

# Innovation for Food Security: USAID's Feed the Future Research, Policy, and Capacity Development Programs

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## Outline

- √ Feed the Future background
- ✓ Agricultural research, policy, and capacity development investments under Feed the Future
- ✓ Opportunities for faculty, students, and administrators

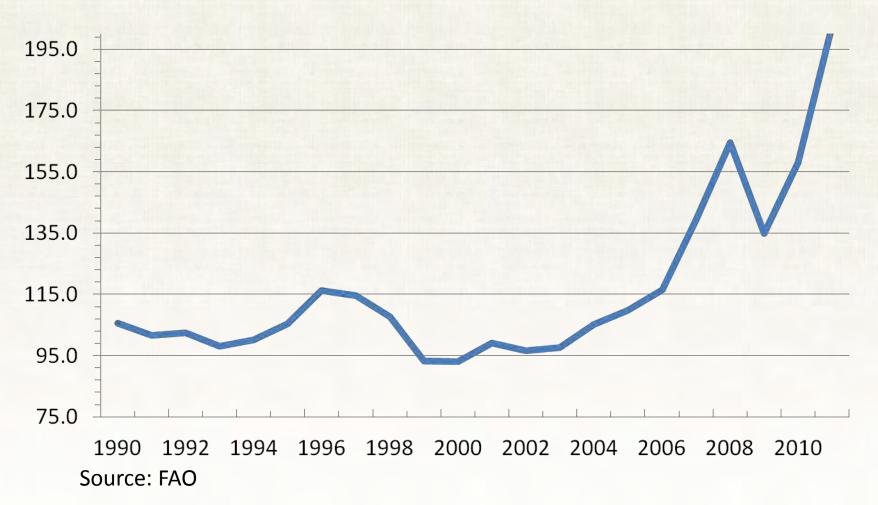


# The Global Challenge

- ✓ About 842 million people suffer from chronic hunger
- ✓ The world's population will increase to more than
   9 billion by 2050
- ✓ Food production will have to increase by at least 60% to feed the world



## **Global Food Prices**







### Feed the Future



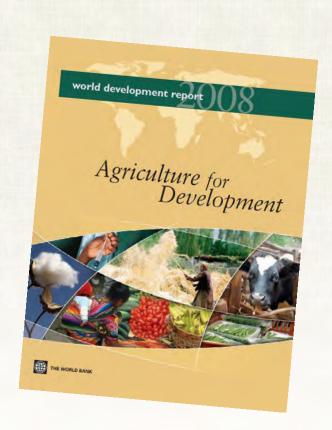
Photo: Borlaug Foundation

- ✓ Announced in 2009 at G-8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy, with \$3.5 B investment
- ✓ Objectives: reducing poverty and undernutrition
- ✓ Metrics: poverty, stunting
- ✓ Country-owned, country-led



# Why Agriculture?

"GDP growth originating in agriculture is **at least twice** as effective in reducing poverty as GDP growth originating outside agriculture."





## **U.S. Government Partners**



















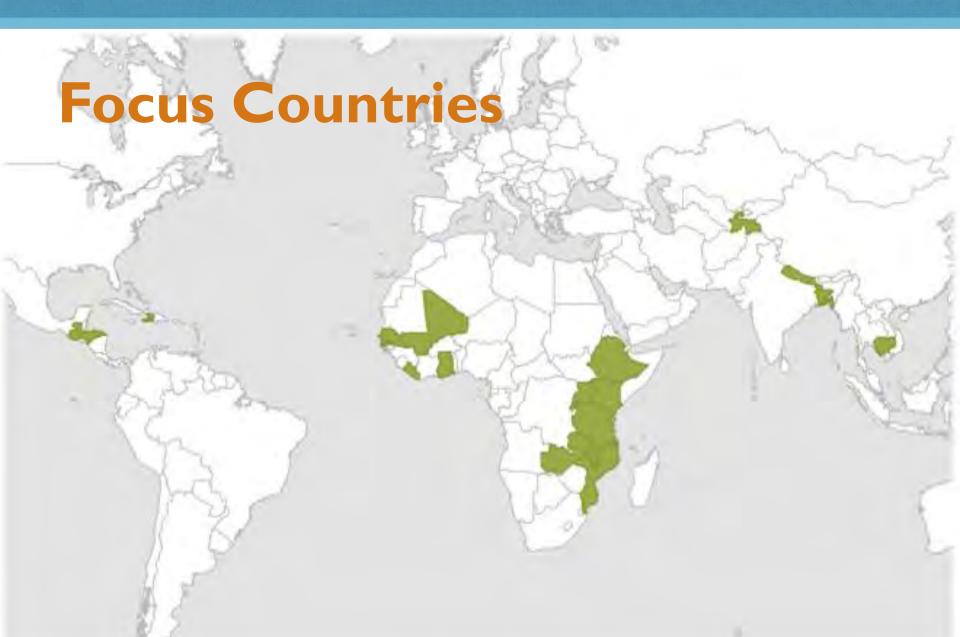


## **External Partnerships**

- √ Governments
- ✓ Multilateral organizations
- √ Faith-based community
- √ Civil society
- ✓ Private sector









