



ZAMBIA

















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MISSION AND GOALS

FSP's objectives in Zambia are focused on capacity building and technical support for policy system strengthening and agricultural policy research.



BACKGROUND

FSP's activities in Zambia build on MSU's decade-long project that created Zambia's first think tank dedicated to agricultural policy research and outreach, the Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI). FSP's activities have provided continued support to IAPRI's institutional capacity development over the period 2012–2016 and often feature collaboration on research and policy outreach initiatives.

The Zambia buy-in to the Innovation Lab of Food Security Policy (FSP) complements core USAID Bureau for Food Security funds to enable Michigan State University (MSU) to continue its long-term efforts to enhance food and agricultural policy engagement in Zambia.

Three axes:

- 1) Enhance IAPRI's technical capacity to conduct and disseminate high quality socio-economic research, with a particular emphasis on publishing research findings through international peer-review journals;
- 2) Support IAPRI's capacity to engage in regional policy debates, and;
- 3) Strengthen IAPRI's capacity to conduct high caliber research in thematic areas relevant to USAID's expending portfolio in natural resource management, regional trade, nutrition, and gender studies, with particular emphasis on using new methodical approaches.



ILLUSTRATIVE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research on medium-scale farms

At the request of Zambia's Ministry of Agriculture, FSP supported data collection on medium-scale farms in Zambia. These results showed that medium-scale farms are growing rapidly, and that existing official surveys in Zambia tend to under-report their numbers. Based on this initial research, the Ministry has requested that IAPRI and MSU partner to collect data on this strata of the farm population to better inform their agricultural, land, and rural development policies.

Capacity building to enhance the writing skills of the researchers

IAPRI has requested that MSU provide capacity building support to enhance the writing and analytical skills of IAPRI's researchers. FSP co-organizes periodic training workshops at IAPRI and supports advanced degree training at MSU and other universities.

Research results dissemination

Over the years, IAPRI and MSU have generated a significant evidence base on the intersection between agriculture and climate change. To raise the visibility of this work and to place their findings on policy-makers' agenda, FSP co-organized with IAPRI the "Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Sustainability Summit," a major region conference in Zambia on the topic (Lusaka, March 2017).









ABOUT

FSP in Zambia is part of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy funded through USAID. The project is coordinated by Michigan State University in collaboration with IFPRI and the University of Pretoria. Partners in Zambia include the Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI).

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