT to assess the NSAs' new level of organizational capacity.
#2	Number of individuals who have received U.S. government-supported short-term agriculture sector productivity or food security training	5,000	1,500	1,327	4,765	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> APSP provided short-term training to direct beneficiaries. At the end of FY3 Q4, the number of individuals trained is 4,765 (3,609 men and 1,156 women) which is 95.3% of the project target. Further data cleaning and validation by grantees will increase the actual and final numbers for FY3.
#3	Number of organizations focusing on women in agriculture policy advocacy, demonstrating knowledge of sources and use of gender disaggregated data on agriculture.	10	2	-	0	<p>Indicator below target for FY16 but on target for life of project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This indicator is new and the project only began interventions to achieve the target in FY3. APSP engaged with organizations that focus on women in agriculture, and will organize capacity building activities on the analysis use of gender data for advocacy in Q4.
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					<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By FY3, APSP is handling 24 pieces of policy/regulation/administrative procedure in various stages of development.

	Stage 1: Analyzed	20	5	2	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For each policy, we counted the highest stage reached at end of FY3. Of the policies being handled at Stage 5, APSP has worked through from Stage 1 to 5 with only two of them. The other three policies were already passed by the GoG and APSP is supporting only at the implementation stage. Since contract determines that project is responsible on policy development through Stage 3, project overall is on track Please see Annex C below for disaggregation by stages in the policy process.
	Stage 2: Drafted for public consultation	15	4	2	14	
	Stage 3: Presented for legislation	10	3	2	11	
	Stage 4: Passed/approved	5	2	12	4	
	Stage 5: Passed and began implementation	3	1	5	2 (5)	
#5	Number of government units or divisions that have received short-term training	20	4	4	16	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <p>RADU, SRID, WIAD, VSD, APD, DAES, PPRSD, DCS, PPB, M&ED, TVRC, NSC, Parliamentary Select Committee, MLNR - Land Commission, MESTI- National Bio-safety Authority.</p>
#6	Number of agriculture policy communications, developed and/or written for stakeholder consumption	200	40	37	158	<p>Indicator is on Track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per cumulative results, through FY3, project has achieved 158 out of 160 Activities planned for FY4 will ramp up the numbers for this indicator and over the next two years into project implementation, target will be surpassed.
#7	Number of policy advocacy campaigns that focus on the separate needs of men and women small holder farmers	20	5	9	25	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In FY3, project grantees carried out activities focusing on the needs of women farmers and campaigned for inclusion of their needs in programming.
Component 2: Policy Research						
#8	Number of high quality research reports published	20	2	1	3	<p>Indicator below target for FY16 but on target for life of project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> APSP and its grantees have completed three high-quality research studies as of FY3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Towards a Soil Fertility Strategy in Ghana Report on Agricultural Insurance in Ghana Review of Data Collection Methodologies at MOFA-SRID In FY3, APSP commissioned seven research studies to two universities and two research institutions. CEPA is currently implementing two research studies. APSP will commission two METASIP/SAKSS priority research studies by the end of calendar year 2016. In FY4, APSP will commission at least three research studies on demand from MoFA and/or other GoG MDAs. In FY5, APSP will develop a minimum of two additional research studies to reach the LOA target.

#9	Score, in percent, of improved areas of policy research capacity in assisted research organizations and units	4 (80%)	n/a	-	1.75(44%)	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In FY2, APSP assessed the capacity for agriculture policy research among 13 public and private universities and research institutions. In FY3, the project established guidelines for selected universities and research institutions to access small grants to improve capacity to fill gaps that were identified in the initial assessments.
Component 3: Policy Advocacy						
#10	Score, in percent, of the capacity of the private sector to advocate for pro-business agriculture sector reform in Ghana	4 (80%)	n/a	-	2.50(63%)	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <p>In FY4, APSP will conduct a second round of advocacy capacity assessments (using ACAT) of NSAs. These will serve as post-capacity building assessments following extensive policy advocacy trainings delivered by APSP.</p>
#11	Number of public-private advocacy dialogues focused on policy that supports private sector investment	120	40	15	85	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per cumulative results, through FY3, project has achieved 85 out of 90 Activities planned for FY4 will ramp up the numbers for this indicator and over the next two years into project implementation, LOA target will be surpassed
#12	Percent of recommendations agreed upon during public-private dialogues that are implemented.	30%	5	5	53%	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 out of 19 policy recommendations are being implemented. In FY4, APSP will collaborate with other FtF implementing partners (Advance and NGGA) to track recommendations agreed upon as a result of policy advocacy dialogues with district assemblies. <p>[Percent is calculated by dividing the total number of recommendations by the number of recommendations that are fully implemented]</p>
#13	4.5.2-11: Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and agribusiness associations (such as FBOs, CBOs) receiving USG assistance	90	20	20	70	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In FY2, APSP delivered organization capacity building assistance to 43 NSAs. As at FY3, sixteen (16) CSOs received fresh assistance through small-grants to implement advocacy campaigns and networking. APSP assisted six institutions to strengthen capacity in the seed industry. Four (4) research institutions also received grants in FY3
#14	Number of Local Entities receiving performance improvement assistance (government, CSO, Private sector)	110	24	24	86	<p>Indicator is on track</p> <p>Sixteen grantees received fresh assistance in FY3 after assistance for capacity building in FY1 and FY2.</p>

ANNEX B. PROJECT SNAPSHOT



SNAPSHOT

USAID supporting Ghanaian NGO to champion rice production in the Volta region

USAID and SAFE-Ghana team up to boost rice production and economic growth in the Volta region



Members of the Volta Rice Network
Photo Credit: SAFE Ghana

“Bringing all the actors together in a network to link up, creating space for our voices and massive organization is important for rice producers. We believe we cannot be taken for granted any longer, so long as we remain organized and united.”

Billy Agbotsey
Interim Chairman
Volta Rice Network

While demand for rice in Ghana has increased by 33 percent over the last five years, local farmers are unable to satisfy domestic demand. This is due to their low productivity and high production costs, which leaves them incapable of competing with inexpensive imported products. Ghanaians spend over USD 400 million annually on imported rice, which hurts rice farmers in Volta who constitute nearly 35 percent of people under the poverty line in the region.

In order to address this challenge, USAID and the Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP) is supporting Small Actions for Enterprise-Ghana (SAFE-Ghana), a local non-governmental organization in the Volta Region, to advocate for policy reforms that promote the region’s rice sector. These activities will lead to increased yields, improved competitiveness, and higher farmer incomes.

SAFE-Ghana has helped establish a permanent regional umbrella body, the Volta Region Rice Producers Network (VRRPN), which is organizing farmers through zonal clusters around the region. SAFE-Ghana and VRRPN are providing technical assistance and training to an estimated 10,000 farmers on topics such as using certified seeds, using simple rice farm machinery, and post-harvest systems.

25 lead rice farmers from the network have received technical assistance to become certified rice seed producers and SAFE-Ghana has linked other members up to large rice buyers looking for quality rice. According to Rockson Atiklu, a newly certified seed producer from Kedjebi and a member of the network: “As I am now a certified seed dealer, my income will increase and I will be able to cater for my family’s needs”.

With USAID’s support, SAFE-Ghana has grown as an institution and is now receiving funding from other development partners to expand its activities. This allows it to champion rice production in Volta and convert the region into an agricultural engine for growth and Ghana’s “rice basket”. USAID’s support for SAFE-Ghana is part of its larger effort to support initiatives that promote private sector investment in priority crops and build the capacity of local organizations to implement development activities.



SNAPSHOT

Delivering agriculture extension services through public education on the Plants and Fertilizers Act 803

USAID trains farmers and dealers in Mion and Karaga on the importance identifying and using quality, compliant inputs



Farmers and Agro Input Dealers after training session in Karaga District

Photo Credit: CLIP

“Low yields from my crops, make life hard and carrying out parental duties such as paying my children’s school fees very difficult. This makes me sad because I want to offer the best opportunities to my children but if I can’t afford it they will have to stay at home until I can support their schooling again.”

Saharu Imoro
Farmer- Mion District
Northern Region

Smallholder farmers in Northern Ghana suffer from low crop yields stemming from poor soil quality, limited access to improved seeds, and rampant plant diseases and pest infestations. In addition to low yields, the improper use of agrochemicals harms the environment and poses a risk to human health. An estimated 10-25 percent of these farmers lack knowledge and information to access the right seeds, fertilizers, and agrochemicals to improve their output. Agricultural input dealers often also lack sufficient knowledge to correctly store, label, and commercialize agriculture inputs, adding to the problem.

Farmer Mohammed Shihatu’s experience is typical. Last year, the fertilizer that he purchased was ineffective and led to a poor crop. However, after attending a training session hosted by USAID and the Ghana Feed the Future Agriculture Policy Support Project (APSP), he is confident that next year will be different. According to Mohammed: “After the training I now know how to identify the right fertilizer to use on my crops and how to properly apply it so it cannot harm me.”

USAID is working to ensure that farmers, input dealers, local NGOs, extension agents, and law enforcement officials are educated on the Plant and Fertilizers Act 2010 (Act 803). Act 803 regulates the importation and commercialization of seeds, fertilizers, and agrochemicals to ensure that farmers have access to quality inputs. APSP recently partnered with a Ghanaian NGO, Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP), to hold a series of training sessions and sensitization events on Act 803 in the Mion and Karaga districts in the Northern Region of the country. These two districts are plagued by perennial droughts and quality inputs are vital to improving the area’s historically low yields.

CLIP recently implemented four training sessions targeting 70 district agriculture extension agents (AEAs), agricultural input dealers, and farmers. CLIP will soon hold two additional training sessions to target a key audience of Customs and Security agents. These agents hold the vital role of enforcing relevant regulations and keeping noncompliant and counterfeit agricultural inputs off of the market.

At the sessions, dealers and farmers learned how to identify adulterated agrochemicals and imitation fertilizer, as well as the importance of using compliant products provided by registered dealers. Thanks to USAID and CLIP, farmers, dealers, and others in Mion and Karaga are better equipped to follow the guidelines of Act 803 and to boost the region’s agricultural productivity.

ANNEX C. POLICY REFORM ACTIVITIES IN FY3 AND LINKAGES TO KEY RESULTS AREAS

Policy Reform Agenda to Support Government of Ghana Priorities							
Policies/ Regulations/ Administrative Procedures	Type of Legal Document	Process/Steps					Relevance to Key Results Areas of APSP
		Analysis	Stakeholder Consultation/ Public Debate	Drafting or Revision	Approval (Legislative or regulatory)	Full and Effective Implemen- tation	
Agricultural Input Policies							
1. Plants and Fertilizers Act, 2010 (Act 803). Support to dissemination	Policy/ Regulation					X	APSP's KRA 1.3: Act 803 dissemination provides public education to ensure compliance with the law by stakeholders. Compliance will encourage importation, production, and sale of genuine and unadulterated agriculture inputs. Use of quality inputs will increase agriculture production and productivity to enhance farm incomes, reduce poverty, and promote food security. It will also lessen health risks in food consumption.
2. Redrafting of Seed Regulation for harmonization to ECOWAS Protocols stakeholders	Policy / Regulation				X		APSP's KRA 1.3: The re-drafted seed regulations will safeguard interests of Ghana's private seed sector operatives from unfair international competition by contributing to monitoring of exports and imports of commercial seed transactions along the ECOWAS sub-region. This will promote commercial production, international trading, and availability and use of improved seeds for increased agriculture production, in line with government policy to expand use of certified seeds.
3. Fertilizer subsidy policy analysed as part of Soil Fertility study and presented to GoG.	Policy / Regulation			X			APSP's KRA 1.3: Soil fertility study provided holistic and integrated soil fertility management options for government, to address challenges in the fertilizer subsidy program. MoFA adopted three selected study recommendations (i.e. inclusion of organic fertilizers, introduction of IT platform, and early announcement of program) in the 2016 fertilizer subsidy program and has introduced cost effective and transparent efficiency into program implementation.
4. Guidelines for Production of Foundation Seeds by the Private Sector	Admin. Procedure				X		APSP's KRA 1.3: Guidelines for production of foundation seeds by private sector will speed the process to privatize and commercialize foundation seed production, which was previously the sole mandate of MoFA. Privatization and commercialization of foundation seeds will expand their production and availability and increase availability and use of certified seeds.

