



PoLSAT

MwAPATA Project

Milu Muyanga, William Chadza & Solomon Mkumbwa

Presented at the Foundation for Smoke-Free World Partner Meeting
Johannesburg – South Africa

March 29th, 2023



**Agricultural
Transformation
Initiative**

MICHIGAN STATE

UNIVERSITY

Major concerns and mega trends

Low agricultural productivity

- Chronic food insecurity
- Multiple domestic weather shocks
- Poor soil health

Dualistic agricultural sector

- Small subsistence and large-scale farming
- Existing policy framework is dualistic
- Emerging medium-scale commercial

Public resource allocation

- At variance with diversification
- Investments are in areas of low potential returns

Major concerns and mega trends

Weak agricultural sector coordination

- Trade and production
- Farmer – extension - research

Forex crisis – negative trade balance

- Exports account for about 30% of the total import bill
- Exports dominated by tobacco but facing challenges

First 10-Year Implementation Plan of Malawi2063

- Quick wins – agricultural diversification and commercialization

New 2023 National Agricultural Policy

- Agriculture commercialization

Major concerns and mega trends

Impediments to private sector participation in agricultural diversification

- Unpredictable markets for agricultural inputs and outputs
- Foreign exchange quotas due to scarcity
- Contradictory policies (Land, Crops, Malawi 2063)
- Limited policy implementation

Global economic disruptions and regional market opportunities

- Covid-19
- Russia-Ukraine conflict
- Africa Continental Free Trade Area

Imminent general election campaign period

MwAPATA Institute and PoISAT

- 🌅 **MwAPATA Institute is a Malawian-led, home-grown independent policy think tank**
 - Established in 2019 with technical and institutional development support from MSU
 - Providing evidence-based policy analysis to transform Malawi's agricultural sector into a diversified, commercialized and sustainable agri-food system
 - Capacity to provide effective policy support and guidance to stakeholders expanded and deepened
- 🌅 **PoISAT Project provides technical support to Ministry of Agriculture**
 - Continuation of the New Alliance for Policy Acceleration Support Project of Ministry of Agriculture and MSU that phased out in 2018
 - Established on request for technical support from Ministry of Agriculture
 - Embedded within DAPS providing quick analysis and capacity building

The origins of MwAPATA Project

Financial support from FSFW

- First grant 2019 – 2021, extended to June 2022, US\$8.3m rev to \$8.05m
- Second grant July 2022 to June 2023, US\$1.35m
- Third phase coming up in July 2023, US\$4.575m

Institutional development and technical support from MSU

- Grant management
- Technical backstopping

The “MwAPATA Project”

- MwAPATA Institute and PoISAT
- Began organizing in 2018
- Official launch in 2020

Official launch of MwAPATA October 2020



MwAPATA launch, October 2020



The origins of MwAPATA Project

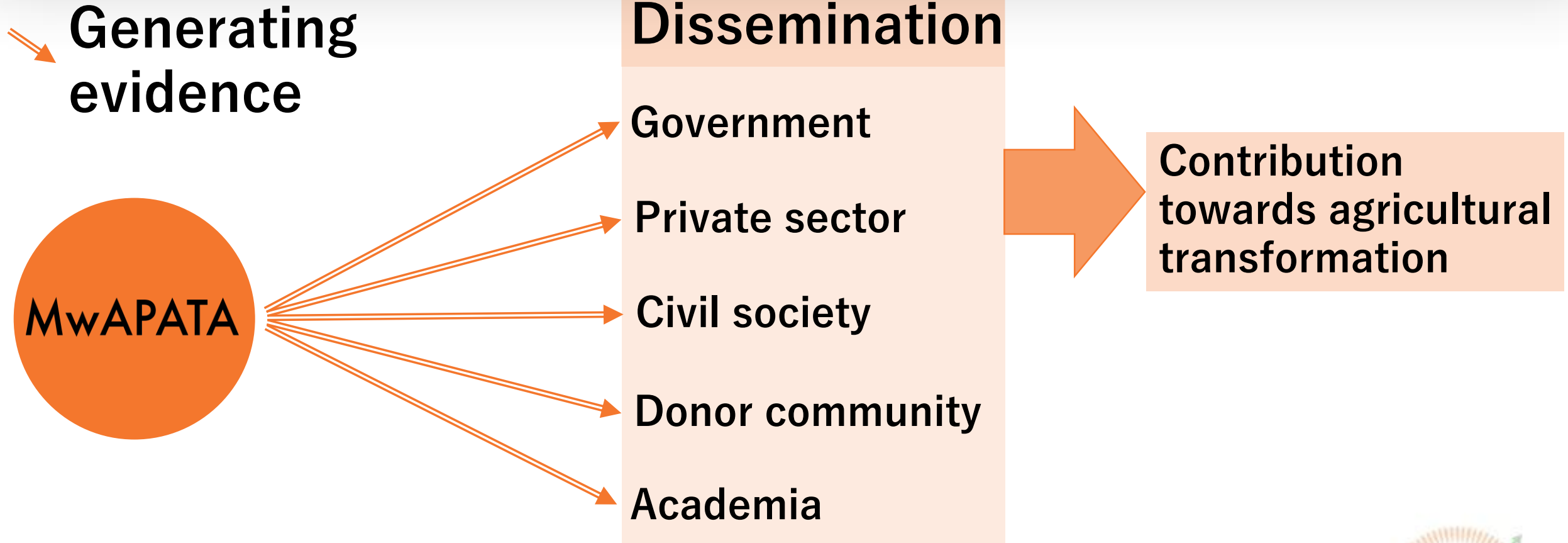
Financial support (“Buy-in”) from USAID in 2021

