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# ***Michigan State University***

New Alliance Policy Acceleration Support (NAPAS) Activity

Associate Cooperative Agreement no. AID-612-LA-15-00001

## ***Quarterly Report***

1 July 2015 to 30 September 2015

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**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

## USAID/Malawi Quarterly Progress Report

**Project Name:** New Alliance Policy Acceleration Support: Malawi (NAPAS: Malawi) Activity

**Reporting Period:** July 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015

**Obligation Funding Amount:** US\$1,000,000

**Project Duration:** November 24, 2014 to November 24, 2017

**Evaluation Dates:** July 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015 and FY 2015 (November 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015)

**Person Responsible for Drafting this Report:** Dr. Flora Janet Nankhuni

**Project Objectives:** The New Alliance Policy Acceleration Support: Malawi (NAPAS: Malawi) is an activity under the Sustainable Economic Growth project of USAID/Malawi. It is being implemented by Michigan State University (MSU) in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the University of Pretoria (UP). NAPAS aims to enable the government of Malawi to implement the policy reform agenda to which it committed under the New Alliance Country Cooperation Framework for Malawi. NAPAS has the goal of *providing effective technical support to the government of Malawi so that it sustainably achieves the high-level commitments to policy reforms made in the New Alliance Country Cooperation Framework for Malawi*. These policy reforms have the broader aim of improving the agriculture investment climate in Malawi through commercializing and increasing the role of the private sector in Malawi's agricultural sector. NAPAS has the following three principal objectives:

1. Provide effective technical support for policy formulation by working jointly with the staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development in Malawi and members of pertinent Technical Working Groups (TWG) to draft evidence-informed policy and program design documents for consideration by senior government officials and stakeholders in agriculture and food security policy processes.
2. Engage in effective policy communication to inform debate on agriculture and food security policy issues in Malawi. Improve the quality of debate among participants in the policy process through which policy reforms committed to under the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition will be undertaken. NAPAS: Malawi will contribute to policy communication efforts led by other policy research and civil society organizations in Malawi. These policy communications efforts will include conferences, workshops, or production of periodic policy briefs.
3. Ensure that gaps in expertise constraining effective agricultural policy reform are filled.

This report is divided into two parts, the quarterly report for July 1 2015 to September 30, 2015 (section Ia.) and the end of year report covering November 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015 (the rest of the report).

## **Ia. Progress of the Project for the Quarter**

The progress is reported for each of the components:

### **Technical support for policy formulation**

In the period July 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2015, the team managed to draft the National Agriculture Policy (NAP), which is the first policy commitment under the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition “Review the key enabling policies...” of which the NAP is one of them. The document was validated internally with senior management of the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development (MoAIWD) in September and is ready for validation by external stakeholders and submission to the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) in November 2015.

The Contract Farming Strategy is in its final stages of drafting. It was validated internally with senior management of MoAIWD in September and is being reviewed by a legal expert from FAO before it gets validated in November 2015. It is expected to be submitted to the Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development for implementation in December 2015.

Some of the NAPAS:Malawi efforts in this area started bearing fruit. The MoAIWD implemented some reforms of the Farm Input Subsidy Programme (FISP). In February, 2015, Dr. Nankhuni wrote a brief on redesigning the FISP, based on results of recent evaluation literature, preliminary results of the National Agricultural Policy (NAP) consultations, consultation with MoAIWD staff, and results of the July 2014 FISP symposium that was organized by the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and the Malawi Strategy Support Programme of the International Food Policy Research Institute (MaSSP-IFPRI). The FISP brief provided a basis for the Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development to lobby for reforms to the FISP. Currently, reforms to the FISP have started, after a long period of 10 years during which such reforms were not considered a possibility.