5. Variety Evaluation and Release manual for TVRC	Admin. Procedure				X		APSP's KRA 1.3: The variety evaluation and release manual and accreditation manual both provide guidelines for seed accreditation/certification application as part of a larger effort to modernize and introduce standards into the seed industry and build stakeholder confidence. This will facilitate the production, distribution, sale, and use of quality seeds for increased agriculture productivity and production.
6. Accreditation manual for seed certification for GISD	Admin. Procedure				X		
7. National Quarantine Pest List	Admin. Procedure					X	APSP's KRA 1.3: Approval of the quarantine list enables PPRSD to control and avoid the entry of pests into the country.
8. Crop Variety Licensing Policy for NARIs	Admin. Procedure				X		APSP's KRA 1.3: Licensing policy, commercial agreements, and licensing contracts will expose the national research institutions to business principles, build their capacity to commercialize their research activities, and make them responsive to market demands. This will promote a reliable and sustainable production of breeder and foundation seeds to ensure dependable availability and use of improved seeds in Ghana.
9. Seed Commercialization Agreements for NARS	Admin. Procedure				X		APSP's KRA 1.3: Licensing policy, commercial agreements, and licensing contracts will expose the national research institutions to business principles, build their capacity to commercialize their research activities, and make them responsive to market demands. This will promote a reliable and sustainable production of breeder and foundation seeds to ensure dependable availability and use of improved seeds in Ghana.
10. Licensing Contracts for the Production of Breeder Seed for NARS & Seed Companies	Admin. Procedure				X		APSP's KRA 1.3: Licensing policy, commercial agreements, and licensing contracts will expose the national research institutions to business principles, build their capacity to commercialize their research activities, and make them responsive to market demands. This will promote a reliable and sustainable production of breeder and foundation seeds to ensure dependable availability and use of improved seeds in Ghana.
Enabling Environment for Private Sector Investment							
11. Ghana Agriculture Extension Policy: Review of FBO Strategy	Policy / Regulation				X		APSP' KRA 1.2: Revised FBO strategy will promote the formation and development of strong service-oriented farmer organizations capable of providing good agricultural practices and extension support to its members, given that MoFA extension strategy focuses on use of FBOs as entry points for extension delivery. This support systems will increase farmer productivity and production to ensure food security, enhance farmer incomes, and ultimately lead to declining poverty.

12. Support for Irrigation Policy Reform	Policy / Regulation	X					APSP's KRA 1.3: Revision of irrigation policy will make Ghana's irrigation sector more private sector-led by increasing private participation in irrigation infrastructure provision and management and by re-structuring the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority into a regulatory body. The revised policy will promote private sector investments in agriculture, increase irrigation infrastructure, improve access to irrigation for year round agriculture production and for enhanced food security, expand agriculture production and productivity, and raise farmer incomes.
13. Assessment of the Agriculture Commodity Trading Systems in Ghana, GCX	Policy / Regulation		X				APSP' KRA 1.2: Assessment of GCX helped identify building blocks for technical and financial assistance to establish a well-functioning commodity market to promote efficient agriculture marketing to attract increased sector investments.
Land And Natural Resources Tenure, Rights, and Policy							
14. Redrafting of Land Bill (Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources)	Policy / Regulation				X		APSP' KRA 1.2: Both interventions support Ghana's land reform program through drafting of a new land bill and development of novel policy guidelines for acquisition of large tracks of land. Passage and implementation of both the law and policy will improve land administration overall. Improved land administration will help reduce community agitations and attacks, especially on foreign landowners, create the enabling environment for increased private sector investments in agriculture, unlock the nation's potential for increased agriculture productivity, production. and revenues for long-term agriculture growth and development.
15. Guidelines for large scale lands transactions (Ghana's Lands Commission)	Admin. Procedure					X	
Institutional Architecture for Improved Policy Formulation							
16. Restructuring of Policy Unit at MoFA	Admin. Procedure			X			APSP's KRA 1.1: The policy unit will be staffed with a core of well-trained professional staff with the capacity to coordinate sector policies and undertake rigorous policy analysis that will feed into sector policy formulation and implementation. This will allow MoFA to continuously identify and address policy challenges that hinder private sector investments in agriculture and also analyse effects of government macroeconomic policies on the sector. The improved policy unity will have the capacity to design creative interventions to address challenges and create an enabling environment for increased agriculture investments.
17. Gender and Agriculture Development Strategy (GADS). Support to dissemination	Policy/ Regulation					X	APSP's KRA 1.2: Dissemination of GADS will allow for integrating gender into programs of relevant MMDAs to promote inclusive national development that takes into consideration the interest and concerns of all citizens, especially the vulnerable.

18. Assessment of New Methodologies for Data collection, Analysis and Management:	Admin. Procedure				X		APSP's KRA 1.2: Some MoFA data collection methodologies are in-correct which results in publication of inaccurate sector data. APSP assistance will improve agriculture data collection methodologies and analysis, enhance data credibility and acceptability by sector stakeholders, and provide more accurate empirical evidence for sector planning and policy decision-making. This will enhance effective design and implementation of agriculture policies and programs that will lead to sustained agriculture development and growth for long-term food security.
Agricultural Trade Policy							
19. Development of an Agriculture Marketing Policy: Research on Situational analysis of Agriculture Marketing in Ghana	Policy / Regulation		X				APSP's KRA 1.3: Farmers are currently exposed to market risks, including high transaction costs and declining revenues, because Ghana has no agriculture marketing policy. The development of this agriculture marketing policy will help farmers to operate within a better-organized market-oriented agriculture production environment. This will result in better functioning of commodity markets, promote market efficiency that will lessen farmer risks, encourage agriculture commercialization and modernization, stabilize prices, and improve farmer earnings and overall livelihoods to unleash increased sector investments.
Resilience And Agricultural Risk Management Policy							
20. Assessment of National Buffer Stock Company: Assessing policy on price market interventions and establishment of food buffer stocks	Policy / Regulation	X					APSP's KRA 1.2: Assessment of NAFCO will assist MoFA to re-assess and amend NAFCO's mandate and operations, make them responsive to private sector concerns regarding market manipulations, and thereby create a more competitive pricing system and enabling environment for increased private sector investments.
21. Bio-Safety Act, 2011 (Act 831). Technical Assistance to assist implementation of National Bio-Safety Authority's communication Plan	Policy / Regulation					X	APSP's KRA 1.2: Ghana is experimenting with possible adoption of biotechnology to increase agriculture production, under stiff opposition from different civil society organizations, including the Peasant Farmers Association of Ghana (PFAG), a political party, the Convention Peoples Party (CPP) that argue mostly against the use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO). USAID/Ghana is funding the government's biosafety Policy Program to promote biotechnology in agriculture as a means to improve yields and enhanced productivity; thus, APSP's support to the NBA comes hand in hand with USAID's vision on this area. Implementation of the NBA communication strategy will improve its external communications by publicizing benefits of biotechnology to promote its public acceptability and adoption. This will address production challenges, modernize and commercialize agriculture, and help create an enabling environment for increased private investments.
Nutrition							

22. Animal Health Bill	Policy / Regulation				X		APSP's KRA 1.2: The declining livestock sector in Ghana requires reforms for its resuscitation. The development and implementation of the Animal Health and Production Bill provides a blueprint for developing the livestock sector. A thriving livestock sector will create derived demand for FtF priority commodities like maize and sorghum as animal feed. This demand will create ripple effects in expanding maize and sorghum production, enhance farmer incomes and create conditions for increased agriculture investment.
23. Livestock Production Bill	Policy / Regulation				X		APSP's KRA 1.2: The declining livestock sector in Ghana requires reforms for its resuscitation. The development and implementation of the Animal Health and Production Bill provides blueprint for developing the livestock sector. In turn, a thriving livestock sector will create derived demand for FtF priority commodities like maize and sorghum as animal feed. This demand will create ripple effects in expanding maize and sorghum production, enhance farmer incomes and create conditions for increased agriculture investments.
23 Policies/ Regulations/ Administrative Procedures		2	2	2	12	5	

ANNEX D. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PROJECT-SPONSORED POLICY STUDIES & REPORTS

Reports/ Policy Studies/ Research Papers	Objective of the Policy Study, Research and Technical Report	Key Recommendations	Status of Dissemination & Recommendations
AGRICULTURAL INPUT POLICIES			
<p>First Report On Developing an Enabling Environment for Seed Industry Growth for Ghana - Desktop Analysis</p>	<p>This report covers three areas of analysis: the National Seed Policy (NSP), the seed section of the Plant and Fertilizer Act of 2010, and the proposed Seeds Regulations of 2014.</p> <p>The NSP section identifies critical elements and provisions of the policy where APSP can provide support or technical assistance to enhance the regulatory enabling environment for the growth of the private seed sector.</p> <p>The Seed Act section analyzes any limiting articles (called sections in Ghana) that could be improved with a legal basis through the proposed regulations.</p> <p>The last section provides an analysis of the proposed seed regulations and provides recommendations for those that should be individually modified to contribute to their ongoing development and discussion.</p>	<p>On the National Seed Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that seed enterprises have a balanced representation in the governing bodies of the National Seed Council and the National Variety Release and Registration Committee, which will require corresponding training from APSP to relevant stakeholders on the roles and responsibilities of these bodies. • Assist in the establishment of a Seed Industry Development Office within the proposed National Seed Association (NSP 4.3). APSP could provide technical assistance to regional offices in work planning, fundraising, and implementation to assist seed enterprises of all sizes, including new enterprises. • Support the informal sector to systematically upgrade its practices and facilitate their entry into the formal sector. APSP could identify and engage the informal sector and encourage its development through the Seed Industry Development Office. • Build the human, financial, and institutional capacity of national institutions to derive new seed varieties which are most suited to Ghanaian agro-ecologies. This should be one of the main focal points of APSP, with the goal to expand breeder training, facilitate variety releases and registration, and establish licensing mechanisms to ensure that all seed enterprises have access to all the new public materials. • Promote the use of the spare capacity of existing seed conditioning plants to service the needs of the emerging private sector and privatize any redundant seed plants. APSP could provide technical assistance by training operating personnel, upgrading or repairing conditioning equipment, and ensuring there are no regulatory barriers to equipment ownership. These activities will contribute to the growth of the Ghanaian seed industry. • In addition to taking on the implementation of the policy support actions already outlined, APSP will coordinate with other FtF projects in Ghana, such as ADVANCE II and ATT, to implement aforementioned activities. <p>On the Plants and Fertilizer Act, 2010 (ACT 803): Some sections and articles of the Seed Component of the Act need to be better developed and clarified. The first two sections/articles are addressed through the drafting and implementation of strong protocols, which would be accomplished by the proposed regulations. An analysis of the Seed Act sections that require additional clarification in the proposed Regulations was presented along with this report as Annex I. That annex identifies the Seeds Act section requiring expansion or clarification, the basic purpose and goals of the section, the suggested revision, and the legal basis that supports the change.</p> <p>On Seed (Certification and Standards) Regulations (April, 9 2014):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This report also made specific recommendations to the existing regulations to help to clarify terminology or correct technical inconsistencies (Annex 2) beyond the recommended additions to the Seed Act (Annex 1). 	<p>Implementation of recommendations on track.</p> <p>APSP will implement additional activities in FY4. .</p>