- USAID approached MSU/MwAPATA
- October 2021 – September 2022 (\$1m)
- Build capacity of MwAPATA, enhance its reputation as a source of solid, evidence-based policy thinking
 - Building capacity of MwAPATA to provide effective policy support and guidance to public and private sector stakeholders
 - Building capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture through expansion of PoISAT
 - Produce local policy analysis and practical recommendations
 - Strengthen policy outreach and dissemination

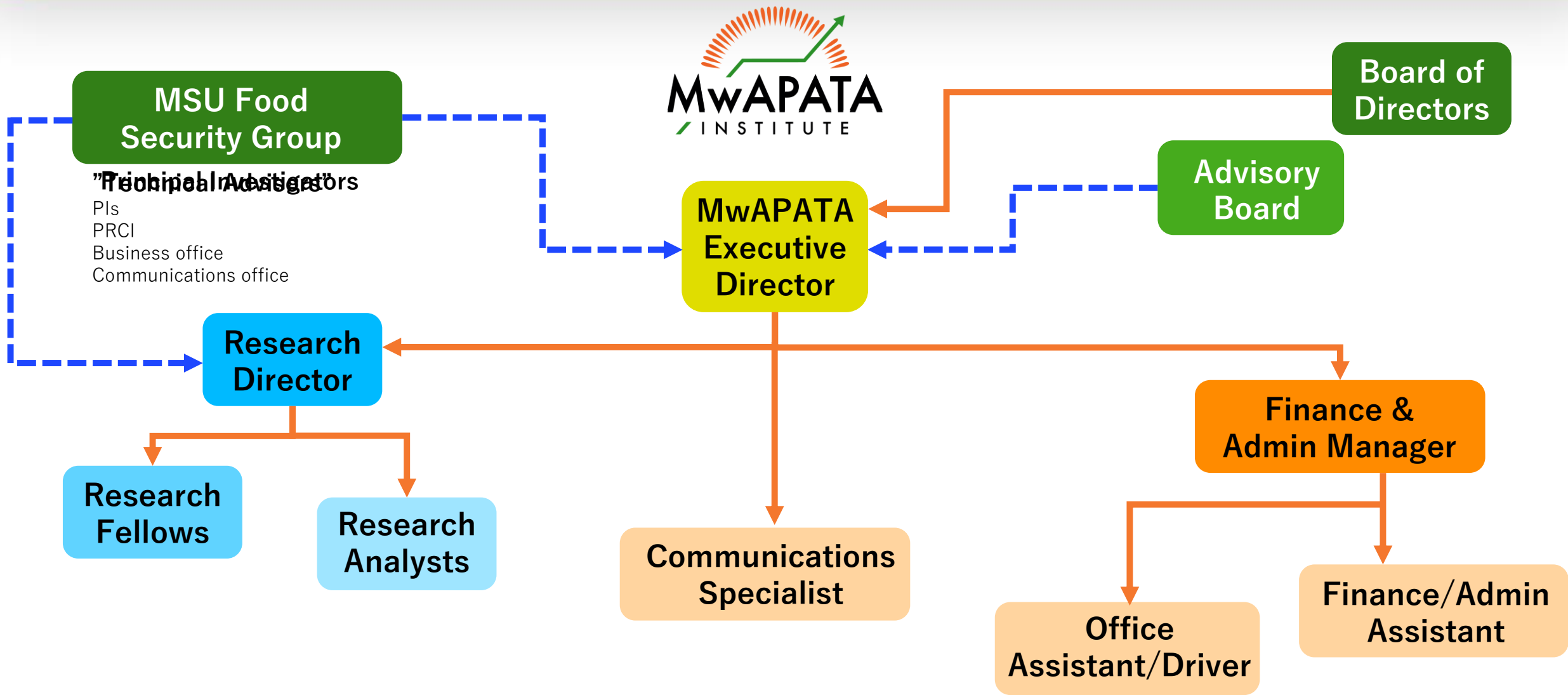
Financial support (“Buy-in”) from USAID

- ☀️ Additional analytical work and outreach
- ☀️ Recruitment of additional research and communication staff
- ☀️ Motor vehicles
- ☀️ Partnership with IFPRI
- ☀️ MSU support expanded
- ☀️ Long term grant under discussion – begin July 2023

The MwAPATA Institute



MwAPATA Institute Governance



MwAPATA Institute Governance

Legally registered

Malawian-led and independent

Board of Directors

- Highest authority of MwAPATA Institute
- Six members from key stakeholders in the agricultural sector
- Balanced in skills, knowledge and experience
- Provide strategic guidance and management oversight
- Fiduciary responsibility

Advisory Board

- 9 members from various Malawian stakeholders – wide range of expertise
- Provide expert advice and technical guidance to management

Generating evidence

Strong credible empirical evidence generated






Motivations for evidence generation

- **Demand-driven**- responds to stakeholders' *specific requests* for evidence to fill information gaps around specific policy actions
- **Supply-driven**- analysis geared towards *anticipating major challenges* and alerting stakeholders about the need to respond proactively rather than reactively
- **Reactive/rapid response**- responds to *specific urgent emerging issues* from stakeholders

Approaches to generating evidence

- 🌅 **Expert guidance and support from Advisory Board**
- 🌅 **Stakeholder consultations**
- 🌅 **Research protocols – concepts and research questions**