For the first time, the contribution to farmers that was at MK500 per bag of fertilizer was raised to MK3,500 per bag and MK1500 for maize seed package of either 5 kgs hybrid maize or 8 kgs of OPV and MK500 for a 2 kg legume seed package of either groundnuts or pigeon peas or beans or cow peas or a 3 kg bag of soya seeds. Recipient farmers get two bags of fertilizer, a package of maize seed and a package of legume seeds of their choice. This totals MK9000 (about US\$ 16) contribution by farmers from MK1000 or MK1150 (about US\$ 2) that they were contributing to two bags of fertilizer and a seed package before (The seed package was to be provided at less than or equal to MK150 depending on whether the agro-dealers ask for a contribution from farmers). In addition, the government has allowed the private sector to import and distribute 40 metric tonnes of fertilizer to 12 of the 28 districts in Malawi as a pilot towards increasing private sector participation in the FISP program. This is about 27% of the total fertilizer distributed under the FISP program. These are positive steps towards improved financial sustainability and efficiency of the FISP program, which the NAPAS:Malawi has contributed to through production of the FISP brief that was requested by the Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development.

## **Policy communications**

No policy communication event took place in this quarter, but NAPAS:Malawi was significantly involved in preparations for a maize markets symposium that took place a day after the quarter (October 1, 2015).

## **Capacity strengthening**

A Policy Analysis and Communication training was held on 8 September to 10 September 2015 at Hotel Victoria in Blantyre. Thirty three people from government, the private sector and civil society (45% female) were trained. The training focused on policy analysis. Participants were exposed to data sources and resources for conducting policy analysis. Data was shared with the participants and they had to perform various basic exercises including downloading data from the Reserve Bank of Malawi's website, arranging the data appropriately in Excel and performing basic descriptive statistical analysis such as univariate and bivariate tests as well as graphical analysis. Statistical concepts taught were then applied to studying maize market policies, agricultural production and rainfall analysis in Malawi. A second part of the training focused on policy process and stakeholder analysis around an identified policy issue to inform a communication strategy for policy communication. Participants worked in groups to perform the policy process and stakeholder analysis based on the Kaleidoscope model. The sessions were interactive with a number of hands on activities including identification of policy priorities; developing a chronology of policy dynamics, understanding the institutional architecture at various stages of policy development; mapping the role of key policy actors and identifying their beliefs, attitudes, knowledge and interests.

## **Ib. Overall Progress of the Project for US FY2015**

The first year of the project involved working closely with the Department of Agricultural Planning Services of MoAIWD in engaging with stakeholders on several agriculture and food security policy initiatives. Progress on the three components of the project include:

### **Technical support for policy formulation**

1. Internal government consultations on and drafting of the “Refocusing of Agriculture in Malawi” document – a background document to the drafting of the National Agriculture Policy.
2. Extensive district and national consultations on the National Agriculture Policy (NAP) that involved 842 participants (22% female). The Consultative process was commended by several stakeholders including the Civil Society in Agriculture Network (CISANET) Board Chairperson (CISANET Newsletter, Issue1, Volume 2, 2015) and the DCAFS Chairperson at the Agriculture Sector Technical Working Group (ASTWG) of 28th of May 2015. Results of the consultations were systematically analyzed and shared in a Powerpoint presentation within the MoAIWD in September 2015, at the ASTWG in

October 2015, and also at Michigan State University and the International Food Policy Research Institute (Washington DC) in June 2015;

3. Production of the draft NAP for high-level review in the MoAIWD, in September 2015. The draft NAP mostly used results of the NAP consultation and research evidence as basis for identification of its priority areas. The Ministry was commended for the progress made on drafting the NAP at the Agriculture Sector Working Group meeting on October 7, 2015 and at the Joint Sector Review meeting of November 5, 2015. The 2015 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition report also highlighted progress on the development of the NAP. It is anticipated that the NAP will be validated on November 17, 2015 and to be submitted to the Office of the President and Cabinet by end of December 2015.
4. Production of a brief on reform of the Farm Input Subsidy Program (FISP) for use by senior management of the Ministry to lobby for FISP restructuring. Currently, reforms to the FISP have started, as described in section 1a.
5. Production of a draft Contract Farming Strategy that is planned to be validated and submitted to the MoAIWD for implementation by end of 2015; and
6. Production of an agricultural zoning scheme to use as a spatial tool to guide agricultural development planning across the country. Two presentations of the maps generated from the agricultural zoning work were made, one at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI and the other in Lilongwe, Malawi at the Economics Association of Malawi (ECAMA) research conference in June 2015.