<p>Iowa State University's Progress Report on Developing an Enabling Environment for Seed Industry Growth for Ghana</p>	<p>Provide progress report on the following:</p> <p>Adjustment of the Seeds Regulations to ECOWAS Protocols and MoFA's submission of these regulations to Parliament for enactment.</p> <p>The variety release system in Ghana, the development of the procedures manual on variety evaluation, release, and registration Development of a seed quality assurance system for seed certification in Ghana.</p> <p>The writing of a procedures manual for accreditation of seed inspectors, seed samplers, institutions, and seed testing laboratories.</p> <p>The writing and approval of institutional licensing policies and adaptation of contracts for royalties, seed acquisitions, by NARIs Awareness raising and capacity building of NARIs and seed enterprises on variety licensing.</p> <p>Support to the NSC Secretariat to become fully operational with a functioning Secretariat Draft policy proposal to increase market demand through a small-farmer input access program.</p>	<p>By mid-2015, APSP finalized the review of Ghana's Seed Regulations based on the Plants and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803). APSP has supported the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) with adjusting the Seeds Regulations to ECOWAS Protocols and the Ministry has submitted these regulations to Parliament for enactment. A locally generated variety release system in Ghana has been developed with a draft of the procedures manual agreed upon by the country's scientists and other stakeholders. The National Seed Council should approve the procedures for variety evaluation and release as provided for by the Plants and Fertilizer Act 2010 (Act 803).</p> <p>To improve further the variety release system, APSP recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of a training program for researchers in data collection with respect to DUS and VCU characteristics for specific crops. • Implementation of a hands-on training program in Zambia on the variety release system for technical staff at each NARI and TVRC. • Computerization of the variety evaluation and release system in Ghana. • Seed certification ensures control and inspection of seed of verifiable varieties. To strengthen further implementation of activities for seed certification, the following are recommended: • Implementation of the accreditation system • Hands on training in Zambia on seed accreditation for selected GSID staff • Provide technical assistance to the GSID to restructure their administrative organization and procedures for seed certification, including the new accreditation program • Comments have been received on the first draft of the procedures manual on the variety release system. The project should follow-up with MoFA to request additional comments on the version discussed at the TVRC meeting of February 2016. Also, MoFA should provide the fee structure for the different crops for inclusion in the procedures manual. • APSP has trained targeted staff in the TVRC Secretariat on the theoretical components of activities in evaluating varieties and in seed certification. The secretariat still needs hands on support in the area of variety evaluation. A visit to Zambia for this purpose could be helpful. • The variety release and the accreditation manual need to be approved by the TVRC/NSC hopefully in the next quarter of the present fiscal year. The next stage of APSP's technical assistance is based on actual and enforceable regulations and procedures. • APSP should follow-up on securing the approvals of the respective institutional licensing policies at all NARIs. • In order to further improve the enabling environment for private sector participation in the seed industry, APSP should partially support the implementation of licensing agreements for the production of pre basic and basic seeds via a tender process. 	<p>Implementation of recommendations on track.</p> <p>Procedures manual for accreditation of seed inspectors, seed samplers, institutions, and seed testing laboratories, manual for variety evaluation completed; institutional licensing policies for Cape Coast University, Crop Research Institute, and University of Development Studies developed</p>																								
<p>GSSP/IFPRI-APSP-WAFP-MSU-AFAP-APRI-IITA: Towards a Sustainable Fertility Strategy in Ghana</p>	<p>To explain the causes and consequences of soil degradation in hindering the Ghanaian government's agricultural and broader economic development goals.</p> <p>To identify other market and institutional factors influencing fertilizer use, particularly for maize and cocoa.</p> <p>To identify concrete actions that the government may wish to consider to achieve more sustainable agricultural productivity growth.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="741 1043 1928 1098">CHALLENGES</th> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="741 1098 1928 1145">RECOMMENDED ACTION</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="4" data-bbox="741 1145 1928 1193">Short-Terms Option to Improve FSP (2015-2016)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="741 1193 1055 1225">Uncertainty and unpredictability</td> <td data-bbox="1055 1193 1256 1225"></td> <td data-bbox="1256 1193 1749 1225">2015 tender published already. Disseminate information on subsidy to all stakeholders well in advance of the season.</td> <td data-bbox="1749 1193 1928 1225"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="741 1225 1055 1273">Public budgetary cost constraints</td> <td data-bbox="1055 1225 1256 1273"></td> <td data-bbox="1256 1225 1749 1273">Conduct benefit-cost analysis of FSP to guide decisions. Also, encourage private sector to take increased role in the market.</td> <td data-bbox="1749 1225 1928 1273"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" data-bbox="741 1273 1928 1321">Medium-term Options to Improve FSP (2016-2018)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="741 1321 1055 1385">Blanket fertilizer use</td> <td data-bbox="1055 1321 1256 1385"></td> <td data-bbox="1256 1321 1749 1385">Employ region-specific data on soils as basis for the type of fertilizer imported</td> <td data-bbox="1749 1321 1928 1385"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CHALLENGES		RECOMMENDED ACTION		Short-Terms Option to Improve FSP (2015-2016)				Uncertainty and unpredictability		2015 tender published already. Disseminate information on subsidy to all stakeholders well in advance of the season.		Public budgetary cost constraints		Conduct benefit-cost analysis of FSP to guide decisions. Also, encourage private sector to take increased role in the market.		Medium-term Options to Improve FSP (2016-2018)				Blanket fertilizer use		Employ region-specific data on soils as basis for the type of fertilizer imported		<p>The government has incorporated a number of recommendations from the study into its guidelines for the fertilizer subsidy program for 2016</p>
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		<p>irrespective of crop and agro-ecological zone</p> <p>Fertilizer Use Efficiency</p> <p>Sustainability of FSP</p> <p>Smuggling of subsidized fertilizer to neighboring countries within ECOWAS</p> <p>Delays in payment of importers</p> <p>Timing and delayed delivery to farmers</p> <p>Long-term Options to Improve FSP (2016-2018)</p> <p>Sustainability</p>	<p>Import tender awards to: a) support soil fertility management and b) Ensure fertilizers imports suitable to agro-ecological zones and crops. Or supply fertilizers suitable to ecologies/regions?</p> <p>Review best practices that include improved planting material, SOM, water management, Encourage increased private sector participation to provide credit and support adoption of good agricultural practices</p> <p>Endorse the policy of gradual reduction in the subsidy rate along with reforms towards a smarter subsidy Adopt relevant aspect of the Burundi and Nigeria models</p> <p>Better tracking using IT to ensure all allocated fertilizer go to intended beneficiaries e.g. the Nigerian GES-TAP system</p> <p>Better tracking using IT to ensure all allocated fertilizer go to intended beneficiaries Use IT for real time verification, reconciliation and reporting of sales (initiated in 2013) Timely announcement of FSP well before planting time</p> <p>Publish delivery dates and time in advance of the season Explore innovative financing mechanism for the distributors</p> <p>Encourage increased participation of private sector in FSP Government to provide regulatory and quality control oversight Encourage development of the regional market for produce and inputs</p>	
ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT				
MEAS-APSP Report: Agriculture Extension Policy Forum: Ghana	<p>Promote policy dialogue and conduct a stakeholder review of Ghana's existing agricultural extension policy and its implementation.</p> <p>Objectives were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create awareness of extension policy issues in other countries. • Summarize and analyze key themes in the existing agricultural extension policy framework, • Assess policy implementation progress 	<p>Targeted program resources to women extension service providers and beneficiaries.</p> <p>Ensure adequate budgetary provision for agricultural and extension services from district internally generated funds and the district assemblies common fund.</p> <p>Clarify how capacity building is to be funded identifying the district development facility, district assemblies common fund, public private partnerships, internally generated funds, Government of Ghana, etc. as possible funding sources Update the policy continuously on emerging issues and ensure staff are trained to respond to emerging issues Review and update the Directorate of Agricultural Extension Services FBO development policy and strategy and facilitate its implementation by all stakeholders.</p>	<p>APSP and MoFA's DAES reached an agreement to carry out FBO development strategy out of the recommendations made at the forum</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop prioritized recommendations for implementation and policy framework improvements, and Establish an Extension Policy Standing Committee to advocate for extension policy 		
Farmer Based Organization Strategy	<p>Review the current FBO development and strategies/approaches used by key civil society organizations, NGOs and other development partners, MOFA, Department of Cooperatives and the private sector and indicate lessons that could be learnt from their approaches for replication in the new strategy document.</p> <p>To provide three case studies of successful FBOs in the food crop, tree and livestock sub-sectors explaining the internal and external factors key to their effective collective action and successful performance over the past three years.</p> <p>Delineate the respective roles and responsibilities of key actors in FBO development efforts.</p> <p>To make recommendations regarding the most viable business models/strategies/ approaches for the effective development of FBOs.</p> <p>Through detailed analyses of policy and regulatory framework, provide suggestions that can enable the sustainable development of well-functioning FBOs in the country.</p>	<p>The long-term objective of this strategy is to accomplish the emergence of vibrant and sustainable FBOs.</p> <p>The specific objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop business-oriented FBOs To promote private sector participation in FBO development and extension service delivery To strengthen FBOs through value chain development To strengthen the extension service delivery system through involvement of key stakeholders, such as processors and marketing intermediaries etc. who will address multiple issues of interest to farmers To promote the development of FBOs network capable of influencing agricultural inputs and outputs markets as well as agriculture-related policies To strengthen collaboration among key actors in the FBO development process. To propose the requisite policy and legislative framework that can enhance formation, development and sustainability of FBOs. The strategy also calls for legislation that can enforce contracts between farmers and private operators as well as regulate the activities of FBOs and other stakeholders. 	APSP and MoFA DAES arrived at an understanding for the latter to prepare an implementation plan to roll out the strategy.
LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES TENURE, RIGHTS AND POLICY			
Landesa Report: Ghana Land Bill Analysis	<p>Landesa to provide short-term technical assistance to the GoG's efforts to revise and finalize Draft Four of the Land Bill.</p> <p>The consultancy did the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed all background documents sent by GoG partners 	<p>Primary topics of presentation, discussion and recommendation included the following:</p> <p>Mitigating the risks of transaction-based registration/recording. Recommendations include seeking ways to reduce the costs of registration and recording rights to make these services more widely accessible, and to sensitize land rights holders as to the importance of registering/ recording their rights. Consultant provided information on low-cost registration systems in Rwanda and Ethiopia.</p> <p>Addressing other concerns within the customary land rights framework. The Bill's treatment of customary land rights</p>	The proposed fourth version of the Land Bill, along with the recommendations from APSP's technical assistance are

	<p>and otherwise collected by Landesa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed and provided detailed mark-up of the Land Bill (Version Four) Met with members of the GoG's Land Bill Working Group and members of the Core Group (drafting team) Met with COLANDEF (leading land sector NGO) and Integrated Water & Agricultural Development Ghana Ltd Attended a northern area stakeholder consultation workshop on the Bill Made presentations to the Working Group 	<p>improved significantly in Draft Four. It could still be strengthened in a number of ways, such as improving safeguards against discrimination, even within customary systems. Consultant provided comparative international information on how the term "community" has been interpreted and applied in land law and practice; and finally, consultant recommended that allodial rights holders must (1) have the consent of the usufructuary rights holders; and (2) provide compensation to the usufructuary, at a minimum of 25 percent of the value of the land.</p> <p>Enhancing transparency and accountability in land governance institutions. The Consultant noted that the Bill may not adequately address the historic and contemporary concerns of many stakeholders around improved transparency and accountability in land governance. Recommendations include mandating in the Bill that all land sector agencies prominently and publicly post information about: (1) detailed steps necessary for any procedure (e.g., registration); (2) timelines for agency action in response to these steps; and (3) fees required.</p> <p>More clearly articulating registration and recording options for land rights in Ghana. The Bill provides three different methods of registering and recording land rights in Ghana, but it does not clarify when each of these would apply, and what the relationship between the three types will be. Recommendations include adding to the Bill new provisions to describe the legal effects of each system, the applicability of each system to different kinds of rights, and the relative weight of each type of registration/recording vis-à-vis the other types.</p> <p>Expanding coverage for electronic registration and conveyancing. Consultant provided the Working Group with extensive comparative information on both, based on international experience and recommended that the Group add provisions to the Bill based on these comparative examples that will provide a more comprehensive and sustainable legal framework for electronic land administration systems.</p> <p>Incorporating a more robust legal framework for Large-scale Land Transactions (LSLT). Group was presented with information about international best practices, as embedded in FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for Governance of Tenure and documents issued by the African Union's Land Policy Initiative. Recommendations include adding new provisions to the Bill to better frame and guide policy related to LSLT, and providing improved linkages to the government's Guidelines for Large-scale Land Transactions.</p> <p>Improving the compulsory acquisition sections of the Bill. Several issues remain about Compulsory Acquisition of lands. Definition of "public purpose" is very broad, allowing the government to compulsorily take land from less efficient (and often poorer) rights holders for transfer to more efficient private sector users. Consultant discussed the implications of the broad authority on determining what "public purpose" is and recommended: i) a narrower to reflect that of the Constitution; ii) expansion of the appeal process and compensation when holders face compulsory acquisition and; iii) specific recommendation on the fact that informal occupants of land should be also compensated.</p> <p>Defending and refining the Bill's coverage of women's land rights. The Bill requires that spouses' names be included when registering land acquired during marriage, and provides a presumption that any land acquired during a marriage by one spouse is co-owned by both spouses (even if only one name is registered). The Bill's coverage of women's land rights could be improved by adding specific guidance for spousal protections in polygamous marriage. Finally, the Bill should establish a clear compensable right to secondary uses of land, such as access to Shea nuts that are of high socio-economic value to women.</p>	<p>currently at the drafting stage, under the responsibility of the Land Administration Project from the MLNR and the Attorney General's Department</p>
INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE FOR IMPROVED POLICY FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION			
Iowa State University: Report on the	The short note reports on the agricultural policy unit (PU) discussed with ISU's visit to Accra in March 2015. Discussions were	<p>The report broadly outlines the key functions of the policy Unit as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy unit should foster a policy environment that is market-friendly and facilitates the emergence of private value-chains in agriculture input markets and in agriculture and food markets and doing so in the overall context 	Implementation in progress with brainstorming