- 🌅 **Research teams - RF, RA and technical backstopping**
- 🌅 **Quantitative and qualitative methods**
- 🌅 **Primary and secondary data collection, analysis and reporting**

Knowledge products

-  **Working Papers**
-  **Policy Briefs**
-  **Policy Perspectives**
-  **Reports**
-  **External peer-reviewed publications**

Research thematic areas

- 🌅 **Soil health and fertilizer use**
- 🌅 **Agricultural commercialization and diversification**
- 🌅 **Climate change and natural resources management**
- 🌅 **Demand-driven and cross-cutting issues**

Soil health and fertilizer use



Soil health and fertilizer use

- ☀️ Short- and medium-term policy options for input subsidies (e.g., cost/benefit of delivery modalities and use of vouchers)
- ☀️ Quantifying the distribution of benefits (gender and youth)
- ☀️ Alternatives (e.g., extension models, incentivizing ISFM)
- ☀️ Inorganic fertilizer price spike
- ☀️ Options to mitigate impacts of high prices of inorganic fertilizers
- ☀️ Policy options for exit strategy for input subsidies
- ☀️ Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit

Agricultural commercialization and diversification

- ☀️ Alternatives to tobacco farming
- ☀️ Identifying value chains with most potential
- ☀️ Understanding value chains and barriers to private sector investment and growth (wheat, groundnut, oilseeds, e.g.)
- ☀️ Role of medium-scale and large farms (spillover effects)
- ☀️ How to repurpose agricultural policies and support Malawi for agricultural diversification and commercialization
- ☀️ Future of smallholder farming in Malawi
- ☀️ Agricultural transformation

Some of the alternatives to tobacco



Climate change and natural resource management

- 🌅 **Building resilience to climate shocks**
- 🌅 **Evidence to meet nationally-determined commitments**
- 🌅 **Land market analysis**
- 🌅 **Profitability of alternatives to crop farming (e.g. aquaculture) in the context of changing climate**
- 🌅 **Social protection and climate resilience**
- 🌅 **Returns on irrigation investments**
- 🌅 **Assessing plantation fee structures**