### **Policy communications**

NAPAS: Malawi staff members have worked with several other institutions in Malawi involved in strengthening agricultural policy processes. While NAPAS:Malawi does not lead policy communication events, such as conferences and workshops, the project supports others who do. In 2014-15, the project supported the following policy communication avenues:

1. Eleven National Agriculture Policy consultations at district and national levels in February and March of 2015 held at several venues, Lilongwe (twice), Karonga, Mzuzu, Kasungu, Salima, Dedza, Blantyre, Mulanje, Nsanje, and Balaka. The project helped the MoAIWD develop a PowerPoint that presented main issues facing the agriculture sector at each Consultation meeting. The presentation included graphs that NAPAS:Malawi helped the Ministry staff produce.
2. IFPRI (SEBAP activity) organized a conference on “Linkages between Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition” held on April 28, 2015. Dr. Nankhuni presented on “The Agriculture-Food Security- Nutrition Landscape in Malawi”. Through this conference, NAPAS: Malawi brought to attention, issues of nutrition to policy makers in the Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development. Through this engagement with Nutrition stakeholders: NAPAS:Malawi staff members were invited to comment on the National Nutrition Policy and Strategic Plan; NAPAS:Malawi helped link Dr. Suresh Babu (Senior Research Fellow-IFPRI Washington DC) to the Vice President of the Republic of Malawi, the Right Honourable Dr. Saulos Chilima, who was later appointed to be a member of the IFPRI Compact 2025 initiative, which seeks to eliminate hunger and malnutrition by 2025.

Through this appointment and the MoAIWD engagement in it, as well as NAPAS: Malawi staff initiatives, the MoAIWD staff are more cognizant and attentive of the need for the agriculture sector to be nutrition sensitive. As a result, the draft NAP has a pillar on food and *nutrition* security, intended to address malnutrition through interventions in the agriculture sector.

3. 2015 ECAMA Research Symposium on “Agricultural transformation and value chain development for sustainable economic development”. NAPAS: Malawi co-funded a panel discussion on the theme of the conference that was broadcasted on Malawi TV prime time, 3 times and by audio on Zodiac radio (one time). A YouTube video of the panel discussion will be uploaded by IFPRI, for public audience. A report will also be produced (by December 2015).
4. Internal Government Seminar on Maize Markets in Malawi held in June 3, 2015 organized by IFPRI and LUANAR and funded by USAID and DFID. A follow up nation-wide conference on “Making Maize Markets Work for All Malawians” was held on October 1, 2015. NAPAS:Malawi co-organized the event.

### **Capacity strengthening**

NAPAS:Malawi conducted three formal training sessions involving a total of 83 trainees (of which 27 or 33% are female). These were:

1. Policy Process and Policy Communication training held on April 1, 2015 at Ufulu Gardens in Lilongwe. The topics included: introduction to Policy Communication, including the Kaleidoscope Model, introduction to evidence-based policy communication, importance of understanding the policy process and stakeholder audience in order to effectively communicate, as well as an introduction to policy communications tools and methods.
2. Policy Communication training held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at Crossroads Hotel in Lilongwe. The training focused on writing a policy brief based on research evidence. Participants were shown how to develop a policy brief then had to do group and individual exercises that entailed developing policy briefs based on actual IFPRI research on agriculture-nutrition linkages in Malawi.
3. Policy Analysis and Communication training held on 7 September to 10 September 2015 at Hotel Victoria in Blantyre. The training focused on policy analysis, as explained in section Ia.