<p>Establishment of a Policy Unit at Ghana's Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA)—Short Note</p>	<p>based on an inception short paper, which ISU provide to APSP prior to this visit. This inception paper was reviewed by the APSP staff and by COR Fenton Sands at the USAID office in Accra.</p> <p>The current note assesses how well the concept of a PU was perceived by Ghanaian stakeholders and various Government of Ghana (GoG) administrations and senior leadership.</p> <p>The visit in Accra was followed by subsequent desk research on policy units and policy research centers in Africa to learn what seems to work and endure among related outfits elsewhere in Africa and what units are considered influential, a somewhat subjective notion but nevertheless important one.</p> <p>Next, on the premise that a PU is a promising prospect, the note proposes a sequence of steps towards the conception and eventual implementation of a PU.</p> <p>The steps include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To refine the concept of the PU To gain knowledge from other PU experiences in Africa Identify a series of concrete actions to set up the PU. A proposed timeline for these steps and actions is also proposed. <p>The overall objective for the policy unit is to fill the "missing middle of analysis" to gauge the impact and implementation of proposed or existing policies and regulations which should contribute to food security and income generation in rural Ghana.</p>	<p>of efficient resource allocation with sound economic principles underlying policy design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The policy unit should also facilitate market participation by smallholder households in output and labor market by identifying trade and transaction costs and various impediments (including policy and regulations) to market participation and income generation in agriculture and food markets. The policy unit will provide and make available timely non-partisan agricultural policy analysis and assessments as per request from MoFA or the legislative branch to assess existing, new and proposed policies directly affecting important segments of Ghanaian agriculture. The Short Note touches specifically on the following main aspects concerning the Policy Unit at MoFA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Realm and Activities: Focus of the PU should generally be evidence-based agricultural policy. Thematic areas could include food security, income generation, market access (domestic, international), improved technology adoption and others. Market/income orientation is much preferable to an exclusive production orientation to raise farm income and not just production. Structure of the PU and Skills and Expertise Required: Size of the PU could be around five to 15 members. The PU could adopt combined skill set of the applied economist with a specific-market expertise all in one person. Skill level needed is PhD or MSc level training. The Unit could start from a fresh slate and hire new people or recruit existing MoFA staff or staff from other ministries. Location of the PU and its Autonomy: The discussion strongly suggested that MoFA is a good location for a PU. Alternative locations could include the SAKSS node or Agriculture Sector Working Group, under PP&B's directorate, or under direct supervision of the Minister of Agriculture Incentives, Funding, and Mitigating Attrition: There is an essential need for travel, office equipment, and training opportunities that re-enforce the unit's expertise. Staff attraction and retention require incentives. Funding may require ability to leverage resources from development partners and provide consulting opportunities for PU staff. Governance dimension: The short note discussed what governance and oversight structures are to be put in place. Consider vetting process for research results with a third party. Preserve PU autonomy within MoFA from political maneuvering and partisan "back and forth and daily grind" of meetings etc. Formalize the interaction of the PU with other research outfits, universities, in other agencies, international outfits (IFPRI, AGRA), etc. Knowledge products: Explore knowledge products that the PU should produce and disseminate to respond to various demands. Policy briefs and concise messages are more suitable than academic papers. Current challenges: Conduct SWOT (strength, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis to find challenges. Some areas of concern include lack of district-level evidence to do policy analysis and M&E; weak implementation aspect of policymaking (private sector criticism); information gathering, weak or in-existent private sector involvement in the policy process, current low demand for "policy products" and it essential to generate demand for policy expertise and with non-traditional clients (press, industry). Learning from African Policy Units: MAFAP and FANRPAN identified as exemplary institutions for learning and capacity building. Explore collaboration with ISSER, EDRI, and IAPRI from Ethiopia and Zambia, respectively. Proposed Timeline Elements: The short note identifies the following milestones and an associated timeline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selection of stakeholders who would be willing to participate in the focused discussions on the PU (June-July 2015). The PU discussions - a short week of brainstorming on the series of points above (July). 	<p>workshop held, a week training of PU for capacity building, organogram for PU developed and request received from PPBD for support</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation for the visit of leadership or senior staff of two or three African PU/policy outfits. Tasks to include selection, invitation, and logistics for travel arrangements, finalizing the program of the workshop (July-August). • Visit of foreign PUs in Ghana for an approximately 2-day workshop in the early fall to discuss relevant issues. • Planning of the PU implementation. (Fall 2015 to early winter 2016) • The actual implementation as determined and agreed on with MoFA. (Spring 2016) 	
<p>GIMPA REPORT: Training Needs Assessment and Capacity knowledge gaps identification of MoFA and other METASIP SAKSS implementing agencies</p>	<p>To undertake a needs assessment and develop training modules for members of various MoFA directorates/units, METASIP Steering Committee and SAKSS Coordinators.</p> <p>The training module topics could include the following: data collection and analysis, policy analysis, policy brief writing, knowledge management, design of performance framework, investment priority setting, financial management, program budgeting, leadership and management communication, survey methods, gender-sensitive budgeting, data disaggregation, financial planning, reports and evaluation standardization, drafting of evaluation reports, performance framework, M&E, and any other key/relevant areas identified from the capacity building needs assessment</p>	<p>Recommended Modules for SAKSS Coordinators</p> <p><i>Section 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved knowledge and skills in the policy development process, through identification of policy problems/needs, writing good/winning public policy proposals, and conducting cost-benefit analysis for policy proposals • Improved management of policy implementation operations and services through enhanced team building skills and strengthened risk identification, assessment, and advisory on risk mitigation measures • Strengthened skills of SAKSS coordinators in valid data survey research methods, data analysis, report and policy brief writing, and uses to support evidence based policy dialogue and formulation • Increased promotion of dialogue between SAKSS nodes and researchers, practitioners and policy makers periodically through using knowledge management and sharing networks/platforms and other mechanisms <p><i>Section 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased effectiveness of SAKSS coordinators through training in evidence-based agricultural policy-making, regular and effective meetings as well as enhance communication and office equipment support • Improved networking skills for the ensuring proper functioning of network of data suppliers, analysts, and report writers • Improved knowledge, skills and practice of SAKSS members for research identification, formulation of research hypothesis, and development of research TOR • Increased knowledge and practice in research proposal development and evaluation; as evidenced by a set and achieved minimum number of winning research proposals per year. • Enhanced skills in technical report writing and writing of policy briefs, policy position papers, etc. • Enhanced institutional coordination and facilitation skills • Improved skills and practice in gender mainstreaming and action planning <p>Recommended Modules for the Agribusiness Unit of MoFA</p> <p><i>Section 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased knowledge and skill in policy analysis and agricultural policy development process, from policy problem identification/analysis through formulation to cost-benefit analysis of policy proposals and programme budgeting • Enhanced writing skills for writing good/winning public policy proposals and policy briefs • Enhanced skills for gender auditing and review of public policy, gender-sensitive budgeting, and gender-sensitive cost benefit analysis <p><i>Section 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved knowledge and skills for integrating master policies and sub-sector policies, integrating policies into annual work plans, and effective dissemination of policies 	<p>MoFA staff, METASIP/ SAKSS Coordinators were trained in eight modules out of twenty-two modules. Majority of MoFA staff trained were from the Regional Agriculture Directorates.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased capacity and ability for knowledge management and sharing for effectiveness of staff at the work place and roles/responsibilities • Enhanced knowledge and skills for translating policy objectives into clear implementation activities and preparation of implementation plans with rigorous implementation risk identification, assessment and risk mitigation measures • Increased knowledge and skill in resource mobilization, financial planning, and financial management • Improved knowledge and practice of agribusiness supply chains in Ghana, and the relationship between supply chains and agricultural policy implementation effectiveness • Increased knowledge and practice on how to promote holistic agricultural value chains in Ghana for cereal crops, legumes, vegetables, fruits, root and tuber crops, small and large ruminants, poultry, as well as marine and aquaculture fisheries • Improved knowledge of the value chain as an institution of diverse practitioners whose roles complement each other; as well as increased ability to identify policy issues of value chains using crop, animal and fisheries examples • Enhanced knowledge/skills and practice of institutional coordination (especially working with MOTI) • Increased knowledge/skills and practice of the policy process, policy issue identification, policy analysis, policy drafting and writing policy papers, policy briefs, and position papers • Improved knowledge and practice of stakeholder analysis, consultation, and facilitation skills. <p>Recommended Modules for the Women in Agriculture Department (WIAD)</p> <p><i>Section 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased knowledge and skill in policy analysis and agricultural policy development process; from policy problem identification/analysis through formulation to cost-benefit analysis of policy proposals and programme budgeting • Enhanced writing skills for writing good/winning public policy proposals and policy briefs • Enhanced skills for gender auditing and review of public policy, gender-sensitive budgeting and gender-sensitive cost benefit analysis <p><i>Section 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved knowledge and skills for integrating master policies and sub-sector policies, integrating policies into annual work plans and effective dissemination of policies. Increased capacity and ability for knowledge management and sharing for effectiveness of staff at the work place and roles/responsibilities • Enhanced knowledge and skills for translating policy objectives into clear implementation activities and preparation of implementation plans with rigorous implementation risk identification, assessment and risk mitigation measures • Increased knowledge and skill in resource mobilization, financial planning and financial management • Improved knowledge and practice of agribusiness supply chains in Ghana; and the relationship supply chains and agricultural policy implementation effectiveness • Increased knowledge and practice on how to promote holistic agricultural value chains in Ghana; for cereal crops, legumes, vegetables, fruits, root and tuber crops, small and large ruminants, poultry as well as marine and aquaculture fisheries • Improved knowledge of the value chain as an institution of diverse practitioners whose roles complement each other; as well as increased ability to identify policy issues of value chains using crop, animal and fisheries examples <p>Recommended Modules for the Statistics, research and Information Directorate (SRID) of MoFA</p>	
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		<p>mitigation measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased knowledge and skill in resource mobilization, financial planning, and financial management • Improved knowledge and practice of agribusiness supply chains in Ghana; and the relationship supply chains and agricultural policy implementation effectiveness • Increased knowledge and practice on how to promote holistic agricultural value chains in Ghana; for cereal crops, legumes, vegetables, fruits, root and tuber crops, small and large ruminants, poultry, and marine and aquaculture fisheries • Improved knowledge of the value chain as an institution of diverse practitioners whose roles complement each other; as well as increased ability to identify policy issues of value chains using crop, animal and fisheries examples • Recommended Modules for newly restructured PPDB <p>Recommended modules for the newly restructured PPDB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced facilitation skills and practice • Improved skills and practice in institutional coordination, stakeholder analysis and consultation • Improved understanding of the agricultural policy process and analysis • Increased skills in writing of position papers, policy briefs, policy drafting, and agriculture policy 	
<p>Review of Data Collection Methodologies and Analyses at SRID of MoFA for Remedial Actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To assess and evaluate methodologies used by SRID to collect primary and secondary agricultural data of key commodities in the fruits and vegetables, fisheries, root and tubers, grain staples, and livestock value chains • Document and describe the key assumptions underlying the methodologies • To assess the various methodologies as to their efficiencies and relevance in identifying, collecting, collating and analyzing data on value chain basis • To provide new and improved methodologies through desk research and discussions with coordination team for collecting and analyzing data more efficiently and effectively in Ghana on value chain basis sustainably and use two case studies to substantiate the recommended new methodology. • To decide on information that would be useful to collect data from secondary • To take stock of the data that SRID now collects through secondary 	<p>The study makes a number of important recommendations including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculating sample size from a mapped population for each crop in a district • Estimating land cultivated to component crops in intercropping or Mixtures using i) actual measured farm sizes for sole crops ii) actual measured farm sizes for major intercrop systems and iii) the calculated land equivalent ratio (LER) for crops involved in intercropping • Methodologies for estimation of yields and land area under cultivation of oil palm • Value chain mapping determine and collect quantities, cost of inputs and prices of outputs • Using systematic networking of successive markets/sale points to track farm gate prices and costs developments • Implementing disaggregated import and export data at all entry points and eventually computerizing data capture electronically in the future. • Presenting summary statistics to include sample size and measures of dispersion around the mean in addition to 'average' statistics • Generating and presenting aggregate data for all food crops should include disaggregation into various varieties, higher and lower prices, aromatic and non-aromatic • Coordinating with institutions involved in the collection and monitoring of data on imports and exports and with those involved in determining retail prices of food crops such as GSS, Esoko • The study makes a number of recommendations on outliers, potential achievable yields, estimated levels of per capita consumption of selected commodities 	<p>Presentation of study to key stakeholders including GSS, FAO and MoFA management to receive buy-in. USAID to present in FY4 the review to MoFA for implementation.</p>