Climate change impacts – cyclones



Demand-driven and cross-cutting issues

- 🌅 Issues arising to meet stakeholder' needs
- 🌅 COVID-19 impacts on Malawi's agri-food systems
- 🌅 Impact of Russia-Ukraine conflict on Malawi's agri-food systems
- 🌅 Youth in development and opportunities for youth

Outreach and dissemination

- ☀️ **Raised quality of public discussions on policy options for diversifying and commercializing the agricultural sector**
- ☀️ **Utilizing a range of events**

Annual agricultural policy conferences



 **Supporting
Agricultural
Transformation**

State President opening 2022 MAPCC



Driving Agricultural Diversification

State President at 2022 MAPCC



Roundtable events



Eminent speaker series



Research seminars



MwAPATA Website

 www.mwapata.mw



The screenshot shows the MwAPATA Institute website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for About, Eminent Speaker Series, Events, Publications & Resources, Job Listings, Contact, and More. A search bar is also present. The main content area features a large banner with the MwAPATA Institute logo and a description of the organization. Below the banner, there are two columns: 'Recent Event' and 'Highlights'. The 'Recent Event' section highlights a welcome event for the Director of Agriculture Programs and Partnerships from the Foundation for Smoke-Free World (FSFW) on March 20th, 2023. The 'Highlights' section mentions the launch of the Malawi Data Portal and new research. A 'Subscribe!' button is located at the bottom right of the highlights section. The footer contains the URL <https://www.mwapata.mw/dataportal> and the website address www.mwapata.mw.


Evidence Matters for Transformational Impact

[About](#) [Eminent Speaker Series](#) [Events](#) [Publications & Resources](#) [Job Listings](#) [Contact](#) [More](#)

MwAPATA Institute

The MwAPATA Institute is an independent agricultural policy think tank in Malawi. The Institute is engaging the Government of Malawi, private sector, and civil society stakeholders in a program of applied policy analysis, policy outreach, capacity building, and policy coordination.

[Learn More](#)

Recent Event

MwAPATA Institute welcomes the Director of Agriculture Programs and Partnerships from the Foundation for Smoke-Free World (FSFW)

Date: Monday 20th March 2023, Lilongwe, Malawi

Highlights


[Malawi Data Portal](#) online
New Research

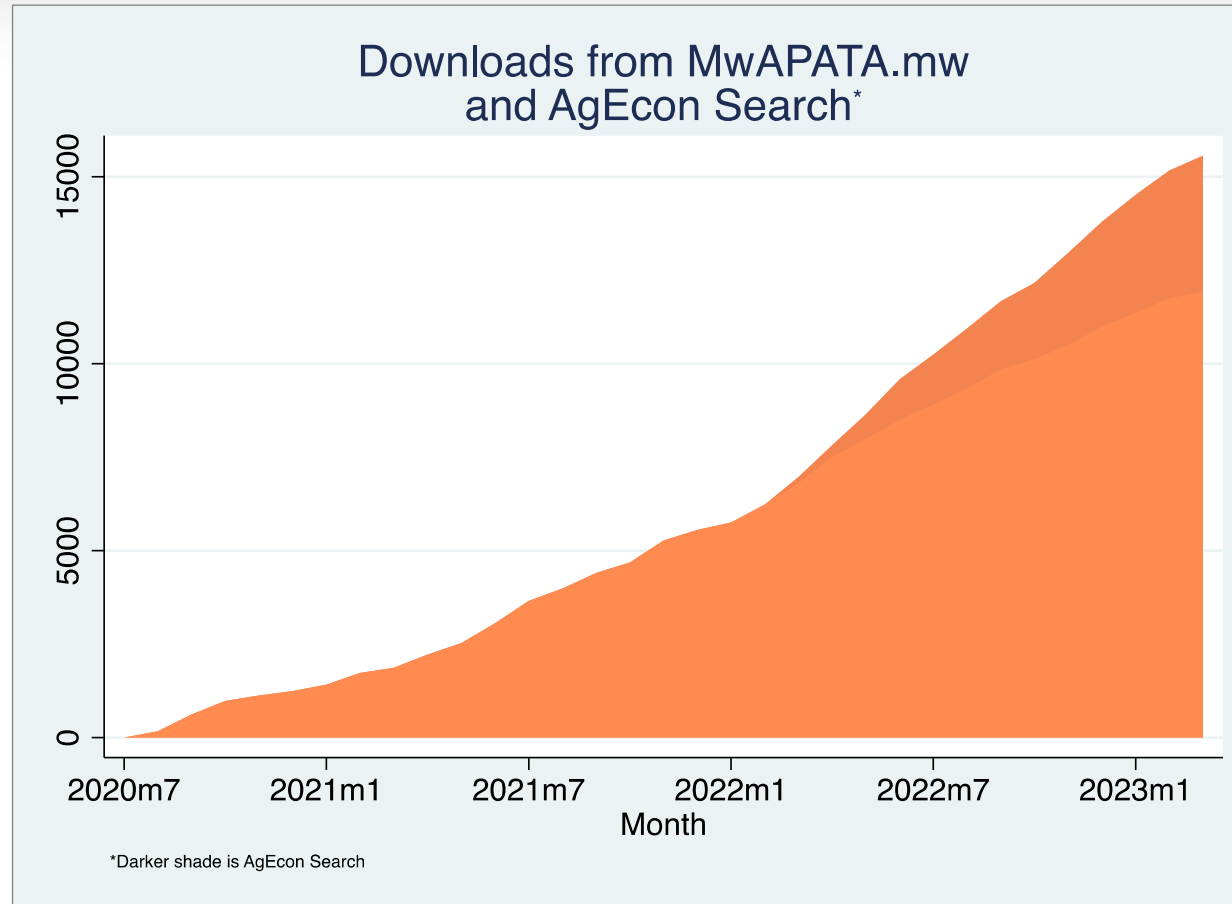
[Subscribe!](#)