# New Alliance for Food Security & Nutrition

- ✓ African countries commit to policy changes to increase private investment
- ✓ More than I40 companies (African and international) have committed over \$3.75 billion
- ✓ Ten countries involved: Ethiopia, Ghana, Tanzania, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, and Nigeria



#### What Does Feed the Future Do?

- I. Help farmers produce more
- 2. Help farmers get more food to market
- 3. Support Research & Development to improve smallholder agriculture in a changing climate
- 4. Strengthen Regional Trade
- 5. Create a better Policy Environment
- 6. Improve Access to Nutritious Food and Nutrition Services







# SPRING/Bangladesh





# Nerica Rice in Senegal



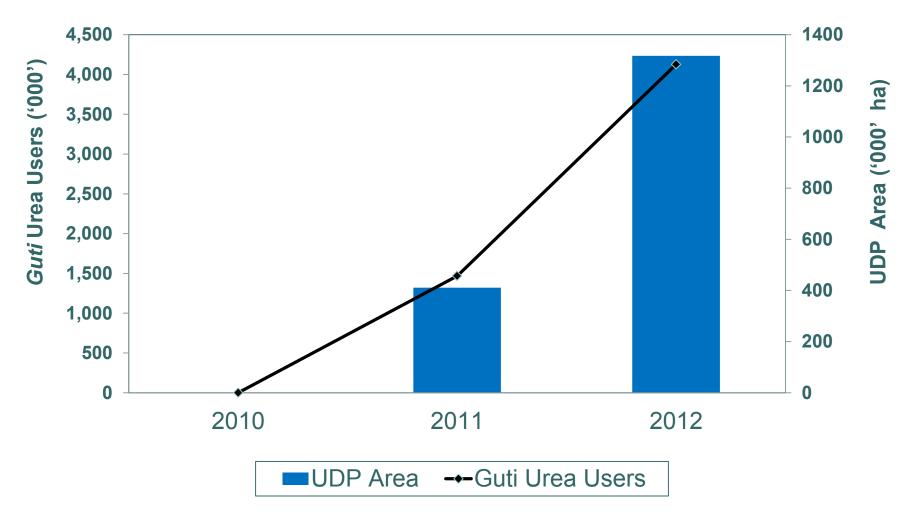
# Fertilizer Deep Placement in Bangladesh





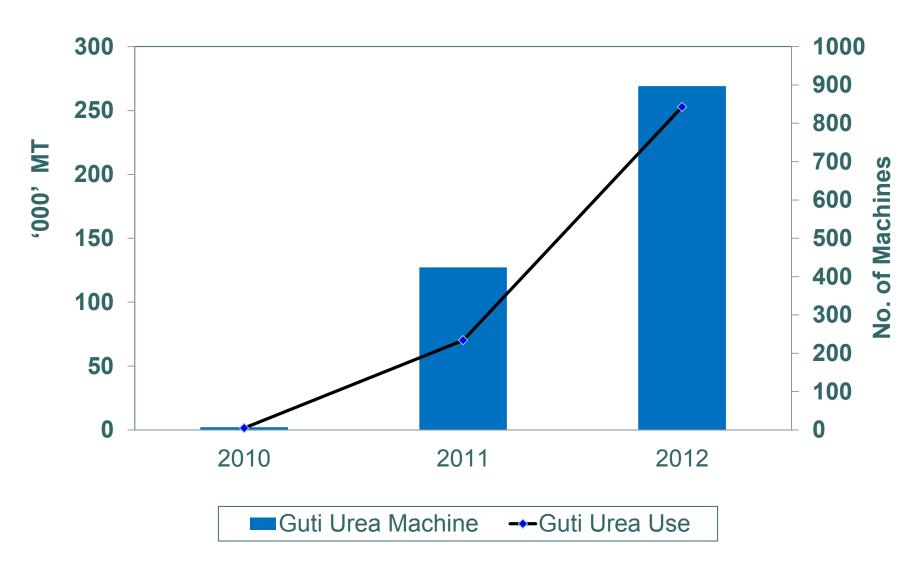
#### Demand Growth of *Guti* Urea under AAPI