Other capacity strengthening activities involved conducting joint policy analysis with policy analysts and planners in MoAIWD to fill knowledge gaps in their general understanding of and ability to analyze policy to inform the policy reform agenda under the New Alliance. These efforts were done within the context of day-to-day tasks that policy analysts and planners in MoAIWD undertake in collaboration with NAPAS:Malawi staff. In that respect, NAPAS:Malawi also supported the Department of Agricultural Planning Services (DAPS) in

the production of concept notes, briefs, and other government documents needed by the Ministry to engage effectively with agricultural stakeholders, including development partners as they conceptualize and develop their programs in the country. The concept notes that NAPAS:Malawi helped develop include:

- Concept note for proposed IDA Investment Operation: The Agricultural Commercialization, Rural Growth and Poverty Reduction Project (May 18, 2015)
- Climate-Smart Agriculture Project (CSAP) Initial Recommendations for Proposal (May 22, 2015)
- Agriculture Sector Bankable Projects and Proposed Areas of Investment in the Agriculture Sector brief for the Malawi Investment Forum (June 24, 2015)
- ADMARC Limited Proposed Reforms (June 5<sup>th</sup> 2015)
- A Concept Note on Development of National Agricultural and Commercial Fair Ground (August 2015)
- Maize Export Development Programme (Programme Concept Note) – October 2015 (started before).

## **II. Challenges, Solutions and Actions taken**

The NAPAS activity faced challenges in procuring project vehicles. One vehicle has been successfully purchased. The second vehicle has not yet been submitted to NAPAS:Malawi because of delays at the Road Traffic Office in clearing the vehicle. This has necessitated the continued use of a personal vehicle by Dr. Nankhuni, for local transport in Lilongwe.

Another challenge is related to lack of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between IFPRI and the government of Malawi, that necessitated IFPRI, the sub-contractor managing the project in Malawi, to use the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) for hiring local staff and managing various administrative tasks). Unfortunately a result of this arrangement is that NAPAS:Malawi failed to hire a full-time Finance and Administration Officer because IITA Human Resource Manager was unwilling to hire people at a rate that is higher than the IITA salary scale. Consequently, an IFPRI consultancy contract was put in place to hire the NAPAS:Malawi Finance and Administration Officer from January 2015 to October 2015, after which he had to be hired as a consultant by Michigan State University because IFPRI's policies do not allow long-term consultancy arrangements. This also meant that the project underspent on the Finance and Administration Officer's remuneration since he was not getting health benefits. The situation should be rectified as IFPRI is now in the process of obtaining an MOU with the Government of Malawi and once in place, IFPRI should be in a position to perform the administrative tasks that IITA was doing for them. Alternatively, NAPAS can explore the possibility of hiring local staff as MSU employees on a relatively long-term/full-time basis.

A third challenge is related to delivering results according to a predetermined timeline. For example, the NAP was supposed to have been validated and submitted to OPC by July 2015 according to FY2015 work plan. However, the document has not yet been validated. This is mainly due to MoAIWD's way of operating that does not appreciate planning ahead of time or pay attention to deadlines. Moreover, government protocol for communicating with senior government

officials such as the Principal Secretary and the Minister, does not recognise communication via email and as such is slow leading to delays and cancelations of planned workshops and meetings. It has therefore been frustrating for NAPAS:Malawi staff to continuously push things through the government system in an effort to accomplish planned deliverables on time. At times NAPAS:Malawi staff have bypassed government protocol or bureaucratic procedures in an effort to accelerate the processes, but this has not been taken very well by some MoAIWD staff, particularly the Director of Planning in the DAPS. Despite this, the approach taken by NAPAS:Malawi has resulted in some progress. With respect to planning and reporting on the work of NAPAS:Malawi, the work plan now includes a calendar of activities with two color codes; one is green, showing those sections of the planned timeline for which NAPAS has control over and is thus accountable for and the other color is red, denoting those sections of the planned timeline which NAPAS has no control over.

### **III. Lessons, Best Practices and Recommendations**

While there are many demands in the MoAIWD that end up at the desks of the NAPAS team, the ability to manage these demands and ensure they are aligned to the mandate and objectives of the NAPAS activity is crucial. At the same time building capacity of the DAPS staff is a critical component towards managing the levels of demands coming to the NAPAS team. In recent months, more and more demands for technical assistance are coming to the NAPAS team, which in some sense is a good sign that the DAPS staff see the NAPAS team as resourceful expertise they can turn to when in need. However, it will become more important to build capacity among the DAPS staff to ensure that they are not continuously asking for assistance from the NAPAS team for every task at hand. As such striking a balance between simply performing a task versus working closely with the DAPS staff and building capacity on-the-job, despite it taking more time, will be critical in the coming months.