Stay informed on research releases

<https://www.mwapata.mw/dataportal> www.mwapata.mw

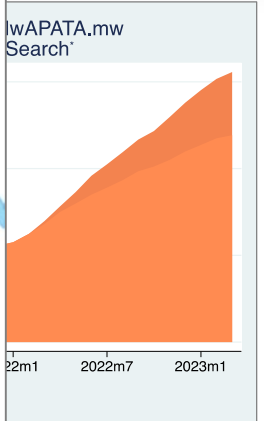
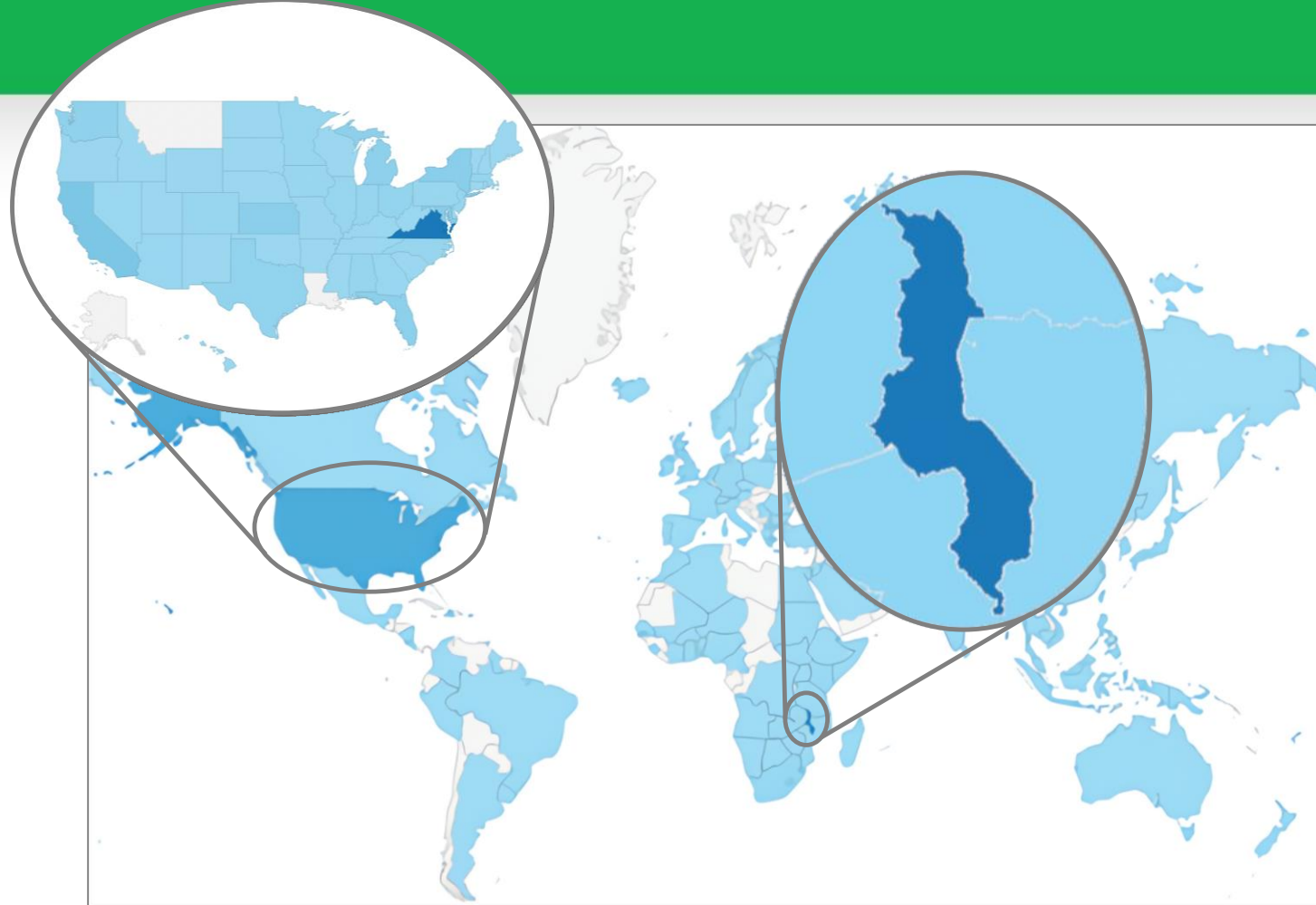
Website traffic