	<p>sources (this could include just asking another agency for information, as well as collecting information from say markets) and assess their reliability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore sources and methods to collect necessary secondary data and subject them to verification 		
<p>GIMPA report: Training Modules for Strengthening the Capacities of METASIP Steering Committee, SAKSS Coordinators and all Directorates and units of MoFA</p>	<p>The objective of GIMPA's training is to conduct practical 'hands-on' interactive training sessions using new knowledge and experiences to build capacity of selected staff members of implementing agencies of the METASIP and SAKSS committees. This must be through the provision of high-quality policy formulation and analysis for the effective implementation of the government's Medium Term Agriculture Investment Plan (METASIP). The expected outcome of the capacity building programme was to produce a cadre of highly trained policy experts and to strengthen the agriculture sector policy process.</p>	<p>To ensure that MoFA staff and MEATSIP/ SAKSS coordinators obtain practical 'hands-on' relevant training, the training institution/facilitators employed a number of processes and tools. GIMPA as the training institution engaged with beneficiary institutions from which the participants were to come from by discussing the content and context of the curriculum.</p> <p>Approaches and methodologies such as case studies, participatory learning, change techniques and tools were used to influence the knowledge, skills, attitude, confidence and commitment of the participants. To determine the degree to which the targeted outcomes had occurred as a result of the training, pre and immediate post training questionnaires were administered. In addition, the trainings were evaluated to determine participants' level of satisfaction with the entire program. The various scores obtained from the pre/ post questionnaires and workshop evaluation indicate that participants acquired significant knowledge and skills.</p> <p>Post training field outcome/ impact assessment is yet to be undertaken to validate information on significant changes in knowledge, skills, and attitudes of the participants.</p>	<p>MoFA staff were trained in eight modules out of twenty-two modules. The majority of MoFA staff trained were from the regions while all MESTAIP /SAKSS coordinators received the training.</p>
<p>GIMPA: Baseline Survey on Gender and Agriculture in Ghana</p>	<p>Key issues explored in the study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average agricultural land use sizes by gender Household food security situations (disaggregated by male/female headed households) considering availability, access, and affordability Access to, control over, and ownership of, productive resources disaggregated by gender Number of males and females employed by the agricultural sector (youth and physically challenged) employed (primary and secondary) by the agricultural sector Sources and levels of incomes of the diverse groups in the sector Alternative livelihood activities engaged in by gender Women time use, and relation to agricultural activities along the agricultural value chain 	<p>In order to make a real impact on food production and food security, agriculture spending, and policy need to undergo a reorientation to focus more deeply on women farmers. In line with the call by WIAD, MoFA should strategically target at least 30 percent women participation in all agriculture-related programmes and projects.</p> <p>Government should formulate and implement the necessary legislation and regulations to stop discrimination in land ownership and tenure against women. Furthermore, government should take immediate steps to guarantee equal rights to land for men and women regardless of their civil status, and implement policies and programmes to facilitate women's access to and control over land for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>MoFA should overhaul extension services delivery in Ghana to make them gender sensitive through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing the number of female extension agents Establishing pro-female farmer field schools and farmer-to-farmer exchanges Setting up gender-sensitive learning and evaluation mechanisms to improve extension services to women farmers. <p>While both male and female farmers have extremely low access to credit, the survey found that women have even less access. Therefore, government should consider establishing a Women Enterprise Fund to help provide targeted credit to women farmers who cannot access credit facilities from the formal financial sector. The key will be to ensure that there is sufficient capital to reach large numbers of women farmers, and that MoFA and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to have a joint responsibility in the management of the fund in a transparent and efficient manner.</p> <p>The Policy Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate of MoFA and the FBO Desk at the Directorate of Agricultural</p>	<p>Northern sector staff representatives from MoFA and selected CSOs/ NGOs have been trained in GADS</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's reproductive roles and their effect on agricultural activities • Number of male and female farm laborers (casual or "by day" workers) • Use of labour-saving devices and types along the agricultural value chain by gender • Data on the categories of Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) staff by gender, age and professional skills whose activities are in support of the practitioners • Number of MoFA staff with knowledge in gender analysis and application to work 	<p>Extension Services should support and actively engage with women's civil society organizations and networks such as farmer groups and women's cooperatives and facilitate their systematic inclusion and participation in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural policies and programmes.</p> <p>When all households' activities are taken into consideration, women generally work longer hours than men. It is therefore important that policies directed at labour-saving technologies to enhance women participation in agriculture are promoted. Therefore, MoFA through the Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate should provide gender sensitive agricultural mechanization schemes to support female farmers, especially female Farmer Based Organizations (FBOs) to procure tractors and improved agricultural implements and tools. This support can come in the form of input credit, distribution of subsidized agro-equipment/implements to female farmers (individuals and groups).</p>									
AGRICULTURAL TRADE POLICY											
<p>APSP-CEPA Report: Evaluation of the GCX and WRS</p>	<p>The purpose for the current GCX evaluation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a scoping study to document steps so far taken by the GoG towards the establishment of the GCX • Identify the problems to be overcome to make it feasible • Identify and evaluate the status of the GCX efforts in terms of international best practices, experience, standards, and road map/recommendations for successful establishment of the GCX • Provide recommendations to USAID on how best it can support the initiative of the GCX, if deemed feasible. 	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left; width: 30%;">MAIN ISSUE</th> <th style="text-align: left;">AREAS OF CONCERN</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Develop a sound warehouse receipt system</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a sound warehouse receipt system (WRS) with a high degree of integrity to achieve scale. It will help a commodity to be traded multiple times even per day, subdivided, and aggregated in any permutations. Commodities need to be dematerialized for trading. • WRS allows farmers to time their sales to seasonal price fluctuations, facilitates financing by creating reliable title and protecting collateral, and offers quality and quantity assurance to buyers. A modern developed system of warehouse receipts can be supported as a pre-condition to a commodity exchange. Starting the WRS at least a year before the commencement of the GCX will not be out of place </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Outsource certain exchange processes</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because running a CX is costly and requires economies of scale, it is highly advisable that the proposed GCX outsources a number of the exchange processes. Until trading volumes justify a full cost design, it is sensible to find ways to reduce costs and minimize risk. • Processes to be outsource the trading platform, clearing and settlement, and warehouse receipt depository. In each case, there are Ghanaian domestic suppliers or service providers with both the expertise and scalability to perform these roles. • GCX could outsource the warehouse receipt depository to GGC. • Utilizing the exchange for trading and risk management, as well as running the exchange and regulation will require new skills. Familiarization, training, and education should be provided to all stakeholders </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Build capacity, but only when needed</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEC is further mandated to delegate any of its functions that it deems necessary for regulatory purposes to other qualified bodies, such as the Ghana Standards Authority (GSA). </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	MAIN ISSUE	AREAS OF CONCERN	Develop a sound warehouse receipt system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a sound warehouse receipt system (WRS) with a high degree of integrity to achieve scale. It will help a commodity to be traded multiple times even per day, subdivided, and aggregated in any permutations. Commodities need to be dematerialized for trading. • WRS allows farmers to time their sales to seasonal price fluctuations, facilitates financing by creating reliable title and protecting collateral, and offers quality and quantity assurance to buyers. A modern developed system of warehouse receipts can be supported as a pre-condition to a commodity exchange. Starting the WRS at least a year before the commencement of the GCX will not be out of place 	Outsource certain exchange processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because running a CX is costly and requires economies of scale, it is highly advisable that the proposed GCX outsources a number of the exchange processes. Until trading volumes justify a full cost design, it is sensible to find ways to reduce costs and minimize risk. • Processes to be outsource the trading platform, clearing and settlement, and warehouse receipt depository. In each case, there are Ghanaian domestic suppliers or service providers with both the expertise and scalability to perform these roles. • GCX could outsource the warehouse receipt depository to GGC. • Utilizing the exchange for trading and risk management, as well as running the exchange and regulation will require new skills. Familiarization, training, and education should be provided to all stakeholders 	Build capacity, but only when needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEC is further mandated to delegate any of its functions that it deems necessary for regulatory purposes to other qualified bodies, such as the Ghana Standards Authority (GSA). 	<p>USAID to examine support to the GCX project</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Necessary support and capacity building that is required will include developing commodity exchange regulatory capability through engagement with institutions such as the US Commodity Trading Futures Commission (CFTC) and the US SEC through study tours, in-country training. Support is also required to build the capacity of possibly the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and Ghana Grains Council, to develop Warehouse Receipt System regulatory capability. USAID might support information sessions, acquisition of educational materials, and training sessions for the exchange stakeholders. This support should be conditioned on remediating the Warehouse Receipt System as that is a precondition to an exchange in Ghana. 											
Identifying building blocks for Commodity Trading in Ghana	<p>Identify a set of 'sequential building blocks' to strengthen commodity trading in Ghana.</p> <p>Propose indicators for each building block, with timelines that will signal the market's readiness to advance to the next building block. From the above sequence, identify a series of phased interventions at which USAID could provide development assistance</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Building Block</th> <th>Purpose of Recommended Action</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Development of Commodity standards</td> <td>Adoption of standardization and grading practices while selling agricultural commodities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Warehouse Receipts regulations</td> <td>Passage of the draft WRS regulations to give the system the force of law</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protection of CX market participants</td> <td>Protection of CX market participants</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Electronic trading with trade guarantee</td> <td>Guarantee settlement of trading transactions</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Building Block	Purpose of Recommended Action	Development of Commodity standards	Adoption of standardization and grading practices while selling agricultural commodities	Warehouse Receipts regulations	Passage of the draft WRS regulations to give the system the force of law	Protection of CX market participants	Protection of CX market participants	Electronic trading with trade guarantee	Guarantee settlement of trading transactions	USAID to examine support to the GCX project
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RESILIENCE AND AGRICULTURAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY													
Iowa State University: Report on Agricultural Insurance in Ghana	The main objective of the study is to assess the status of research regarding crop insurance, as it applies to the agricultural economic environment in Ghana. The ultimate goal of the assessment is to provide insights and tools that can be used to develop new crop insurance programs and/or further expand existing ones, specifically aimed at promoting technical innovation and increase productivity of small agricultural producers in Ghana.	<p>The following actions emerged as crucial to improve the likelihood that agricultural insurance programs will succeed in Ghana:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bolster Marketing Efforts: The marketing efforts should cater to groups/associations of small farmers, farmer cooperatives, and large farmers. In addition, lenders should be enticed to buy agricultural insurance to protect their loan portfolios. Obtain Government Support: Stronger government support appears to be essential for the success of agricultural insurance in areas such as helping with product research and development, subsidizing the purchase of agricultural insurance by the rural poor, and requiring farmers to have insurance to receive loans from banks. Promote Education/Awareness: Most farmers are not aware of the potential advantages of using insurance to manage their risks. Current efforts to educate farmers include broadcasting campaigns to promote agricultural insurance, and providing free agricultural insurance for farmers' demonstration plots, both activities supported by means of ADVANCE grants. Expand the Number of Agricultural Insurance Products: A larger portfolio of products is critical to ensure a widespread adoption of agricultural insurance. The expansion in the number of products may be achieved by targeting a wider variety of agricultural activities and alternative types of coverage. Develop Insurance Products. These should be developed aiming at the entire value chain, rather than only farm output (e.g., drought/flood insurance is of no help if prices drop precipitously in a year with excellent weather). Change the Form of the Insurance Pool: A pool need not provide the best incentives to develop innovative insurance products. More aggressive marketing of agricultural insurance products might occur by allowing 	The major recommendation that a successful agricultural insurance scheme at the national level will require state subsidy is likely to pose challenge to implementation.										

		<p>individual companies to market them. The Nigeria Agricultural Insurance Corporation model was recommended for GAIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modify the Composition of the Agricultural Insurance Steering Committee: Making the steering committee more representative of the parties with an interest in the success of agricultural insurance would go a long way toward establishing a successful program. 	
PRIVATE SECTOR CAPACITY BUILDING			
<p>Policy Analysis, Advocacy Planning and Implementing Tool Kit (WACSI Report)</p>	<p>The aim of the trainings was to provide NSAs in the agricultural sector in Ghana with requisite capacities to effectively engage the agricultural policy process and implement evidence-based policy formation, implementation, research and advocacy. The trainings were designed and delivered under the topics of Governance, Leadership, Membership Development and Fundraising as well as Agricultural Policy Analysis, Implementation and Advocacy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capacity building period should be sufficient to allow implementers to effectively deliver the outlined activities under each phase. • Step-down-training: APSP should ensure that participants who attended trainings step-down the training to other staff members to enable information sharing and wider organizational ownership. • Coaching and Mentoring: The coaching process should be between 2-4 months after the training has taken place to give ample time to commence implementation of action plans, for WACSI to follow their progress and give the needed support where necessary and for the organizations to institutionalize the knowledge and skills they had obtained during the training • Writing guide and other directives can follow formats used by USAID/Ghana FtF APSP. Endorsed writing style guide from APSP be shared at the onset of projects to enable adherence to them from the start. • Funding Action plans: USAID/APSP assist their individual organizations by funding the action plans they had developed at the end of the training to enable them practicalise and concretize the knowledge they had obtained from the training into tangible results. • Training location: It was suggested that southern zone training should be held outside Accra to prevent distractions for Accra-based participants. All participants should be accommodated in the hotel where the training is taking in order to avoid lateness and premature exits. • Capacity building: USAID provide assistance to WACSI to take them through some other trainings including proposal writing, financial management, and report writing. 	<p>Training for CSOs/ NGOs completed. Currently APSP is conducting post-training evaluations to assess the impacts of the training on the capacities of the beneficiary organizations.</p>
<p>Training in Operations' Management for Designated NSA's in the Agricultural Sector: Participant's Handout (ICML Report)</p>	<p>The objective of the NSA capacity building is to improve governance, management, and operational structures, systems and processes in the NSAs, in order to enhance good practices in these areas and assure their effective roles in the policy formulation and review process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a quality assurance and implementation support (QAIS) process to ensure that organizations implement all action plan proposals and achieve progress in the adoption of good management practices. • Conduct a study at an opportune time to evaluate the benefits of the capacity-building program. • Make operating and institutionalized M&E Systems a requirement for NSAs who apply for grants. • Register and acknowledge small wins, which are seen as an outcome of the capacity building. • All lessons learned because of the capacity building process and activities should be shared with other NSAs. 	<p>Training for CSOs/ NGOs completed. Currently APSP is conducting post-training evaluations to assess the impacts of the training on the capacities of the beneficiary organizations.</p>

ANNEX E. SUMMARY OF LONG-TERM IMPACTS OF APSP SMALL-GRANTS AND SUBCONTRACTS TO SUPPORT CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN GHANA

