





Food System Transformation

Synthesis of FSP Achievements and Lessons Learned

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Interrelated Objectives of FSP



















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Agri-food system transformation

















Source: Authors





1. Diet Changes

- Urbanization and income growth driving change in consumer diets
 - Rising share of incomes devoted to meat, dairy, and fresh fruits and vegetables
 - But also processed, packaged, and prepared foods
- Policy implications for public health, food safety, and employment along supply chains







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2. Post-farm processing and distribution

 Diet change contributing to expansion of wholesaling, processing, and logistical operations by small and medium-sized agribusiness firms

 \odot Urban retail inventories reveal growing range of domestically processed foods

- Also see share of increased net food imports risen from 10 to 14 percent in Africa since 1990
- Policy implications for the distribution of agribusiness investments and needed educational reforms for successful agribusiness entrepreneurs













Senegal



3. Farming

- Food demand and urbanization accelerating use of labor saving technologies and productivity enhancing inputs
 - Mechanization govt subsidized tractor rental schemes in 9 African countries but private sector schemes found more successful
 - $\,\circ\,$ Herbicides increased rapidly in Africa, partially due to falling global prices for generics
 - Input subsidies opportunities for utilizing technology for targeting, diversifying away from cereals crops, and integrating climate-smart seed varieties
- Policy implications for training on machinery mechanics, regulatory strengthening, and site-specific adaptive research











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Source: Haggblade et al. 2017





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4. Factor markets

Land

- Rental markets expanded significantly in recent decades
- Growth in medium-sized farmers since 2006, in land abundant and densely populated countries
- Land tenure risks found to vary significantly across gender

Labor

- Food system transformation leading to more employment in nonfarm segments of the agri-food system, with potential benefits for women and youth
- Policy implications for farm lobbying power, options that strengthen tenure security and deepen land rental markets, and diversifying agricultural education



















Policy Engagement















Advancing Theory on Pathways to Policy Change

- Kaleidoscope Model of Food Security Policy Change
 - Identifies 16 core drivers that contribute to change at a particular component of the policy cycle
 - Tested in six countries in domains of input subsidies, micronutrient interventions, and land governance
 - Partially informed Qualitative Assessments of Ag and Food Security Policy Processes in 6 countries, and applied to review WFP's Zero Hunger Strategic Reviews and effectiveness of IFPRI's country programs













• Identifying emergent issues that shape policy agenda

Area of agri-food transformation research	Select influence over policy agenda
Emergent farmers	Opportunities for tractor companies and banks, influenced high-level actors at AfDB, AGRA, and World Bank
Diet transformation and value chains	Integrated into 2016 IFAD <i>Rural Development Report</i> and influenced FAO and World Bank counterparts
Employment	Integrated into Chicago Council on Global Affair's 2018 report on Youth for Growth
Pesticides	Informed Sahelian Pesticide Committee, regulators, and farmers of extent of the problem













• Leveraging research to inform policy design through...

Modality Examples Multiple household surveys in Myanmar, **Generating data** comprehensive dataset on all segments of key value chains by Senegal's Local Analysis Network, fieldwork on malnutrition in Northern Nigeria **Developing tools** Rural Investment and Policy Analysis (RIAPA) modeling framework, AgGDP+ and AgEmp+ indicators, Integrated Framework for Gender Analysis of Nutrition Policy Addressing biases Land rental markets in Ethiopia, South-South knowledge sharing on agricultural mechanization, gender biases in Malawi National Nutrition Policy







Agri-Food System's share of national total, Rwanda (2015)



Source: Thurlow (2019)





• Diverse stakeholder engagement to facilitate policy adoption

Modality	Examples	
Regularized fora	Annual Agricultural Policy Conference in Tanzania, Malawi Land Symposium series	Fif
Large-scale consultations	Working with new government in Myanmar to push for lifting restrictions on cultivation of paddy land, jointly hosting consultations with over 800 stakeholders to review Malawi's National Ag Policy	
Co-creation of research	Involving government officials in research on the AMSEC program in Ghana, working with ag policymakers from 33 states and FCT in Nigeria to identify priority crops	Sourc