- cumulative -





#### Supply Growth of Guti Urea under AAPI





#### AAPI Urea Briquette Shop, FtF Zone







# Feed the Future Food Security Innovation Center



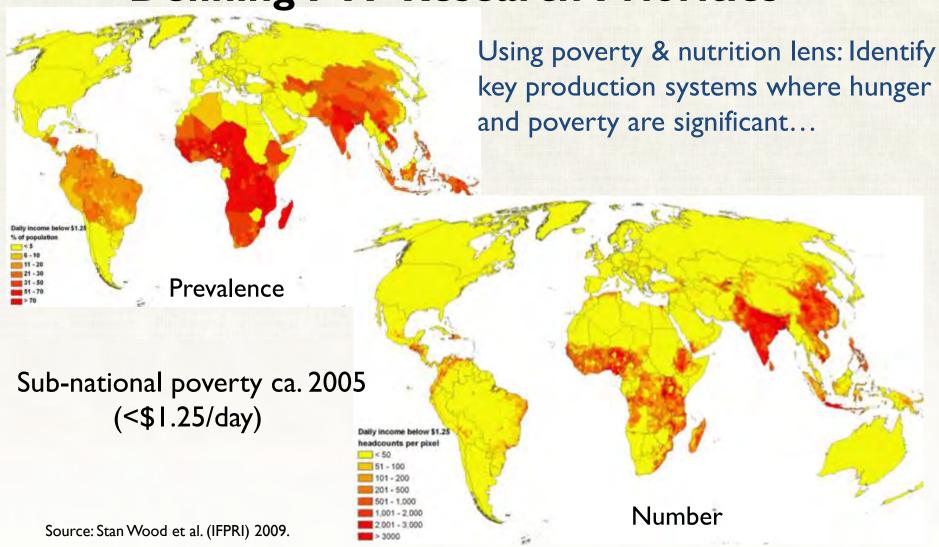






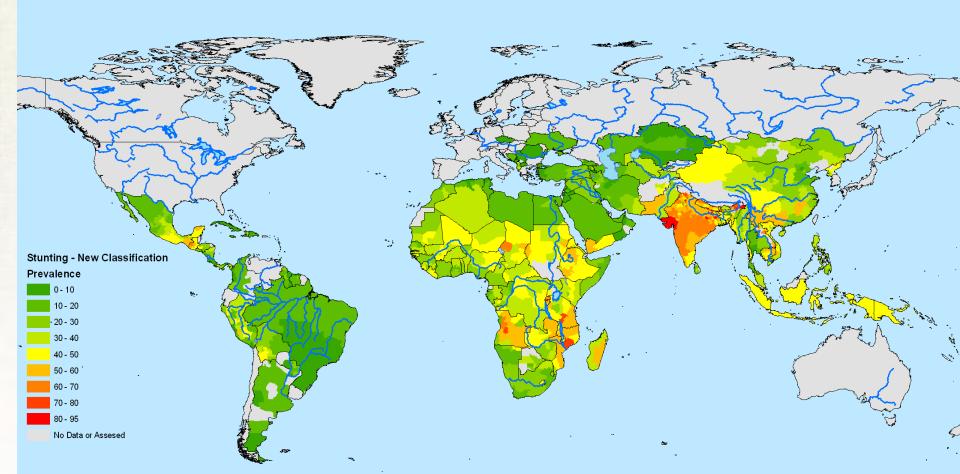


### **Defining FTF Research Priorities**





### **Child Stunting**



Source: USAID and IFPRI, Harvest Choice maps



## Research Strategy

#### Overarching Goal: Sustainable Intensification

#### Three research themes:

- Advancing the productivity frontier
- Transforming key production systems
- Improving nutrition and food safety

#### Anchored by key geographies:

- Indo-gangetic plains in South Asia
- Sudano-sahelien systems in West Africa
- Maize and livestock mixed systems in East and Southern Africa
- Ethiopian highlands



Program for Policy

Research and Support

### **Food Security Innovation Center**

Program for Safe

and Nutritious Foods



3 Major Research Programs -"Big Ideas"

**Program** anchoring research in key farming systems

Integrated Cross-Cutting **Programs** 

Program for Human and Institutional Capacity Development

22



Puerto Rico

Hawaii

#### Feed the Future Innovation Labs **Lead Institution** Collaborating Institution **Washington State University** University of Illinois, Urbana-Michigan State University Climate Resilient Wheat Champaign Food Security Policy **Oregon State University** Soybean Value Chain Research Grain Legumes Aquaculture and Fisheries **Colorado State University Tufts University** Adapting Livestock Systems **University of California at** Nutrition to Climate Change **Davis** Assets & Markets Access Climate Resilient Millet Pennsylvania State Climate Resilient Chickpea University Horticulture ■ Genomics to Improve Climate Resilient Poultry Beans **Kansas State University** Reduction of Post-Harvest Loss Applied Wheat Genomics **Virginia Tech University** Sorghum & Millet Sustainable Agriculture & Natural Resource **University of California** Management at Riverside Integrated Pest Climate Resilient Management Cowpea **University of Georgia** University of Texas, El Paso Peanut & Mycotoxin **Texas A&M University** Rift Valley Fever Control in Climate Resilient Small Scale Irrigation Agriculture