Impact of APSP Small-grants and Subcontracts Activities Engaging with Civil Society				
Areas of impact	Type of small grants/subcontract Activity	CSOs Involved	Immediate impact / outcome (progress made)	Expected long term impacts
Strengthening of organizational networks, to amplify the voice of the private sector to engage in agricultural policy issues	APSP engaged two subcontractors in FY2 for capacity building training for 43 NSAs / CSOs in financial management, membership services development, policy analysis, and policy advocacy, and outreach to members.	43 NSAs/CSOs (business associations, private sector apex organizations, CSOs and media)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened capacity and organizational skills of civil organizations • Improved internal organization to participate in and undertake policy processes • Built relations of trust and reciprocity, cooperation, collaboration, and unity necessary for advocacy among NSAs • Achieved greater synergy of aims and activities in CSO networks. • Aligned strategies and approaches among CSOs for positive collaboration and mechanisms for constructive dialogue with policy makers • NSAs have increased their ability to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Undertake policy research for advocacy – Engage in new evidence-based policy advocacy, – Participate in public decision-making – Hold public and private institutions accountable – Develop and disseminate policy briefs/ policy communication materiel – Follow up on a campaign in the long term, including monitoring the implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased private sector investment in agriculture • Private sector is engaged and able to influence policy reforms for food security in Ghana • Private sector has capacity to advocate for pro-business agriculture sector reform in Ghana • CSOs influencing Agriculture policy decisions for an enabling environment for increased private sector investment in agriculture
Working with Civil society organizations and / Non-State Actors in policy dialogues and advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants for policy advocacy • Grants for capacity building • Education on agriculture policy documents • FASDEP/METASIP • Plants and Fertilizers Act • Advocacy on youth and women in 	17 Grantees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased effectiveness of CSOs to advocate for Agriculture policy reform and for private sector investment in Agriculture • Raised the profile and increased dialogue on plants & fertilizers law • Provided public education/knowledge to citizens and farmers on key agricultural policies/regulation such as FASDEP/ METASIP/ Plants and fertilizer law • Increased capacity of CSOs to assess changes, progress and gaps in agricultural situation to advocate reforms • Changed opinions of duty bearers in local governance and district Departments of Agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Private sector investment in Agriculture • Local organizations enhance their capacity to support farmers and other private sector stakeholders in undertaking policy reform advocacy initiatives. • Local organizations are strengthened to sustain their activities and enhance their fund-raising capabilities to seek support from public and private

	agriculture			stakeholders and from development partners
Strengthen capacity of individual members to understand current major technical issues affecting the agricultural area.	Capacity Building Training of 142 individual leaders from 43 NSAs	142 members of civil society groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual members' skills, capacity, knowledge and effectiveness increased • Improved professionalism to develop evidence based inputs into policy formulation, implementation and monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased effectiveness of CSOs to advocate for Agriculture policy reform and for private sector investment in Agriculture • Improved skills of the staff of CSOs establishes a national cadre of agriculture policy analysts, ramping up policy discussions and contributing to the strengthening of the policy process overall.

ANNEX F. DETAILED IMPACT ANALYSIS OF ADVOCAY AND CAPACITY BUILDING SMALL-GRANTS TO SUPPORT CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN GHANA

Impact Analysis of APSP Small-Grants Activity with Civil Society Organizations in Ghana						
#	Grantee/Grant Period	Location of Activities	Activities	Summary of Achievements		
				Outcomes / Outputs	APSP Indicator Affected	Impact
1.	EPDRA Phase 1	Enhancement of Agriculture Policy Awareness for FBOs in the North To create awareness for policy framework and advocacy issues in the agriculture sector among sector stakeholders within the 3 districts in the year 2015.				
	April 22 to July 24 2015	Northern Region Three districts: Yendi, Soboba, and Chereponi	Held capacity building/ training for smallholder farmer groups' representatives CSOs and public sector stakeholders on FASDEP II & METASIP in the three districts.	Built the capacity of 210 FBO representatives, CSOs and public stakeholders to enhance their participation on the agriculture policy documents (FASDEP II & METASIP).	<p>Indicator #2: 895 (608 males & 287 females) trained</p> <p>Indicator #11: Three district level policy dialogue forums</p> <p>Indicator #12: Concerns of small farmers in the agriculture policy process</p> <p>Indicator #13: EPDRA benefited from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heightened stakeholders' awareness on agriculture policy in the districts. Enhanced knowledge on the laws of Ghana, especially Act 803, will contribute to increased used of improved seeds, adopt sustainable agricultural practices, increase and improve services from Agriculture Extension Agents and agro input dealers, eventually leading to improvements in yields and increased incomes for smallholder farmers. Chereponi District Assembly has formed a sub-committee on agriculture because of the awareness on agriculture policy and importance agriculture in the district economic development.
2.	EPDRA Phase 2	Enhancement of Plant and Fertilizer Policy Awareness for Stakeholders in the North To create public awareness on the Plant and Fertilizer Act, 2010 (Act 803) among farmers, input dealers, MoFA staff and security agencies such as the Police, Customs and Immigration officers within 5 districts through public fora and radio talks.				
	Sept 15 to Dec 14 2015	Northern Region Five districts: Yendi, Saboba, Chereponi, Zabzugu and Tatale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organised a one-day sensitization forum for district extension staffs Held a one-day awareness forum on Act 803 (2010) for input dealers in the districts. Held a one-day awareness forum for farmers on Act 803 (2010) Developed and printed copies of the abridged version of the Act for 	<p>Increased the knowledge and awareness of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 Extension Officers of Tatale, Zabzugu, Yendi, Chereponi and Saboba district departments of agriculture 90 input dealers from Tatale, Zabzugu, Yendi, Chereponi and Saboba districts; 1,200 farmers from Tatale, 	<p>Indicator #2: 995 (645 males and 350 females) trained on Act 803, 2010</p> <p>Indicator #6: One standard power-point presentation of Act 803, 2010; Four weekly radio broadcasts</p> <p>Indicator #13: EPDRA benefited for the second time from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders (security officers, extension officers, inputs dealers, and farmers) attending the events agreed that they had gained knowledge on Act 803, 2010. This enhanced knowledge on the Law will improve enforcement and compliance by all relevant stakeholders and ensure that service providers will be able to provide better quality services to farmers, impacting positively on farm yields and incomes. Radio Gaaki station in Saboba that collaborated to broadcast the program on air

			distribution to stakeholders.	Zabzugu, and Mion districts; developed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Printed and distributed more than 2,000 copies of an abridged version of the Plant and Fertilizer Law (Act 803, 2010). 		<p>committed to making a repeat broadcast free of charge upon realizing the significance of the Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Act 803, 2010 sensitization program led to the realization that there are too many table top unlicensed agro-input dealers in the communities, selling expired products to unsuspecting farmers. As this report indicates, another grantee, GAABIC, has agreed with MoFA and security agencies that unlicensed agro-input dealers will be curbed down and force out of business if they do not comply with the law. Although the law enforcement agencies are yet to act by arresting and closing down the illegal agro-input dealers, individual farmers and farmer groups in Yendi, Chereponi and Saboba districts in Northern Region-Ghana have stopped buying from the unregistered dealers. Stakeholders are now requesting copies of the Act 803, 2010 for future reference Sessions informed farmers on the differences between grains and seeds and based on the impacts of using improved technological packages (seeds and fertilizers) these are willing to pay higher prices, understanding that its use will contribute to increase yields and incomes.
	POSDEV Phases 1 & 2	Promoting aquaculture development and policy-implementation accountability through fisheries-based organizations network empowerment: To strengthen the capacity of fisheries-based organizations in the districts for inclusion in agriculture policy processes				
3.	May 11 to Aug 10 2015 And Sep 10 to Dec 15 2015	Eastern Region Seven districts: Yilo Krobo, Akuapem North & Manya Krobo Lower Manya Krobo, Akyem North, Shai-Osudoku, Asuogyaman districts	Trained FBO and created awareness in fisheries related policies; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted radio panel forums, media engagement, press conference and communication outreach; Organized a 3-day training for FBO reps on policy advocacy processes; Another 3-day residential training for District Civic Unions and District Assembly reps on advocacy agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders in the seven districts are now aware of the fishery and aquaculture policy and regulations. Voice of FBOs have increased and heard in the policy-making processes. Organized consultative meetings with the seven district assemblies Trained 52 FBOs on the fisheries policy, FASDEP, and METASIP. 	<p>Indicator #2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 reps of 15 FBOs trained 3 trainings for District Civic Unions & DA representatives <p>Indicator #6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 radio discussions 1 press statement 1 policy brief <p>Indicator #11:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 district consultative meetings 1 review meeting for 30 CSO & Das 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building of fishery groups deepen their understanding of the fishery laws and regulations and empower them to advocate for recognition and participation in the fisheries and aquaculture policymaking process and regulatory regime. The East Akyem Aquaculture Association, through its advocacy efforts and group cohesion, have attracted support from the Fishery Commission in the Eastern Region of Ghana. Two members of the association have been trained on the preparation of fish feed and provided with two fish feed preparation machines. The machines are in

			<p>development processes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted public advocacy dialogues for public and private sector stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held community meetings/ dialogue forums with fisheries groups and some stakeholders, and formed fisheries value chain actors' network. (Youth, women & PWDs.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 town meetings 2 civic engagement meetings in each district (6&6) – Policy advocacy dialogues for duty bearers & community stakeholders (youth, women & PWDs) <p>Indicator #13: POSDEV benefited from USG support</p>	<p>operation and helping the association to meet its members' fish feed needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because of the grant activities, aquaculture producers in the East Akyem District have established a new Aquaculture Association, now fully functioning and actively advocating for its members. The association is now working towards structuring the business of members based on a value chain approach to enhance economies of scale both to purchase inputs and to commercialize their product. The association has attracted the interest of MoFAD to provide them with technical training in fish pond water quality management,, fish species management to avoid cannibalism, guidance on preparation of fish feed formulas, post-harvest management/ preservation of fish, etc.. Awareness on MoFAD's policy has increased interest in expanding investments in aquaculture, since according to beneficiaries of the grant activity, "business is good".
4.	RUMNET	<p>Media Advocacy for Gender Responsive Agriculture Sector Development (MAGRAD)</p> <p>To advocate for the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to adopt inclusive policy processes that are responsive to the specific needs of women-farmers in agricultural development. to a) enhance the capacity of women-farmers in the Northern Region to engage policy-makers to respond to their special needs in the development of the agricultural sector policy in Ghana and; b) To increase information and evidence on the special needs of women-farmers in agriculture sector development to policy makers, the media and other advocates.</p>				
Apr 20 to Jul 30 2015	Northern Region 5 districts: Tamale, Savelugu-Nanton, Mion, Sagnarigu & Yendi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct advocacy research into barriers to the effective participation of women-farmers in various aspects of agricultural development, and disseminate findings. Organize round-table session for 30 women-farmers to assess the FASDEPII / METASIP and identify their specific needs and state their position on the agric. sector development policy. Create platform for advocacy and networking by women-farmers - in agricultural sector development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness of women-farmers about FASDEPII/METASIP raised Women-farmers were empowered to state their position on Agriculture sector development. The women-farmers established a platform for advocacy and networking in the agricultural sector development, resulting in increased information flow and evidence on the special needs of women-farmers to policy makers, the media and other 	<p>Indicator #2: 66 women-farmers, and other stakeholders trained.</p> <p>Indicator #6: Drafted research paper & policy brief</p> <p>Indicator #7: Held policy advocacy on special needs of women in agric. sector development policy and programs.</p> <p>Indicator #11: Held 1 regional level policy dialogue forum</p> <p>Indicator #13:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The grant activities ensure that the women-farmers are empowered to advocate for their interests and policy-makers are sensitized to women's needs for better access to special support services in the development of the agricultural sector. Long-term impacts include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agriculture development policies in Ghana will become more inclusive and responsive to the special needs of women-farmers. Policies and programs in the agriculture sector will address needs of women-farmers in terms of access to inputs, credit, marketing, agricultural research, technology development and extension. 	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize one-day policy dialogue session for 26 District Department of Agriculture, 10 Development NGOs, 20 FBOs and relevant private sector actors. Produce and publish position paper & policy brief and, hold press conference. 	<p>advocates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In general, it raised public awareness and support for the inclusion of the special needs of women-farmers in agricultural development policy. 	RUMNET benefited from USG support.	
5.	SAFE-GHANA	Enhancing Partnerships and Participatory Policy Advocacy Initiatives along Rice Value Chain with Smallholder Producers in the Volta Region To strengthen and facilitate multi-stakeholder and strategic partnerships with rice value chain actors and civil society across 15 rice producing Districts to promote increased rice production and improved nutrition.				
	Apr to Jul 2015	Volta Region 15 districts in the central and northern parts: Nkwanta North, Nkwanta South, Krachi Central, Nchumuru, Jasikan, Kadjebi, Kpando, North Dayi, South Dayi, Hohoe, Afadjato South, Ho West, Ho, Adaklu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held participatory strategic planning session; stakeholder analysis seminar and technical discussions Created network of FBOs in the Rice Value Chain in 15 districts in the Volta Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-stakeholder partnerships that brought the duty-bearers at the regional level closer to the smallholder farmers. Grant activity has enabled farmers to craft a common vision to be the leading rice producer in Ghana to 60,000ha by 2020. 	<p>Indicator #2: Trained 118 people (97 male, 21 females) in strategic planning for rice value farmers</p> <p>Indicator #6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rice farmers organized in five District FBO clusters 1 rice value chain research / analysis report and radio discussions. <p>Indicator #13: SAFE-Ghana benefited from USG capacity building support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to the grant support to SAFE-Ghana, key investments and high-profile companies like Wienco and Brazilian Agro have expressed interest in becoming involved in rice production in the Volta region. Grantee activities catalysed action on the formation of the Volta Rice Network to spearhead the strategic development of rice in the Volta Region. The beneficiary farmers are now organised in clusters and able to exchange ideas and access training and technological support under the IFDC 2SCALE project based on the assessments conducted within the value chain with APSP support The IFDC 2SCALE Project, supported by the Netherlands government project has started making strategic investments in Rice Seed Production, training farmers in the use of machinery and post-harvest systems as a result of the consultative workshop held in the region. In addition, IFDC 2SCALE is exploring other partnerships to make investments in the rice sector based on the level of organization of farmers. Strategic areas of local economic development based on rice as a driver has emerged in the VR. Rice farmers organized around the Network dedicated to making the Volta Region into Ghana's rice "basket". SAFE-Ghana now has positioned itself as