### **IV. Success stories**

Reforms to the FISP have started, after a long period of about 10 years during which such reforms were not considered a possibility. For the first time, the contribution of farmers to the FISP package has been raised from about 3% to about 18% of the commercial price of the package. In addition, the private sector will distribute about 27% of the total fertilizer distributed under the FISP program to 12 of the 28 districts in Malawi, as a pilot to engaging the private sector in importation and distribution of fertilizer to smallholder farmers. These are positive steps towards improved financial sustainability and efficiency of the FISP program, which the NAPAS:Malawi have contributed to through production of the FISP brief that was requested by the Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development.

The second success story is that NAPAS: Malawi was able to involve a wide range of stakeholders (842 individuals, of which 22% were women) to be part of the NAP formulation. NAPAS also brought together staff from several line Ministries to be part of the NAP drafting team the camped out in Mangochi to move the process of developing a NAP forward. The sentiments from various stakeholders suggest that previously, drafting of policies did not consult that widely and did not include a wide range of experts. As such, this new approach has been hailed a success by several



stakeholders and will probably facilitate approval of the policy by the Office of the President (OPC), as OPC participated and advised on what the layout of the policy should be. Similarly, the collaboration between NAPAS: Malawi, FUM, CISANET, IFPRI-SEBAP and ECAMA in putting together a televised policy discussion at the 2015 ECAMA conference has been considered a success as it brought together several non-state actors as well as representatives from the MoAIWD and MoIT to discuss policy issues in the Agriculture Sector in a public forum.

Last but not least, the day-to-day capacity strengthening activities of the NAPAS in the DAPS have led to improvements in the quality of outputs by the DAPS staff, including presentations, policy analysis reports, memos and speeches. Email comments from participants of the formal training workshops that NAPAS has conducted in FY 2015 also suggest the use and appreciation of the capacity strengthening efforts that the NAPAS team has provided.

## **V. Management Issues**

The current Finance and Administrative Assistant is being hired on a short-term consultancy basis through MSU instead of IFPRI as planned through the sub-award. This is due to challenges outlined earlier. The project will re-advertise the position of Finance and Administration Assistant to start early in 2016 to the end of the project under a different arrangement (either through IFPRI when the MOU between IFPRI and Malawi is finalized or through MSU directly).

A new position of Research and Monitoring and Evaluation Assistant has been added to the project's staff organizational chart. This is due to increased demands for data management and analysis to inform several policy issues and to ensure timely reporting to MSU and USAID/Malawi. This position is now offered on a consultancy basis due to the lack of an IFPRI MoU with government but will later be advertised and recruited as a full-time position to be filled in 2016.

## **VI. Update of the PMP**

The NAPAS team has implemented the Food and Agricultural Policy Stakeholder Survey, which will serve as a baseline for the NAPAS intervention. To implement the questionnaire interviews, NAPAS: Malawi hired a consultant who interviewed and followed up with various stakeholder to ensure that a sizeable sample of stakeholders is obtained and that the data collected are of good quality. The survey is completed and is being analysed. It involved 86 stakeholders of which 17 (20%) were women. Forty-four percent were government employees, 18% were from the private sector, 15% from civil society, 12% from research/academia and 10% were development partners.

In addition, the NAPAS team continues to track several outputs as shown in Table 1 below. The last column in Table 1 reports on progress for each indicator that NAPAS tracks and reports on a quarterly basis.