Sorghum



# **Program for Research on Climate Resilient Cereals**

# Challenge: Increase cereal yields and adaption to climate change for improved feed and fodder production

- Cereals account for approximately two-thirds of all human energy intake
- An estimated 1.2 billion poor people depend on wheat

#### **Solutions:**

- Invest in development and dissemination of improved cereals
- Take advantage of emerging biotech and genomic tools
- Partner with private R&D companies and US universities
- Leverage BMGF investments
- Improve fodder quality for dual purpose use

#### **Example Projects:**

- Rice, wheat, maize, dryland cereal CRPs
- WSU Improved Wheat for Heat Tolerance and Climate Resilience
- UC Davis Abiotic Stress Tolerant Millet



#### Submergence Tolerance in Rice



- Allows rice to tolerate submergence for up to 14 days (dormancy, energy conservation during flood), recover after flooding subsides. Five days destroys most rice crops.
- •Rapidly introgressed into popular varieties (IR64, Swarna) through marker assisted selection already delivered to hundreds of thousands of farmers in South Asia
- Developed by International Rice Research Institute



Swarna + Sub1



#### Drought Tolerant Maize for Africa



- Allows maize to tolerate and improve yield under moderate drought stress (as defined by USGS/NOAA)
- Taking best drought tolerant traits from existing germplasm to breed into preferred (African) germplasm for hybrids / OPV's (2M farmers adopting
- Adding additional traits through genetic engineering to increase beyond natural germplasm (commercial "DroughtGuard" & "AQUAMax" traits released in US last year)





GE drought tolerant corn in US

#### Heat Tolerance in Wheat



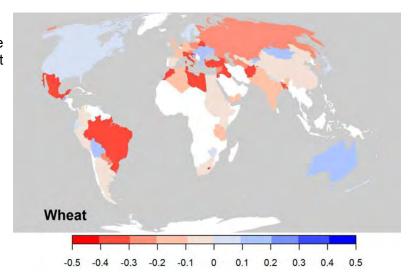
- Mitigate risks of high temperature during winter growing season Different forms of heat stress affects 36M ha in developing countries (continuous and "acute")
- Temp over 80 significantly impact yield (a few percent per degree) tremendous impact in places like India / Ethiopia

• Many parallel efforts worldwide (Mexico, Australia, US, France) aimed at modern

breeding / biotechnology for increasing heat tolerance.

• Identify native genes, sources of heat tolerance, looking at GE approaches for promising genes

Estimate Climate Impact on Wheat Productivity improvement. 1980-2008





Science 29 July 2011: vol. 333 no. 6042 616-620



# Program for Research on Legume Productivity

#### Challenge: Increase productivity and availability of legumes

- Abiotic stresses decrease legume yields by up to 40%
- Pests and diseases can decrease yields by up to 35%
- The grain legume value chain directly benefits women, especially in Africa

#### **Solutions:**

- Elevate legumes as major investment area under the research strategy
- Tackle yield, climate resilience and biotic stresses for staple legumes
- Utilize private sector knowledge and skill in transgenic and emerging genomic tools

#### **Example Projects:**

- Grain Legumes Innovation Lab
- Peanut & Mycotoxins Innovation Lab
- AATF Bt Cowpea
- CGIAR Grain Legumes CRP



# New black bean varieties grown by >50,000 households

Program: Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on **Grain Legumes** 



Quiche Hunapu variety

#### University lead: Michigan State University

- Core research for 10+ years on variety development
  - Focus on Central American highlands
  - Beans contribute to nutrition and income gains
- Scale-up effort
  - Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Haiti
  - Community seed systems get varieties to farmers
  - >50,000 households received seed







#### FEEDIFUTURE Program for Advanced Approaches to Combat Pests and Diseases

#### Challenge: Protect animals and tropical staples from major pests and diseases

- Plant diseases on major food crops cause up to 40% of pre-harvest losses
- Over 90% of the world's wheat acreage is susceptible to wheat stem rusts
- Over 1.6 billion families depend on livestock for their income and nutrition

#### **Solutions:**

- · Leverage US science and leadership in advanced genomic/biotech tools
- Utilize transgenic tools for critical plant diseases
- Build public sector capacity to use biotech tools

#### **Example Projects:**

- Virus Resistant Cassava for Africa
- East Coast Fever vaccine development (USDA)
- Venganza—Wheat Stem Rust & Mycotoxins
- Late blight resistant potato
- New disease resistant livestock program





## Fruit and shoot borer damage



An FSB larva that has bored into the shoot of an eggplant, thus causing the plant to whither.