Source: MSU, FSP website





- Uncovering bottlenecks to policy implementation
 - Financing and enforcement binding constraint for pesticide oversight in West Africa and working with CILSS, ECOWAS and CSP to address
 - Institutional capacity working with local tax agents in Tanzania to collect produce cess through an electronic payment system
- Gaining traction for policy <u>monitoring and evaluation</u>
 - Input subsidies introduction of e-voucher for FISP-Zambia in 2015, increased role of private sector for FISP-Malawi in 2016/17 season
 - **Pricing** floor price for coffee cherry re-evaluated in Rwanda
 - **Taxation –** reduce produce cess in Tanzania from 5 to 3 percent of farmgate price











Lessons Learned from Policy Engagement

- Recognize and adapt to political and ideological realities
 - Policy implementation and research dissemination sometimes deferred as elections loomed
 - Windows of opportunity shifted for work in Myanmar, Tanzania, and Ethiopia due to political events
- Adopt a holistic perspective to see how sectoral goals complement or contradict each other
 - Tanzanian produce cess demonstrated that food security and decentralization goals needed to be mutually supported
 - In Nigeria, FSP brought together different ministries to revise key policy documents











Lessons Learned from Policy Engagement

- Commit to long-term engagement with broad range of policy champions
 - Electoral changes and ministerial turnovers affected most FSP projects, requiring forging new relationships
 - Trust and credibility take time, and policymaking often occurs in fits and starts

• Show responsiveness to short-term needs

- Credible relationships reinforced by responding to immediate demands
- Provides evidence-based policy advice to avoid ineffective short-term interventions













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Lessons Learned from Policy Engagement

- Partner with more than national ministries and executives
 - Journalists
 - Parliamentarians
 - Private sector
 - Subnational decision makers and implementers

• Appreciate local knowledge...with caveats

- Involvement of local analysts often generates greater policy traction
- Can vary though depending on whether researchers viewed with suspicion by government

Food Security and Nutrition Media Training Workshop, Malawi, April 2016



Source: MSU, FSP website















Capacity Strengthening

















Three Main Modalities

Modality	Example
1) Networks with universities	 Major model in Nigeria: teams of FSP researchers, Nigerian faculty member, Nigerian grad student; work with 15 universities in 7 FtF states and Abuja Collaborative research with faculty at Sokoine University of Agriculture in Tanzania and Yezin Agricultural University in Myanmar
2) Partnerships with research institutes	IAPRI in Zambia, Tegemeo in Kenya, and CARD in Malawi
3) Short-term courses, on-the-job training, and training materials	 Media training with print, radio, and TV journalists in Malawi and Nigeria Partial equilibrium training in Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania Value chain analysis to employees of Burmese civil society organizations Electronic database to track policies, legislation, and strategies on food security





Lessons Learned about Capacity Strengthening

- Training courses most effective when used to form community of practice, combined with on-the-job material, and includes senior decisionmakers
- Supporting university staff for duration of a project, engaging them on longerterm issues, and being sensitive about teaching responsibilities
- Unique challenges of university-affiliated research institutes related to competitive pay structures, independence, and consultancy overload
- Independent research institutes better for short-term issues and more freedom to engage with broader range of actors
 - Influence depends on their leadership, competitive pay structures, and sustainable fundraising strategy











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Conclusions about FSP Achievements

- Three-pronged focus on research, policy engagement, and capacity
 - <u>Advanced thinking</u> on how demographics, income growth, and food demand are changing diets, affecting domestic supply chains and agribusiness opportunities, increasing adoption of input-intensive and labor-saving practices, and shifting landholding patterns
 - Guided research into <u>policy action</u> by providing new data and tools to shape policy designs, uncovering implementation gaps, and evaluating extant policies for refinements
 - Facilitated by partnering with range of institutes and <u>enhancing their capacities</u> to conduct and communicate rigorous analytical findings











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More information at:

https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/synthesis report 1









