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**Special Note:** The Office of International Programs in Agriculture at The Ohio State University has moved to a new location on campus! Our office is now located at *160 Bevis Hall, 1080 Carmack Road, Columbus, OH 43210*. Phone numbers for the office & IPA staff remain unchanged.

*During the past two months, we have focused on following through on our degree training, research and capacity building activities. Special attention was given to beginning to assemble data on concrete outputs, outcomes and impacts resulting from these activities. In regard to training, this resulted in the collection of data about the sharing of thesis and dissertation research results with the scientific and other stakeholder communities. In regard to research, it has resulted in the compilation of initial research results from Phase I iAGRI collaborative research projects as these projects are being brought to a close. And in regard to capacity building activities at SUA, They have resulted in important follow on activities dealing with the restructuring of the University and continued development of public-private sector partnerships, NGO and farmer interactions. We appreciate the continued support received for iAGRI from all of you.*

### ***Update on Activities January-February, 2015***

**Long Term Training** – Progress being made by students supported under the iAGRI degree training program continued to be monitored over the past two months. All of them are reported to be doing well. Most of the remaining Ph.D. students anticipate graduating by the end of summer as originally programmed. Most of the remaining M.Sc. students from Cohort II – IV are in the process of completing their field work and many are currently in Tanzania undertaking their research. Students from Cohorts I – III were recently requested to provide information about the dissemination of their research findings. These finding have been aggregated for purposes of reporting.

#### **Peer Reviewed Publications**

<u>Status</u>	<u>Ph.D.</u>	<u>M.Sc.</u>
Published	18	10
Accepted	3	---
Submitted	7	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>11</b>

#### **Conference Presentations**

<u>Type</u>	<u>Ph.D.</u>	<u>M.Sc.</u>
Poster	11	10
Paper	30	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>24</b>

As is to be expected, Ph.D. fellows have published more journal articles than M.Sc. students, given the length of their study programs and the level at which they are conducting research. The same trend is occurring for conference presentations. We anticipate that many more scientific outputs will be forthcoming over the next year as more of them complete their studies and follow through on completed research. Most of these publications and presentations have been joint with their advisors.



*The iAGRI project was made possible by the United State Agency for International Development (USAID) with support from the American people. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government. iAGRI, a major Feed the Future initiative in Tanzania managed by The Ohio State University, seeks to prepare the next generation of agricultural scientists, leaders and food system institutions in Tanzania.*

Student research has also been extended to stakeholders in Tanzania. This has been achieved through various channels including direct contact with stakeholders, preparation of popular outreach materials resulting from the research, and preparation of innovative technologies resulting from the research and disseminated through the iAGRI Innovation Portfolio. This outreach, which is designed to impact agriculture and rural communities, has been illustrated through short stories. Short stories have also been used to describe the direct impact of training received by the students through their current employment (<http://iagri.org>).

**iAGRI Collaborative Research Program** – Final reports have been received for four of the iAGRI Phase I Collaborative Research projects. Three others will be submitted by the end of March. All of these reports document the research findings produced. They also document the considerable outreach to farmers which was part and parcel of the research designs followed. For example, a research project on tomato grafting led by Dr. Carlene Chase, University of Florida, and Theodosy Msogoya, SUA, documented training provided to 196 farmers on 6 tomato producing related activities ranging from plant nursery growth issues to product marketing. Another project on tomatoes, led by Dr. Sally Miller, Ohio State University, and Delphina Mamiro, SUA, reported six 6 journal articles published or submitted, 5 conference presentations, 4 webinars, a training workshop held at IITA/Dar es Salaam, 4 extension publications prepared in Kiswahili, and support for 2 graduate students. The PMU is in the process of posting them on the SUA website along with other iAGRI-funded research outputs (<http://iagri.org/core-activities/research>). These outputs represent dissemination of research results to farmers and other potential stakeholders in Tanzania in both Kiswahili and English. Progress also continues to be made on research funded under Phase II of this program. This research focuses on maize production, climate change and agricultural risk management, land use and climate change impacts on sustainable agricultural intensification, food demand in Tanzania, and land access policy issues. Conrad Heatwole, Virginia Tech University, is working with Co-PI Henry Mahoo, SUA and counterparts at the Wami-Ruvu Basin Water Office on land use and climate change impacts on sustainable intensification in the Upper Ruvu River Basin. Joseph Ndunguru, Mikocheni Agricultural Research Institute, and Thomas Lubberstedt continue their research on biotic and abiotic constraints to maize production, including Maize Lethal Necrosis Disease (MLND). And Mario Miranda, together with Abdoul Sam, Ohio State University, and Flavianus Magayane, SUA, continue their research on agricultural risk insurance. Tony Gallenstein, Ph.D. student, Ohio State University, arrived in Tanzania in February where he will spend the following four months conducting related field research and working with related agricultural risk management funding institutions.