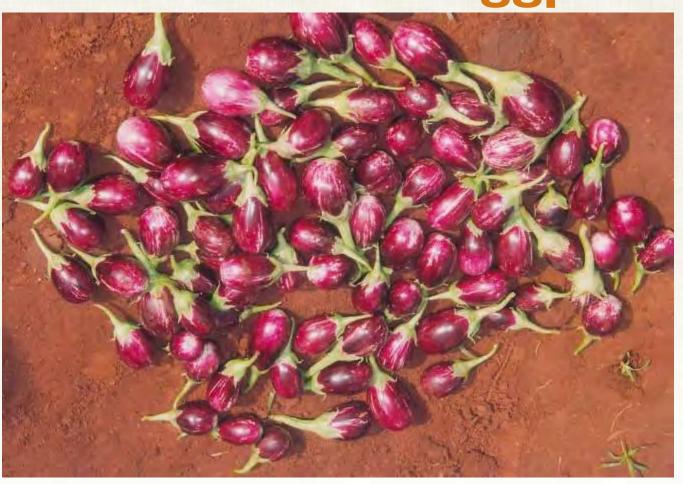


An FSB larva that has bored into an eggplant fruit, causing considerable damage and rendering it unfit for market.

Source: ABSPII



# Insect Resistant Eggplant



# Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Genomics to Improve Poultry

- Newcastle Disease is the number one constraint to raising poultry in Africa with some strains can cause mortality as high as 80% in village flocks
- A vaccine is available but not widely used due to problems of inadequate extension services, a need for a cold chain, and unreliable production and distribution
- This Innovation Lab aims to identify regions in the chicken genome that confer enhanced resistance to Newcastle disease and heat tolerance
- Vaccination combined with enhanced genetics could have a synergistic effect and improve Newcastle disease resistance in chickens







# Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Rift Valley Fever Control in Agriculture

- Rift Valley Fever is an episodic, mosquito-borne, viral disease that infects sheep, goats, cattle, and humans in Sub-Saharan Africa
- The Rift Valley Fever vaccines that are available for livestock cause adverse reactions
- Innovation Lab aims to develop a safe and economical Rift Valley Fever vaccine that would provide life-long immunity from a single vaccination, be delivered through a needle-free device, and would be compatible with a diagnostic test to distinguish vaccinated from naturally infected animals















# Program for Research on Safe and Nutritious Foods

# Challenge: Sustainably increase production and consumption of highly nutritious foods and diversify diets

- Fruits, vegetables and animal source foods provide critical micronutrients for child development
- One third of children under five in low income countries are stunted
- Half of all children and pregnant women are anemic

#### **Solutions:**

- Nutrition research on behavior, food utilization and household dynamics
- Research on production/consumption biofortified and nutrient-rich crops
- Develop options to strengthen post harvest handling and food safety
- Invest in horticulture, animal sourced food value chains

#### **Example Projects:**

- Meat, Milk & Fish and Nutrition CRPs
- Horticulture, Livestock, AquaFish & Nutrition Innovation Labs
- World Vegetable Center





#### **Post-Harvest Losses**



Grain handling and storage

Cold-chain management: meat, fish

Breaking down SPS barriers

Controlling post-harvest pests/disease

Food preservation, esp. by women



#### Coolrooms and Cool Transport for Small-Scale Farmers



Horticulture CRSP tested the 'Cool-bot', which creates a small-scale cooler out of a well-insulated room, in India, Uganda, and Honduras.

### Some Successes

Robert Paull (U of Hawaii-Manoa) and colleagues screened natural coatings and extracts and developed a wax coating that controls postharvest diseases in papaya.







CONTROLS NO TREATMENT

WAX + ESSENTIAL OIL PAPAYA HELD FOR 14 DAYS AT 13 °C



#### Identifying causes of malnutrition in Nepal



What factors **linked to agriculture** contributes to poor child growth?



What is the role for local diet in **treating** worst cases of malnutrition?