						one of the strongest advocates for the rice sub-sector in the Volta Region. It has organized rice value chain members into groups and facilitated the formation of Volta Rice Producers Network, trained farmers on rice production intensification and attracted other development partners such as SNV/IFDC 2Scale Project to provide technical training to increase rice production in the region.	
6.	SIFA Agro-Trade Ltd. – phases 1 & 2	Smallholder Farmer Community Agriculture Policy Fairs with Parliamentarians in Northern Region					
		To enhance the participation of smallholder farmers in the formulation of national agriculture policy. To improve dialogue between smallholder farmers and their Members of Parliament on national agriculture policy challenges in the 3 districts					
	Apr to Jun 2015 And Sep to Nov 2015	Northern Region 6 districts: Tolon, Kumbungu, Zabzugu, Bunkpurugu, Karaga, Sagnarigu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held training on FASDEP II & METASIP, and policy forums for small farmers in the districts and; Organized district agriculture policy fairs, where smallholder farmers were brought together to interact with the MPs and Parliamentary Committee on Food Agriculture and Cocoa Affairs. 	Built the capacity of about 180 smallholder farmers from the 6 Districts (30 each) on the effects and impact of both FASDEP II and METASIP on their livelihood.	<p>Indicator #2: 180 small farmers were trained on the FASDEP II and METASIP.</p> <p>Indicator #6: 2 policy briefs</p> <p>Indicator #11: 6 district policy fairs.</p> <p>Indicator #13: SIFA Agro-Trade Ltd benefited from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The voice of smallholder farmers being heard in the agriculture policymaking process by policy makers at the district and national level especially the Parliamentary Select Committee on Agriculture and Cocoa. The awareness on the policymaking process have emboldened the small-scale farmers on their rights and role in the agriculture policy process. Because of the grant activity, grantee has promoted the establishment of six permanent dialogue platforms between MPs and farmers in their respective constituencies. Accounts from farmers participating in the dialogues with MPs and MoFA staff evolved around questions on how to become productive the year round and enabled them to demand the timely supply of fertilizers, extension delivery, farm machinery services and improvements in the marketing of their products. An account from these dialogues shows that an MP in Kumbungu District has been able to mobilize machinery service delivery to benefit farmers in his constituency. 	
7.	URBANET	Ensuring policy and program responsiveness for competitiveness of smallholder soybean production					
		To increase policy and program responsiveness to smallholder soybean production in the northern region that ultimately improves standard of living.					
	April to July 2016	Northern Region 5 districts: Savelugu/Nanton,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held community and district level forums for soy bean farmers; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained 219 participants (130 men and 89 females) working in the soybean 	<p>Indicator #2: 455 (265 male & 190 females) trained.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders have been educated on Ghana's agriculture policy documents and are now aware and in position to contribute to 	

		Karaga, Nanumba North, Yendi & Tamale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organized regional policy dialogue on soy beans farming for private and public sector stakeholders. 	<p>value chain on FASDEP and METASIP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 233 (133 men and 100 females) participated in the district level policy dialogues on soybeans. 42 (35 males and 7 females) participated in the regional policy dialogue on soybeans. 	<p>Indicator #11: 5 district & 1 regional level dialogue forums</p> <p>Indicator #12: Increased access of inoculants to soy bean farmers; formation of soy bean farmers' network.</p> <p>Indicator #13: URBANET benefited from USG support</p>	<p>the agriculture policymaking process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soy farmers are now aware that there is a policy governing their sector, which seeks to modernize agriculture to improve food security, reduce poverty and create employment.
8.	FMSL Multimedia Ltd. (Rite 90.1FM)	Mobilizing Action towards Agriculture Sector Improvement (MAASI) To improve resource allocation to the Agriculture sector in the 6 Districts by 2016.				
	July to Oct 2016	Eastern Region - 5 districts: Akuapem North, Asuogyaman, Lower Manya Krobo, Upper Manya Krobo, Yilo Krobo, shai-Osudoku	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented a weekly radio program ("FTF platform") Developed Quarterly documentary on agriculture; Conducted a baseline study on resource allocation to agriculture in the districts Organize farmers' forums to gather inputs into the district annual budgets, and advocate for increased resource allocation to agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased local capacity and participation in the agriculture policy reforms. Farmer participation in policy making, annual planning and budgetary processes have increased So far 793 persons comprising 356 females and 437 males participated in dialogue forums for the 2017 district plans and budgets. 	<p>Indicator #2: 793 (356 females & 437 males) trained.</p> <p>Indicator #6: Aired 51 weekly radio program; aired 1,170 slots of jingles in 3 languages (English, Twi & Krobo), drafted 49 agriculture related stories and posted on website http://ritefmonline.org, produced 4 radio documentaries on varied agriculture issues, one video documentary on its achievements; web publications?</p> <p>Indicator #11: Held 2 advocacy forums in each district (a total 12 forums).</p> <p>Indicator #12: Increased budgetary allocation to the dept. of agric; formation of district agric sub-committee.</p> <p>Indicator #13: FMSL Multimedia Ltd. benefitted from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Radio programs about the importance of agriculture in the districts and pressure from informed farmers on public policies, compelled public officials to increase resource allocation for agricultural programs and awarded contract for the repair of roads network in the districts to improve commodity transport and agricultural marketing. An increased awareness of the need to develop sector-specific by-laws motivated district assemblies to establish agriculture sub-committees in Akuapem North, Asuogyaman, Lower Manya Krobo, Upper Manya Krobo, Yilo Krobo districts. Advocacy activities on the special needs of farmers with special physical challenges, has triggered discussions at the district assemblies to implement budget provisions that are aimed at supporting these farmers. Grantee was able to mobilize action from the Volta River authority to clean up banks of aquatic weeds that were affecting local fishing activities. The Municipal Chief Executive of Yilo Krobo district has become a strong advocate for the functioning of the Subcommittee on Agriculture at his District Assembly, noticing that before these advocacy activities took place, he particularly was not interested in

						such outcome. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities have increased awareness on the importance of the agriculture sector for the district and farmers are rallying behind their public officials to receive more budgetary and technical support to enhance production.
9.	GAABIC	Sensitization on Act 803 (2010) among agro-input dealers and agricultural stakeholders in the Northern Region of Ghana To create awareness and sensitize on Part Three of Plants and Fertilizer Law (Act 803, 2010) in efforts to enhance compliance, increase policy dialogue and operationalization of this portion of the law.				
	July to Oct 2015	Northern Region 5 districts: Yendi, Walewale & Bimbila, Sawla-Tuna-Kalba & Tamale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held regional and district Sensitized fertilizer importers, distributors, regulators, PPRSD, EPA & reps of selected FBOs, the Police & Custom Officers, and staff of the Attorney General's Dept., GAIDA, SEEDPAG & APFOG members; Organized media activities & coverage (Radio discussions & Jingles in local languages, print and TV) of the events on Part III of Act 803 (2010). 	Through workshops, forums and media communication, awareness was increased among major stakeholders and the general public on Part II of the Plants and Fertilizer Act 803, 2010; this has brought to the fore the issues of compliance and enforcement of the Law.	Indicator #2: 203 (183 males & 20 females) trained. Indicator #6: 1 radio jingle; 1 leaflet Indicator #11: 5 district & 1 regional level dialogue forums. Indicator #13: GAABIC benefited from USG support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased awareness among public and private stakeholders on Act 803 (2010) is contributing to improved Law enforcement / compliance. MoFA's PPRSD, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Ghana Agri-input Dealers Association (GAIDA) have set up regular discussions and agreed on concerted efforts to deal with the menace of proliferation of unlicensed agro-input dealers, selling fake and expired agro-chemicals to unsuspecting farmers in the Northern Region. The increased knowledge of the farmers on Act 803 (2010) has resulted in improving their access to quality agro-inputs, owing to their heightened interest to apply certified and good quality agro-chemicals
10.	SIRDA	Strengthening Capacities of Women & FBOs on FASDEP II and METASIP to Access Department of Agriculture Extension Services in Northern Region of Ghana To strengthen the capacities of 30 FBOs and women farmers in 3 remote and deprived districts of the Northern Region (Nanumba North, Nanumba South and Kpandai); and to improve access to district department of agriculture services, specifically extension advice and support to improve productivity levels and enhance quality of life through increased incomes and stable livelihoods.				
	July to Sep 2016	Northern Region 3 districts: Kpandai Nanumba North, & Nanumba South	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carried community sensitization in the 3 districts, trained female farmers to access agriculture extension services and; Held dialogue forums between the women farmers and districts agriculture staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened the capacities of 30 FBOs and women farmers in 3 remote and deprived districts of the Northern Region to access agriculture extension services. Carried community sensitization session in 30 communities in 3 districts Trained over 1,000 female farmers to access agriculture extension 	Indicator #2: 72 women trained in a study tour; 2,700 farmers (2,490 women & 210 females) introduced to FASDEP II & METASIP Indicator #6: 1 baseline study report; 1 position paper Indicator #7: 3 districts level advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women farmers have learned how to access agriculture extension services in the districts and have become ready to contribute to the agriculture policymaking process. For instance, women's FBOs are setting up small Village Service & Loan schemes to fund and assist Agriculture Extension Agents with some expenses, especially to top up petrol purchases, so they can actually visit farms.' Women's confidence to demand for agriculture extension services has increased. For instance, before SIRDA activities took place, agriculture extension agents will pay

				<p>services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held dialogue forums between the women farmers and districts agriculture staff. 	<p>Indicator #11: 3 dialogue meetings with DOA (1 each).</p> <p>Indicator #12: Implementation women-focused extension & advisory services & radio program; increased media program of gender-specific agric extension service broadcast.</p> <p>Indicator #13: SIRDA benefitted from USG support.</p>	<p>sporadic visits to their farms. However, according to the Agriculture Extension Agents (AEAs), women are now demanding extension services and are receiving not least than three visits a month.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An AEA informed that he is servicing 26 communities benefiting approximately 1000 farmers. This is a much better ratio that indicates that on average an extension agent in Ghana services 3000 farmers. Agriculture Extension Agents indicate that before the advocacy activities by SIRDA, they focused mainly on visiting men farms and neglected those of women. Three radio stations in the districts have given free airtime to encourage women leaders to the studios to talk on agriculture issues and advocate for change. The Nanumba North and South Districts have now incorporated funding support to agriculture extension activities in their annual composite budgets, which hitherto was non-existent.
11.	RUWA	<p align="center">Strengthening Capacities of Women & FBOs on FASDEP II and METASIP to Access Department of Agriculture Extension Services in Upper West Regions of Ghana</p> <p>To strengthen the capacities of 30 FBOs and women farmers in 3 remote and deprived districts of the Upper West Region (Wa West, Wa Municipal and Wa East districts); and to improve access to district department of agriculture services, specifically extension advice and support to improve productivity levels and enhance quality of life through increased incomes and stable livelihoods.</p>				
July to Sep 2016	Upper West 3 districts: Wa East Wa West, and Wa Municipal	<p>Awareness creation on the FASDEP II & METASIP policy frameworks on Agricultural extension carried out in 10 communities each of 3 districts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted validation workshop on the baseline survey. Developed position paper based on results of the survey. Produced and aired Jingles on the extension policy were produced in English, Sisal and Dagare. on radio progress based in Wa, the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened the capacities of 30 FBOs and women farmers in three remote and deprived districts of the Upper West Region to access agriculture extension services. Carried community sensitization session in 30 communities in three districts Trained over 1,000 female farmers to access agriculture extension services. 	<p>Indicator #2: 1,752 (comprising 1,168 women and 584 men) members of FBOs were sensitized on the demand-driven agriculture extension services and the FASDEP II and METASIP.</p> <p>Indicator #6: 1 baseline research report; 1 position paper; #6: 3 jingles (English, Sisal and Dagare); 2 radio discussions held.</p> <p>Indicator #7: 3 districts level advocacy.</p> <p>Indicator #11: 3 dialogue meetings with DOA (1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 2,000 women and FBOs were made aware of the extension policy and could explain it to others. With this knowledge, over 100 of them had asked for extension services from their AEAs during the planting of their soybean crop. Over 100 women and FBOs took advantage of the awareness creation exercise to know the veterinary offices in their respective districts. Meetings organized by the grantee got together AEAs with District Agriculture Directors and women's groups, so the latter become familiarized with the agents servicing their communities. The AEAs confirmed they had been 	

