

# Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project Highlights

February 2017

Scholar Program 1

## Training one to train others: The operational strategy of the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project

**Addressing the distance problem: Project innovatively leverages on information and communication technology to strengthen research teams and achieve multiple project goals**

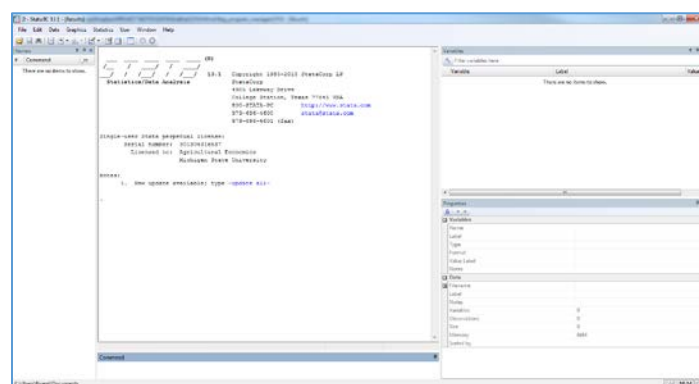
The Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project climate change research team noticed its graduate students did not possess adequate skills for panel data analysis. These skills were absolutely necessary to conduct the climate change analysis involved in the project. The team used information and communication technology to organize a series of virtual training sessions for its members in Nigeria.

thesis analysis using STATA, which she was trained to use (and continually coached on while at MSU) under the Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Policy Project.

The training was organized and facilitated by Dr. Saweda Liverpool-Tasie and her Ph.D student at Michigan State University, Awa Sanou. The primary objective of this capacity-building activity was to teach students to use the statistical software STATA for panel data analysis. STATA is one of the main software packages used for agricultural household survey data analysis. The training sessions were geared towards empowering participants to use the World Bank LSMS ISA data publicly available for Nigeria.



Trainer: Awa Sanou



Stata interface

Compare the relative performance of large- and small-scale commercial aquaculture in terms of spillover effects, demand for labor, productivity and returns.

Evaluate patterns of rural-rural and rural-urban migration, agricultural mechanization, and the extent and terms of access to credit in aquaculture and agriculture.

At the end of the training, participants were familiar with basic STATA commands to extract relevant data files, construct data files at the plot and household levels with a panel structure. They also learned where to find additional STATA help through online resources.

Participants were better able to generate basic summary descriptive statistics using tables and graphs and to conduct empirical analysis using panel data techniques. Given that this training falls under the overarching project on climate change, it focused on



Communication possible through skype

MSU during Fall 2016, where she built on those training skills and successfully conducted her Master's

understanding the relationships between key climate variables such as rainfall covariance and outcomes on agricultural production and rural livelihoods. The

exercise will be conducted across states and geopolitical zones in Nigeria.

by: Awa Sanou and Saweda Liverpool-Tasie

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