#### Interviewing women in Nepal



- > Health seeking behaviors
- ➤ Sanitation/hygiene practice
- ➤ Knowledge of food safety
- Dietary choices







Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy



### **Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potato in Ghana**



Photo by Robert Zabawa

### Aflagoggles

### Next generation aflatoxin detection

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research
On Peanut Productivity & Mycotoxin Control
Led by University of Georgia

Lead PI: Dr. Haibo Yao, Mississippi State *Incorporating UV Fluorescence with Optics* 

Project goal: to develop portable, fluorescence spectral-based technology for rapid and non-invasive aflatoxin detection in maize.

International development application:
Non-destructive aflatoxin detection
Users: breeders selecting for aflatoxin resistance,
traders, households, consumers at market...





Detection Results: Normalized Fluorescence Difference Index: NDFI= (537nm – 437nm)/(537nm+437nm)



# Program for Sustainable Intensification

#### **Challenge: Fundamentally Transform Key Production Systems**

- In Africa, 65% of agricultural land suffers from physical and chemical degradation
- · African cereal and milk yields are less than half the global average

#### **Solutions:**

- Integrate research outputs, policy and nutrition in production systems
- Focus multiple interventions within targeted geographic areas
- · Diversify major production systems with improved crops and animals
- Evaluate and disseminate improved soil and water management practices

#### **Example Projects:**

- Integrated Pest Management Innovation Lab
- Africa RISING
- Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia
- Sustainable Agriculture and NRM Innovation Lab





## Pigeonpea

 Nodulates with indigenous Rhizobium, Fix N

Yield: 2.5 t/ha

Multiple uses:

Provisioning
Food
Fodder
Fuel wood
Yield stability

Regulating
Soil cover
Moisture retention
Soil fertility

## Intercropping and rotations





Cereal -Legume intercrop

Legume-legume

# Inclusion of PP in cropping systems increase grain yield of maize

Cropping system	yield increments (%)	Source
PP/MZ	+58	1
GNPP/MZ	+60	1
PP/MZ	+57	2
PP/MZ	+38-50	3
MZ+PP/MZ	+171-205	4
PP/MZ	+207-309	4

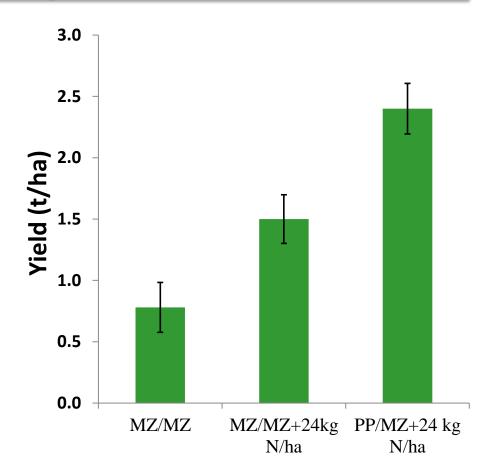


Fig 1: Maize yield under continuous maize and PP/maize rotations, northern Malawi



### Program for Policy and Markets Research and Support

#### Challenge: Create supportive agricultural policy environments

 Help countries embrace predictable, inclusive, evidence-based and transparent policy formulation and implementation

#### **Solutions:**

 Work with host-country governments and multilateral institutions to improve enabling policy environments

 Address land and natural resource governance and resilience policy, nutrition policy constraints.

Improve function of and access to markets

#### **Example Projects:**

- Feed the Future Policy Plan
- Assets and Market Access Innovation Lab
- Program for Biosafety Systems
- New Alliance partnerships





### **Evidence-based Policy in Tanzania**



< Where are Tanzania's female artistes? THE BEAT

66 IsThe

Government will

make use of the

findings of these

thecitizen.co.tz Friday, 7 September 2012 DAR ES SALAAM ISSN 0856-9756 No. 2563 Price TSH 800 KSH 60

#### We were wrong on food exports: PM

from page 1

region and beyond.

But the PM admitted that despite abundant unutilised land suitable for the agriculture production, there were no effective operational guidelines and Institutions to manage such resources.

Moreover, the land available land has not been surveyed, mapped and titled to secure modern land administration dynamics. The Government is now establishing a state-of-the-art system of securing titled land for all users in a move to address such challenges, he added.

Also present at the seminar were US Ambassador Alfonso Lenhardt and Minister for agriculture, food security and cooperatives Christopher Chiza.

Ambassador Lenhardt said it was time to accelerate the transformation of agriculture by mobilising private capital, taking innovations to scale and managing risk.

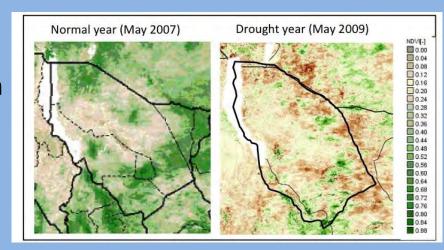
The event also saw the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the European Union, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development and the United States Agency for International Development.



