

“Eight Years of FISP – Impact and What Next?”

National Symposium at the Bingu International Conference Centre, Lilongwe

14 – 15 July 2014

Day 1 – 14 July 2014		
09:00 – 09:30	Registration	
09:30 – 10:30	Official opening Chair: Charles Jumbe (LUANAR)	Charles Jumbe (LUANAR) – Welcome and introductions George Kanyama-Phiri (LUANAR) – Opening remarks Minister of Agriculture (c/o PS Jeffrey Luhanga) – Official opening
10:30 – 11:00	Tea break	
11:00 – 12:30	Session 1: FISP rationale and impacts Chair: Alex Kalimbira (LUANAR)	Presenters: Stephen Carr (-) – <i>FISP rationale, original design principles, and targeting criteria</i> (15 min) Rodney Lunduka (CIMMYT) – <i>Farm-level impacts of FISP</i> (15 min) Karl Pauw (IFPRI) – <i>Poverty and economywide effects of FISP</i> (15 min) Discussants: Prince Kapondamgaga (FUM) & Thomas Munthali (IPA) (7½ min each): <i>Reflections on FISP objectives, effectiveness in achieving those, and redefining FISP goals for the future.</i> General discussion: Facilitated by chair (30 min)
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Session 2: Returns to fertilizer and program efficiency Chair: Charles Masangano (LUANAR)	Presenters: Todd Benson (IFPRI) – <i>Maximizing returns to fertilizer use on maize in Malawi: Lessons from on-farm agronomic research</i> (15 min) Andrew Dorward (SOAS) – <i>A reflection on estimation techniques and results from crop simulation modeling</i> (15 min) Jacob Ricker-Gilbert (Purdue) – <i>Marginal returns to fertilizer use: evidence from Malawian household surveys</i> (15 min) Discussants: Veria Kumwenda (FAM) & Dyborn Chibonga (NASFAM) (7½ min each): <i>Evidence is mixed, but increasing returns is important for program impact. How can this be achieved?</i> General discussion: Facilitated by chair (30 min)
15:30 – 15:50	Tea break	
15:50 – 17:20	Session 3: FISP design and implementation issues Chair: Weston Mwase (LUANAR)	Presenters: Ephraim Chirwa (Wadonda Consult) – <i>Design and implementation of FISP: evolution, challenges, and innovations</i> (15 min) Charlie Clark (FISP Logistics Unit) – <i>Logistics and procurement</i> (15 min) Donald Makoka (LUANAR) – <i>Farmers' perception and village-level experiences</i> (15 min) Discussants: Andrew Mpesi (FUM) & Dellings Phiri (STAM) (7½ min each): <i>What are pertinent program reforms for improved impact and efficiency in the short term to medium term; what areas require further investigation?</i> General discussion: Facilitated by chair (30 min)
17:20 – 17:30	Reflections Day 1	Alex Namaona (MoAFS) (10 min)
17:30 – 18:30	Reception/cocktail	
Day 2 – 15 July 2014		
09:00 – 10:30	Session 4: Budget allocation and policy choice Chair: Davies Ng'ong'ola (LUANAR)	Presenters: Anne Conroy (MoF) – <i>Budget processes and prioritization of public expenditure</i> (15 min) Jacob Ricker-Gilbert (Purdue) – <i>FISP and alternative/complementary social programs</i> (15 min) Ronald Mangani (Chanco) – <i>Returns to spending and optimal budget allocation</i> (15 min) Discussants: Tamani Nkhono-Mvula (CISANET) & Dalitso Kubalasa (MEJN) (7½ min each): <i>Politics, policy choices, and their associated short run and long run trade-offs.</i> General discussion: Facilitated by chair (30 min)
10:30 – 11:00	Tea break	
11:00 – 12:15	Session 5: Long term agricultural strategy and the role of FISP Chair: Kenneth Wiyo (LUANAR)	Presenters: Todd Benson (IFPRI) – <i>Reflection on the National Agricultural Policy</i> (15 min) Andrew Dorward (SOAS) – <i>Future role of FISP</i> (15 min) Mafa Chipeta (-) – <i>Long term perspective on food security and appropriate policy responses</i> (15 min) General discussion: Facilitated by chair; allow closing statements from panel (30 min)
12:15 – 12:30	Closing remarks	George Kanyama-Phiri (LUANAR) (15 min)
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch and departure	