 **Over 15,000
downloads
since launch**



Website traffic

Geographic reach



Media coverage

 **MwAPATA's work has been found important by various media channels**

- Radio
- Television
- Print media

Weather shocks on the increase

By Rebecca Chimjeka

Research by Mwapata Institute has revealed



GRACED EVENT-KALEMBA — File photo

January last year to about highest prices of maize and Mjiga Mhango said a lot of people

Food imports seen doubling

BY JUSTIN MKWE

DESPITE Malawi's food imports are expected to double in 2023, a report from the Mwapata Institute has revealed. The value of imports more than doubled between 2019 and 2021, to cap in all, between 2019 and 2021, food imports into Malawi increased by 64 per cent, resulting in a deficit of \$1.2 billion (\$1.2 billion) in 2021. He said this on Thursday.

NATION ON SUNDAY

REGISTERED AT G.P.O. AS A NEWSPAPER VOL 16 NO. 8 SUNDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2023 WWW.MWATION.COM PRICE: K1000

SAFETY NET, RISKY CHAOS

institute blames it on poor planning

Story on page 2

Experts urge higher wheat production

COMESA FOR HARMONISED REGIONAL FERTILISER, AGRIBUSINESS POLICY

ERIC MTEMANG'OMBE News Analyst



Workers offloading fertiliser in one of the warehouses



policy on fertiliser agribusiness. Mwapata Institute executive director William Chidza said Malawi can leverage obtained from working as part of a block buy inputs in bulk and, extension, capitalise on economies of scale. He said, "It is crucial to pursue manufacturing of inorganic fertilisers would be more visible at a regional level than a national level because countries like Malawi do not have the capacity to directly import some so they could leverage

Media coverage



mwapata

"In the news"

About 113 results (0.20 seconds)

Malawi Nyasa Times

Ireland asks developed countries to support Malawi

The MwAPATA Institute – an independent agricultural policy think tank in partnership with the Embassy of Ireland organized the...

Over 4 mentions/month in media

Experts search for tobacco alternative

By Taonga Sabola

The country's top agriculture experts met in Lilongwe on Thursday night to discuss alternative crops that could replace tobacco as the country's foreign exchange earner, with the green gold on its death bed. The roundtable conference on alternatives to tobacco, organised by the Malawi Agriculture Policy Advancement and

Transformation Agenda levels continue to decline due to a combination of several factors and increasingly... A representative of farmers, Boyd Ndlou, who is the secretary of Kamuzu District Tobacco Board, can serve as alternatives to tobacco crop.