			<p>Upper West regional capital.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held radio discussions organized. • Facilitated communities to draw their action plans to access extension services from the AEA's. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held dialogue forums between the women farmers and districts agriculture staff. 	<p>each)</p> <p>Indicator #12: Implementation women-focused extension & advisory services & radio program.</p> <p>Indicator #13: RUWA benefited from USG support.</p>	<p>awakened to their responsibility, and now many more women farmers and FBOs interacted with them as a result of this project: "Your project has made me read more on FASDEP II and METASIP policy frameworks" said one Mr. Edmond, an AEA in Wa Municipality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AEA's also seized the opportunity to educate women farmers and FBOs on the government fertilizer subsidies, and as a result over 200 women secured passbooks and accessed over 1,000 bags of NKP and Urea which they applied to their crops in 2016. • Many women farmers and FBOs especially in the Jonga community are comfortable reaching out to the department of agriculture office in Wa to seek extension services.
12.	CREAT	<p>Assessing The Sustainable Land Management Policy Implementation in Five Municipalities in The Volta Region of Ghana To contribute to research policy by assessing the status of the Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Policy and Action Plan (2009-2015). To generate knowledge for policy review and formulation. And to promote learning among smallholder farmers at the local levels in 5 municipal assemblies in VR.</p>				
	Dec 2015 to Nov 2016	<p>Volta Region 5 municipalities: Keta, Ho, Ketu South, Kpando, Hohoe in the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organized inception meeting of key stakeholders to deliberate on topic, process and implementation approaches • Undertook data collection after training of field workers • Developed draft study papers on Agriculture Sustainable Land Management (AgSLM). 	<p>Collected data and wrote a draft report on the level of adoption of AgSLM practices by smallholder farmers in six municipalities in the Volta Region of Ghana.</p>	<p>Indicator #2: 182 (157 males & 25 females) public & private sector participants trained in 5 municipalities.</p> <p>Indicator #6: 1 policy brief</p> <p>Indicator #8: 1 high quality research report</p> <p>Indicator #11: 5 policy dialogues (validation & dissemination)</p> <p>Indicator #12: Issues of practical implementation of the AgSLM strategies in VR</p> <p>Indicator #13: CREAT benefitted from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations for research and other dialogue forums on the subject matter will contribute to the adoption of policy reforms geared at promoting Agriculture Sustainable Management in Ghana (SLM). • The study will increase the number of high quality researches, dialogue forums, policy briefs, and position papers advocating for policy review and reforms in the sustainable land management regime.
13.	NORTHCODE	<p>Tracking support for Women under the Agriculture Input Support Programs of SADA and MoFA for increased Food and Nutrition Security in Northern Ghana To assess the support for women farmers and persons with disabilities (PWDs) under the Agriculture Input Support Program of SADA and MoFA to promote increased food</p>				

		and nutrition security in Northern Ghana				
	Aug to Nov 2015	<p>SADA Zone Northern Volta, Northern Brong-Ahafo, Northern, Upper West and Upper East Regions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted policy research on the degree of support extended to Women and PWDs in the MoFA and SADA AISP Validated and disseminated policy research report findings Conducted policy advocacy and engagements with various stakeholders to improve women and PWDs involvement in SADA and MoFA for improved food security within the NSEZ. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women and persons living with disabilities (PWD) farmers and other vulnerable groups living in the regions of the Northern Ghana benefitted from advanced knowledge and awareness on the existence of Agriculture Input Support Program (AISP) from SADA and MoFA. Consequently, about 700 women and women farmer groups and 120 PWDs were directly educated and sensitized to advocate for increased investments in agriculture for these stakeholders in future AISP of SADA and MOFA, and in their effort to scale-up and integrate social protection programs. 	<p>Indicator #2: 820 women and PWDs trained.</p> <p>Indicator #6: 1 policy research paper; 1 policy brief.</p> <p>Indicator #7: 5 regional level advocacy campaign</p> <p>Indicator #11: 5 regional level policy dialogue forums</p> <p>Indicator #12: Involvement of women & PWDs in SADA/MOFA Agric programs.</p> <p>Indicator #13: NORTHCODE benefitted from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This grant heightened awareness among SADA and Regional Department of Agriculture Officials to include women and vulnerable groups under all SADA agriculture investment plans for increased food and nutrition security within the Northern Savannah Ecological Zone (NSEZ), thereby resulting in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced institutional support and recognition with respect to agricultural production challenges of these vulnerable groups in this zone. Improved knowledge of the women and vulnerable groups to access opportunities in all SADA & MOFA agriculture sector investment programs towards increased food security & nutrition security within the NSEZ, owing to the strengthened capacities from the grant activities. Stronger collaboration between SADA / MOFA and the CSOs and the media in the implementation of agriculture development programs in the zone has been enhanced.
14.	NORPRA	<p align="center">Mainstreaming inputs of youth and women farmers in SADA Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP) To support grassroots especially the youth and women farmers and other FBOs in the SADA zone for their needs and inputs on agriculture developed to be incorporated into the new MTDP of SADA.</p>				

	Apr to Jun 2016	SADA Zone Northern Volta, Northern Brong- Ahafo, Northern, Upper West and Upper East Regions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertook research to determine youth and women integration in SADA's MTDP; • Organized project inception workshop in Tamale and; • Held 5 regional consultative forums in Upper West, Upper East, Volta, Brong Ahafo & Northern Regions for women, youth and smallholder farmers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The inception workshop and the 5 regional consultative forums for 128 participants, allowed sharing of ideas on integrating women, youth and small holder farmers into SADA's MTDP • Also published two newspaper articles in a Ghanaian newspaper of 29th and 30th June 2016 respectively. 	<p>Indicator #2: 128 (74 females & 54 males) trained.</p> <p>Indicator #6: 2 newspaper articles; 3 position paper/policy briefs</p> <p>Indicator #7: 5 regional campaign forums</p> <p>Indicator #11: 5 regional policy dialogue meetings</p> <p>Indicator #12: Incorporation of the needs / inputs of youth and women farmers in SADA MTDP.</p> <p>Indicator #13: NORPRA benefitted from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The dialogue fora helped to integrate concerns of women, FBOs, and the youth into SADA's MTDP and this will create opportunities for these vulnerable groups to work and improve their incomes. • Concerns of women, FBOs, and youth related to issues such as inadequate access to land, extension services, financing, and technical education, will be incorporated in the SADA's MTDP.
15.	SYECOMP Ltd.	Improving Approaches to Mainstreaming Gender in Ghana's Youth Policy and Youth in Agriculture Program: Focus on Climate-Smart Agriculture and Market-Oriented Value Chains Initiative to analyse the challenges and opportunities for mainstreaming gender in Ghana's youth policy and youth in agriculture policies and programs.				
	Apr to Sep 2016	Northern (Tamale) & Southern (Ho) Zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organised project inception workshop, held 2 regional panel fora in the southern and northern zones of Ghana; • Developed and published concept papers / articles on gender, youth and climate smart agriculture in Ghana on web blogs; and • Drafted a position paper based on evidences from the discussions at the fora. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The zonal policy fora generated ideas on how to engage the youth in more diverse and productive roles in agriculture for employment and job creation. • In all 43 participants, comprising 24 males and 19 females took part in the two fora. • The grantee as an outcome of the forums produced and posted 12 blog articles online at www.agricinghana.org. on varied youth in agriculture topics. 	<p>Indicator #2: 52 (27males & 25 females) trained.</p> <p>Indicator #6: 13 blogs articles; 1 position paper on Youth & gender inclusive agric policy</p> <p>Indicator #7: 2 zonal and 1 national level dialogue forums.</p> <p>Indicator #11: 1 policy engagement (position paper presentation) for 56 participants (34males & 22 females).</p> <p>Indicator #13: SYECOM LTD benefitted from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiative will compliment government's policy of attracting the youth into Ghana's agriculture. • Created platform for policy discussions to guide the development of an all-inclusive youth in agriculture policy and programs in Ghana. • Recommendations from the dialogue forums contained in the position paper will contribute to adopting policy reforms needed to transform youth policy and youth in agriculture programs in Ghana.

16.	ROOTS LINK AFRICA	<p align="center">Sensitization and training of Stakeholders' on Ghana's Plant and Fertilizer Law (Act 803, 2010)</p> <p>To undertake public education activities on Ghana's Plant & Fertilizer Act 803 to improve public knowledge on the plant and fertilizer and reduce agrochemical use and abuse by commodity value chain actors in agricultural production.</p>				
	Jul to Sep 2016	Assin North, Assin South and Gomoa East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held three (3) radio programs on the plant and Fertilizer Act in Assin North Municipal and Gomoa East district on Rich FM 98.7MHz and Obrempon 91.7MHz respectively. • Conducted twelve (12) community fora on the Act and created public awareness created. • Conducted three (3) school fora for teachers and students on the Act and safe use of agrochemicals. • Organized training for law enforcers on the Act and related issues to ensure monitoring for compliance. • Organized 3 separate district training workshops for agro input dealers on the Act and safe agrochemical use to ensure compliance with the law. • Organized three separate workshops for farmers in each of the three districts to increase their knowledge to enable them demonstrate better understanding of agrochemical applications for pests and disease control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased the knowledge and awareness of 39 agro-chemicals and inputs dealers, 134 farmers on Act 803 (2010) in the 3 districts • Increase the public awareness on the Act and safe use of agrochemicals through three (3) radio programs in Assin North Municipal and Gomoa East district on Rich FM 98.7MHz and Obrempon 91.7MHz respectively • Held community fora on the Act and created public awareness in the 12 communities and 3 school fora for teachers and students in 3 SHS (1 in each district). • 30 law enforcers were trained/equipped with requisite competencies to demonstrate better understanding of the Act and related issues, and to monitor compliance by agro- input dealers. 	<p>Indicator #2: In all 1914 benefitted from the fora and training workshops. The trainings involved a total of 246 (170 males and 76 females) included; 134 farmers, 30 police and immigration officers, 39 agro input dealers, 7 students, 4 teachers and 32 extension officers. 1560 people (931 males and 629 females) participated in the 12 community fora and 108 (66 males and 42 females) students participated in 3 school fora.</p> <p>Indicator #6: 1 radio jingle; 3 radio programs held in Assin North Municipal and Gomoa East district on Rich FM 98.7MHz and Obrempon 91.7MHz respectively</p> <p>Indicator #13: Roots Link Africa benefitted from USG support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitized public and private stakeholders on Act 803 (2010) will contribute to improved law enforcement / compliance, increased capacity of private sector stakeholders in the law implementation process, and improved their access to quality agro-inputs. • Overall, access to quality agro-inputs and enhanced agriculture extension services on good agricultural practices and technical advice on the use of these inputs from agro input dealers, will contribute to improvements in yields and increased incomes for smallholder farmers.
17.	Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP)	<p align="center">Awareness Creation and Capacity Building of Relevant Stakeholders in the Agriculture Sector on Plants and Fertilizer Act (Act 803, 2010)</p> <p>To create awareness of FBOs on the Act 803, 2010 in the Karaga and Mion and Mion districts in the Northern Region. To create awareness and build capacities of agro-input dealers in complying with the provisions in the Act 803, 2010. To build capacities of AEAs on the AC. To create awareness of security services on the existence of the Act and their role in safeguarding the provisions in the Act 803, 2010. To create synergy between law enforcement agencies and the district/community level power brokers and. Work with the media on dissemination of relevant agriculture policies (on Radio Programs).</p>				

	Aug to Nov 2016	Karaga and Mion Districts in the Northern Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize awareness of FBOs on the Plants and Fertilizer Act 803, 2010 thru community durbars each in the Karaga & Mion districts; Organize radio programs for wider sensitization. Organize sensitization and training for agro-input dealers, and farmers, and for AEAs, security agencies (CEPS, police etc.) on the Act 803 (2010) in Karaga & Mion districts; Organize one collaboration information platform between law enforcement agencies and district/community level power brokers (TA, unit committees, Area council etc.) in the two districts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About 100 Farmer Groups (FGs) and agro-input dealers in the Karaga and Mion administrative districts in the Northern Region are sensitized on Act 803, 2010. About 5,000 men, women and youth would also benefit from the sensitization activities of the project. 	<p>Indicator #2: 306 (296 males and 13 females) community members benefitted from awareness generated on Act 803, 2010 in the two districts.</p> <p>Indicator #6: Carried out 4 radio discussions.</p> <p>Indicator #11: Nine community durbars on sensitization implemented</p> <p>Indicator #13: CLIP benefited from USG organization capacity building support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitized public and private stakeholders on Act 803 (2010) which will contribute to improved law enforcement / compliance, increased capacity of private sector stakeholders in the law implementation process, and improved their access to quality agro-inputs in the Central Region. Sensitization on Act 803 will lead to more sustainable practices in the agriculture sector of Ghana. Grantee activities became agriculture extension service exercises, since farmers received training on good agricultural practices with regard to the use of improved seeds, fertilizers, safe handling of agrochemicals, use of protective clothing, and it increased their awareness on the commercialization of unregistered agro inputs, fake products and adulterated fertilizers. Agro inputs dealers have reported that after the trainings, they have become extension agents as well and now they are advising farmers on the use of inputs. Grantee activities have brought attention to the fact that MoFA and district level authorities are barely informing the public on the content of the law.
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