**Table 1. Indicators for Monitoring Progress of the NAPAS activity**

Result Area	Indicator	Unit of Measure	Data Source	Method of Data Collection	Frequency of Data Collection	Result & Description
2	Number of policy reform commitments the government of Malawi made under the Country Cooperation Framework to support the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in Malawi for which MoAIWD is responsible that have been completed or are in progress.	Number of New Alliance policy reform commitments	In December 2013, twenty-six policy reforms were made in the New Alliance Country Cooperation Framework for Malawi that are the responsibility of MoAIWD to implement. These were re-prioritized to 15 commitments of which 9 are the responsibility of MoAIWD to implement. Records on progress on these policy reforms will be updated on a regular basis by NAPAS: Malawi staff and the New Alliance Secretariat.	NAPAS:Malawi record keeping; contact: New Alliance Secretariat	Annually and quarterly	<b>6 (NAP, Seed Policy, Contract Farming Strategy, National Nutrition Policy and Strategy, FISP, Agriculture zoning)**</b>

3	Number of demonstrated uses by policy makers of evidence (analyses and policy papers) generated or presented through NAPAS:Malawi.	Number of demonstrated uses	Annual NAPAS:Malawi records will be used. NAPAS:Malawi will maintain records of use by policy makers of evidence supplied by the project	NAPAS:Malawi record keeping	Annually and quarterly	<b>11 – FISP brief; Refocusing Agriculture paper; ADMARC Reforms paper; The 6 concept notes reported on page 6 of this report; Commercial Agriculture Discussion Paper; Agricultural Zoning Paper; Presentations on the NAP Consultation/Results</b>
4	Index (or scorecard) of quality of the institutional architecture for agriculture and food security policy processes in Malawi	Index of quality of institutional architecture	Measured by stakeholder evaluation survey to capture level of satisfaction and confidence. Baseline survey in April 2015; endline survey in mid-2017	Stakeholder survey implementation and analysis	Twice over life of project	<b>N/A – baseline and endline indicators will be established from analyzed survey data</b>
5	Index (or scorecard) of quality of agriculture and food security policy processes in Malawi.	Index of quality of policy processes	Measured by stakeholder evaluation survey to capture level of satisfaction and confidence. Baseline survey in April 2015; endline survey in mid-2017	Stakeholder survey implementation and analysis	Twice over life of project	<b>N/A – baseline and endline indicators will be established from analyzed survey data</b>
<b>Output:</b>						
1	Number of policy research and best policy practice papers generated.	Number of papers produced	NAPAS:Malawi records will be used. Activity staff will maintain records on all policy research and best policy practice papers generated; all	NAPAS:Malawi record keeping	Annually and quarterly	<b>4 – FISP brief, NAP background paper; NAP Draft; Contract Farming Strategy Draft</b>

	<b>2</b> Number of stakeholder learning forums on agriculture and food security policy issues supported.	Number of learning forums	training sessions held, with sex-and sector-disaggregated information on participants; and all engagements with private sector and civil society organizations to work with them on how their engagement in policy formulation processes might be strengthened		Annually and quarterly	<b>4 – “Linkages between Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition”; 2015 ECAMA Research Symposium; Internal Government Seminar on Maize Markets in Malawi; The 11 NAP Consultations</b>
	<b>3</b> Number of people receiving short-term training in policy analysis, planning, formulation, advocacy, monitoring, and evaluation.	Number of trainees			Annually and quarterly	<b>83 (33% female)</b>
	<b>4</b> Number of institutions where trained individuals are applying new practices	Number of institutions			Annually and quarterly	<b>5 (based on emails received from trainees)</b>
	<b>5</b> Number of private sector and civil society organizations assisted to participate in policy formulation processes.	Number of firms & CSOs assisted			Annually and quarterly	<b>132 (way higher than planned - due to extensive NAP consultations across all districts in Malawi that involved 842 people participating)</b>
<b>Input:</b>						
	<b>1</b> Labor allocations to activity, disaggregated by level of expertise and type of activity – technical support, communications, capacity strengthening.	Person-weeks allocated	Annual and quarterly NAPAS:Malawi reports to USAID/Malawi – 148 weeks spent on technical support on the project’s three	NAPAS:Malawi record keeping	Annually and quarterly	<b>Technical support-148 man weeks</b>

2	Financial resources directly expended by NAPAS:Malawi on policy process strengthening activities.	US dollars expended	components by Todd, Flora, Athur, Suresh, Chance (an IFPRI Collaborator), and Temwa (a MoIT Consultant)—see excel sheet.			<b>\$292,732 (based on RC104584 SF 9-30-2015 Signed Federal Financial Report--submitted by MSU to USAID Malawi and the labor-allocations reported in the attached excel file)</b>
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\*\* These are the policies and strategies that NAPAS has worked on.