**Support for SUA Restructuring** – iAGRI continues to support major restructuring activities at SUA guided in part by SUA's commitment to contribute to increased national food security. It conducts a monthly leadership forum for SUA leadership. In February, the Chair of SUA's University Council (Board of Trustees) led an important discussion of the role of SUA in national development and its needed articulation with government plans and policies. This event was attended by 44 members of SUA leadership. iAGRI has worked closely with SUA leadership to help it restructure in ways that will enable it to better deal with major funding and programmatic trends facing higher education in Tanzania. The restructuring process is giving priority to altering SUA's academic, research, and outreach programs to better align them with current knowledge and skill demands in the agricultural sector. Specific focus is being given to building greater capacity at SUA to effectively engage with stakeholders and to generate funds to support University activities. Isaac Minde, PMU staff, continues to work with counterparts at SUA, SERA and Michigan State University on a major agricultural policy study dealing with land access and its impact on land use and agricultural production.

**iAGRI Student Thesis Supervisor Visits** – Four student advisors from OSUC institutions visited SUA during the past two months to work with their advisees on their field research. Each presented a seminar while at SUA

- **Peg Redinbaugh**, USDA/ARS and Ohio State University, visited Victoria Bulegaya and her local supervisor, George Tryphone, in February. They worked on the conduct of field research by Victoria dealing with MLND which has become a major threat to maize production in Tanzania. She presented a seminar on the status of MLN in East Africa.
- **Rick Rudd**, Virginia Tech University, visited his advisee, Asha Shayo, and her local supervisor, Amon Mattee, about the completion of her M.S. thesis. He also presented a seminar on teaching to promote critical thinking.

- **Scott Scheer**, Ohio State University, visited his student advisee, Christopher Lameck, and his co-supervisor, Kizito Mwajombe. While in Tanzania he traveled with Christopher to Mbeya to consult with him on his research which is being conducted there on government crop subsidy support programs. He presented a seminar at SUA on program planning models.
- **Kurt Rosentrater**, Iowa State University, worked with student Suleiman Rashid, and Co-supervisor, Bernard Chove, on Suleiman's dissertation research in January. He presented a seminar on sustainability in food processing – a growing enterprise while on the SUA campus.
- **Eugene Jones**, Ohio State University, traveled to Tanzania in February to work with his two student advisees, Privata Simon and Victoria Nkuba, and their respective co-supervisors, Emmanuel Nzunda and Fulgence Mishili. While on the SUA campus he presented a seminar dealing with income levels and the purchase of private label products.

**iAGRI and Communications Outreach** – The iAGRI website is being frequented by an increasing number of new users. New stories continue to be posted to it related to student training impacts, research output, and SUA capacity building activities. In addition, iAGRI is increasingly engaging in social media to inform about iAGRI activities and accomplishments. These media include Twitter, Facebook, an Online Newsletter and Youtube.

**IPA Visit to Tanzania** – Mark Erbaugh, Director, OSU International Programs in Agriculture, and iAGRI Co-PI, along with David Hansen, Program Manager, visited Tanzania in January. While there they met with David Charles, USAID/Tanzania project manager for iAGRI, Hussein Mansour, Director of Research at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MALF) personnel and with Joseph Ndunguru, MARI, about the maize research project. These meetings were designed to receive feedback on iAGRI performance and to discuss outstanding related issues. While at SUA they met with the leadership of SUA, including the Vice Chancellor and his deputies, and with various PMU staff and other SUA participants in iAGRI activities. They prepared a report with recommendations for future iAGRI priorities, including the need to focus on project outputs, outcomes and impact.

**Webinars** – Two new leadership webinar series were initiated in January for iAGRI-funded students who had not had the opportunity to attend them. They continue to be based on 7 Habits of Highly Effective People authored by Steven Covey which is being taught by staff in Morogoro. The other is based on The Leadership Challenge authored by James Kouzes and Barry Posner (27 students) and continues to be taught by members of the OSU Department of Agricultural Communication, Education and Leadership.