Ban on export of food to be lifted

# Index Based Livestock Insurance (IBLI), Marsabit District, Northern Kenya

- Uses satellite spectrometer data to correlate vegetation groundcover with predicted livestock mortality
- Insurance payouts are based on that prediction, rather than on verification of individual losses
- Avoid costly coping strategies that often lead to poverty traps and the intergenerational transfer of poverty
- Enable farmers to increase investment in potentially higher-return activities



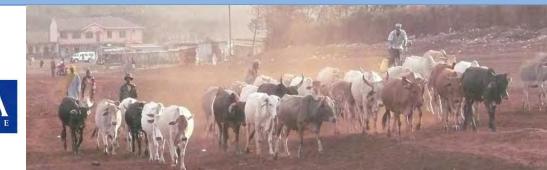
#### **Partners**











### **IBLI Kenya: Impacts**

The first payment of indemnities took place in October 2011. A survey conducted at that time asked households to predict how the insurance payments would change their coping strategies. Compared to uninsured households, insured households were:

- 22-36 percentage points less likely to draw down assets
- 27-36 percentage points less likely to reduce meals
- 42-50 percentage points less dependent on food aid
- 0-26 percentage points less reliant on other forms of assistance







## Challenge: Professional and organizational capacities are inadequate to address agricultural challenges and opportunities

- Public agricultural institutions are weak
- Private sector needs skilled employees
- Experienced faculty and managers are retiring
- Women hold few management positions

#### **Solutions:**

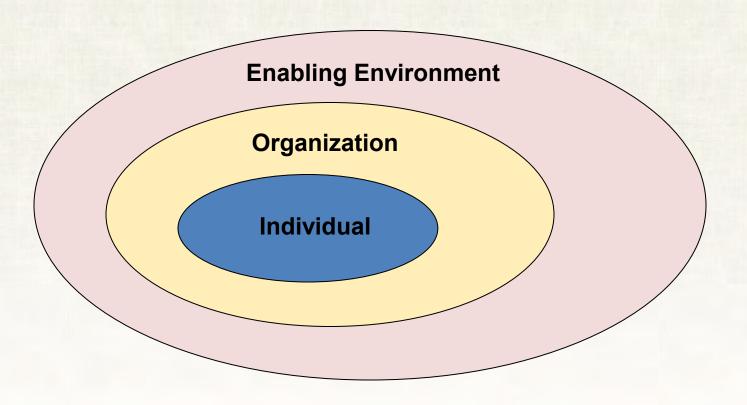
- Strengthen human and institutional capital base
- Support best practice development
- Support women in agricultural research
- · Develop human skills through fellowships and long-term degree training

#### **Example Projects:**

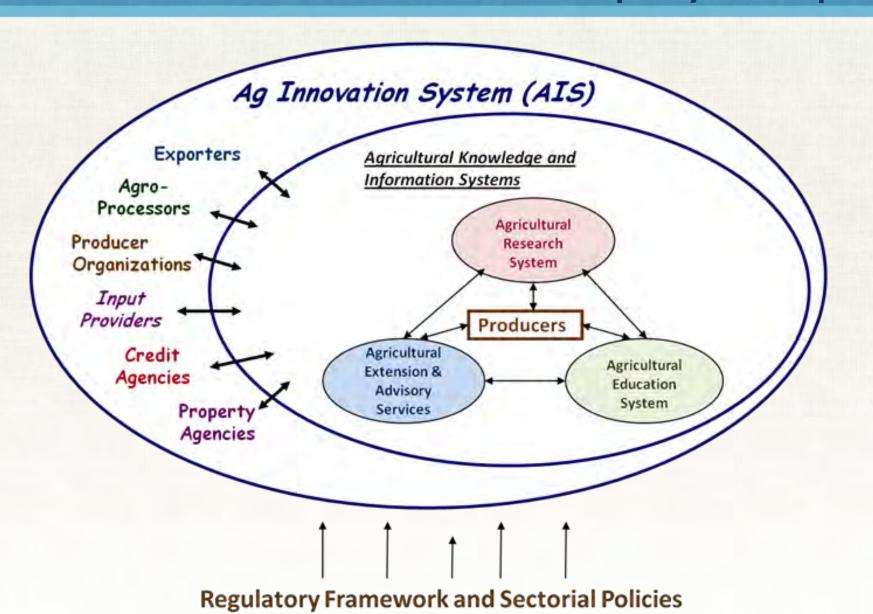
- InnovATE Agricultural Training & Education
- African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)
- Borlaug Higher Education for Agricultural Research and Development