## VII. Planned Activities for Next Quarter

The following activities shown in Table 2 are planned for the 1st quarter of FY 2016 (i.e. October-December 2015) for the NAPAS activity:

**Table 2. Planned NAPAS activities for October to December, 2015**

<b>Activity Description</b>	<b>Month or Date</b>	<b>Description of NAPAS contribution or efforts</b>	<b>Staff responsible</b>
Perform analysis of Baseline Stakeholder Survey data	October - December 2015	NAPAS staff will analyze the baseline data from the stakeholder survey that was collected in June-August 2015.	Dr. Flora Nankhuni (NAPAS) Dr. Athur Mabiso (NAPAS) Dr. Todd Benson (FSP IL) Dr. Mywish Maredia (FSP, IL)
Validation workshop for the NAP, writing of cabinet paper and submission of NAP Draft to OPC	November-December 2015	Department of Agricultural Planning Services has ownership but with significant support from NAPAS. NAPAS will provide financial support for the validation workshop	Dr. Flora Nankhuni (NAPAS) Dr. Athur Mabiso (NAPAS) Dr. Chance Mwabutwa (IFPRI-SEBAP) Staff of DAPS, MoAIWD
Validation of Contract Farming Strategy and submission to Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development	November – December 2015	Department of Agricultural Planning Services has ownership but with significant support from NAPAS. NAPAS will provide financial support for the validation workshop and collaborate with FAO in supporting the DAPS	Dr. Athur Mabiso (NAPAS) Dr. Flora Nankhuni (NAPAS) Dr. Chance Mwabutwa (IFPRI-SEBAP) FAO staff Staff of DAPS, MoAIWD
First stakeholder consultation meeting for development of the National Fertilizer Policy (and Regulatory Framework)	November 2015	Department of Agricultural Research Services (DARS) will lead this effort with support of NAPAS:Malawi. NAPAS will fund the consultation meeting	Dr. Athur Mabiso (NAPAS) Dr. Flora Nankhuni (NAPAS) Mr David Kamangira (MoAIWD-DARS) Staff of DARS-MoAIWD, AGRA and AFAP
Journalist Training Consultation Meeting—with Chief Editors and CEOs of Media Organizations	November 2015	NAPAS:Malawi activity resources and expertise will be used to conduct this journalist planning and training meeting, which will be jointly funded with UP, FUM, FAO, MoAIWD-DAES, and CISANET	Dr. Athur Mabiso (NAPAS) Dr. Flora Nankhuni (NAPAS) Dr. Sheryl Hendrix (FSP IL) Dr. Candida Nankhumwa & Mr. Mark Botomani (FUM) Mr. Emmanuel Muwamba (CISANET) Mr. Mike Chipalasa (FAO) Mr. Hamilton Chimala (MoAIWD-DAES)
Policy Communication	October, 2015	NAPAS will support the Maize Markets Symposium “Making	Dr. Athur Mabiso (NAPAS) Dr. Flora Nankhuni (NAPAS)

		Maize Markets Work for All Malawians” organized by IFPRI-SEBAP and LUANAR	Dr. Suresh Babu (FSP IL) Ms. Noora Aberman (IFPRI-SEBAP) Prince Kapondamgaga CEO FUM; Alex Namaona, the Director of DAPS (MoAIWD); Rex Chapoto; Board Chairperson of CISANET and National Director of Farm Radio Trust, and Dimitri Giannakis, CEO of Farmers World) will participate in a panel discussion of issues arising from the symposium.
Continued analysis on Agricultural Zoning	October-December 2015	Continuing analysis -- Led by FSP Innovation Lab and supported by NAPAS	Dr. Todd Benson Dr. Flora Nankhuni Dr. Athur Mabiso Dr. Mussa (Director-MoAIWD-Land Resources and Conservation Department)