### **Multiple Levels of Capacity Development**









# African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD)







# Borlaug Higher Education for Agricultural Research and Development



- Uganda
- Ghana
- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- Mali
- Malawi

- Mozambique
- Liberia NEW
- Kenya NEW
- South SudanNEW

http://bheard.isp.msu.edu/





# Innovation for Agricultural Training and Education





#### **Armenia: Sustainability Plan for ATC**

- Business plan
- Increase revenues
- Decrease costs
- Establish an endowment
- Fundraising for scholarships
- Policy for indirect costs
- Fund management capacity
- Increase tuition
- Increase government investment
- Increase linkages
- Establish a research office
- Joint research ventures
- Innovation incubators
- Engage with Agrarian Univ
- Expand alumni network
- Enhance career counseling
- Long-term partnerships
- Accreditation options
- Advisory board
- New curriculum
- Value chain focus











# Votech Agricultural Education in the RAAS, Nicaragua









# Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services









### Confined field trial guidelines in India







# For Students and Faculty: Needed Skills and Experience

- Soft skills beyond core research training
  - Budgeting, communications, management, team work, leadership, working across disciplines
- Build experience GO ABROAD!







### **Opportunities for Funding & Engagement**

- Business forecast: <a href="http://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/get-grant-or-contract/business-forecast">http://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/get-grant-or-contract/business-forecast</a>
- Contracts: <a href="https://www.fbo.gov/">https://www.fbo.gov/</a>
- Grants: www.grants.gov
- E-Training modules on partnering with USAID on www.usaid.gov



#### **Opportunities: Current Solicitations**

- Feed the Future Biotechnology Partnership
  - Q&A Webinar: June 9, 2014
  - Closing Date: August 1, 2014
  - http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=RFA-OAA-14-000029
- Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Integrated Pest Management:
  - Closing Date June 25, 2014
  - http://www.grants.gov/searchgrants.html?agencies%3DUSAID%7CAgency%20for%20International%2 0Development



### **Advisory and Unfunded Engagement**

- √ Webcasts, Streaming, and Online Discussions
  - Discuss the high-level and programmatic strategies in a public venue accessible to potential partners everywhere
- √ International Development Community and Resources
  - Training and Resources for Professional/Curriculum Use
  - Communities of Practice (e.g., AgriLinks)
  - Crowdsourcing and Data
- ✓ Public Meetings
  - Board for International Food and Agriculture Development
  - Advisory Committee on Voluntary and Foreign Aid



### **Opportunities: Research**

- NSF's PEER program (PEER Science and PEER Health)
  - www.nationalacademies.org/peer
- Research and Innovation Fellowships (NSF GRFP eligible)
  - http://www.usaid.gov/RIFellowships
- LINKAGES program with CGIAR (faculty)
  - http://feedthefuture.gov/sites/default/files/resource/files/ftf\_guidance\_cg
     iar\_universities\_link\_program.pdf
- US Global Food Security Fellows Program (for American graduate students) and Summer Institute
  - http://www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/food/borlaugfellows/



### **US Borlaug Global Food Security Fellows Program**

http://www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/food/borlaugfellows/











### **Opportunities: Capacity Development**

- Farmer-to-Farmer volunteers
  - http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/agriculture-and-foodsecurity/supporting-agricultural-capacity-development/john-ogonowski
- Borlaug Higher Education for Agricultural Research and Development (students and mentors)
  - <a href="http://bheard.isp.msu.edu/">http://bheard.isp.msu.edu/</a>
- Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (students and mentors)
  - <a href="http://borlaugleap.org/">http://borlaugleap.org/</a>



# **Borlaug Leadership Enhancement** in Agriculture Program (LEAP)





#### www.BorlaugLEAP.org



2014 Borlaug LEAP Fellow Allan Bomuhangi will be arriving at Penn State in the Fall. He is studying the gender dimensions to climate change.



2010 Borlaug LEAP Fellow Senorpe Asem-Hiabilie used her fellowship to collect field data in Ghana for her study investigating human exposure to environmental estrogens.









### **Opportunities: Policy & Development**

- AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships (State/USAID, others)
  - http://www.aaas.org/program/science-technology-policyfellowships
- Payne Fellowships (Foreign Service for minorities)
  - <a href="http://www.paynefellows.org/">http://www.paynefellows.org/</a>
- USAID Internships and Virtual Foreign Service:
  - http://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/careers/student-internships
  - <a href="http://www.state.gov/vsfs/">http://www.state.gov/vsfs/</a>
- Jefferson Science Fellows (Dept of State/USAID)
  - http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/jefferson/



"We will drive the growth of the future that lifts all of us up."

- President Barack Obama, 2009



**Thank You!** 

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