Think-tank sees gold in wheat production

By Taonga Sabola

Local agriculture think-tank Mwapata Institute, has said Malawi can take advantage of the Russia-Ukraine crisis to upscale wheat production for both domestic consumption and exports. Mwapata research fellow Anderson Gondwe was speaking in Lilongwe on Tuesday when the institute released a policy brief on 'An Assessment of the Potential for Scaling Malawi's Wheat Production for Domestic Consumption and Export'.



CONFIDENT—Chadza (centre) and Gondwe (right) with other Mwapata officials on Tuesday in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) regions is higher than production practices, over reliance on rain-fed production, low input use... He added that assuming

Mwapata says Malawi does not have formal wheat seed production and distribution systems, adding that wheat research has received little support over the years. It says, despite the establishment of the National Research Station for wheat in Ntcheu District in 1968, there has been little progress to breed and promote improved varieties for local and export markets. "There is insufficient knowledge and skills on good agriculture practices for wheat production in Malawi," the brief reads. Mwapata Executive Director William Chidza, said informing Malawians about the policy research work the institute is conducting would help generate appetite from policy makers, development partners, private sector and general public on what they should expect from Mwapata in the coming

Agriculture and on Agenda collaboration National Farmers of Malawi

there are as climate re affecting ns of the stor towards velopment

Said Lowe: "This seminar has drawn together representatives of smallholder farmers who will share ideas on aligning their programmes to the Naip [National Agriculture Investment Policy] focus areas. This calls for all of us to play our part with greater collaboration in implementation." According to the minister, government recognises the to the Naip. On his part, Mwapata Institute executive director William Chidza said the seminar sought to explore transitional pathways and strategies for smallholder farmers. N as fam chief executive officer Bettie Chinyamunyu said there have been many discussions on the viability of smallholder farmers contributing to agricultural

"With all the support gone to the smallholder farming sector, growth in the agriculture sector remained unstable mostly declining," she said. Chinyamunyu challenged think-tank to reflect on what country has made in inputs available to farmers and provided innovation that are suitable. The Mwapata Institute is an independent agricultural policy think-tank that helps Malawian farmers and agribusinesses to improve their productivity and income. It is a registered company under the Companies Act of Malawi. The institute was established in 2010 and is based in Lilongwe. It has a team of experts in agriculture, policy, and business. The institute's work is funded by the Malawi Government and other partners. The institute's website is www.mwapata.org.mw. The institute's contact information is: P.O. Box 113, Lilongwe, Malawi. Phone: +265 999 999 999. Email: info@mwapata.org.mw. The institute's mission is to improve the lives of Malawian farmers and agribusinesses through research, policy advocacy, and capacity building. The institute's vision is to be a leading agricultural policy think-tank in Malawi and the region. The institute's values are: integrity, transparency, accountability, and sustainability. The institute's core competencies are: research, policy advocacy, capacity building, and business development. The institute's key performance indicators are: number of farmers and agribusinesses served, number of policy recommendations adopted, and number of farmers and agribusinesses that have increased their productivity and income. The institute's impact is: improved livelihoods of Malawian farmers and agribusinesses, increased agricultural productivity and income, and improved food security and nutrition in Malawi and the region. The institute's partners are: Malawi Government, COMESA, SADC, and other regional and international organizations. The institute's supporters are: Malawi Government, COMESA, SADC, and other regional and international organizations. The institute's website is www.mwapata.org.mw. The institute's contact information is: P.O. Box 113, Lilongwe, Malawi. Phone: +265 999 999 999. Email: info@mwapata.org.mw. The institute's mission is to improve the lives of Malawian farmers and agribusinesses through research, policy advocacy, and capacity building. The institute's vision is to be a leading agricultural policy think-tank in Malawi and the region. The institute's values are: integrity, transparency, accountability, and sustainability. The institute's core competencies are: research, policy advocacy, capacity building, and business development. The institute's key performance indicators are: number of farmers and agribusinesses served, number of policy recommendations adopted, and number of farmers and agribusinesses that have increased their productivity and income. The institute's impact is: improved livelihoods of Malawian farmers and agribusinesses, increased agricultural productivity and income, and improved food security and nutrition in Malawi and the region. The institute's partners are: Malawi Government, COMESA, SADC, and other regional and international organizations. The institute's supporters are: Malawi Government, COMESA, SADC, and other regional and international organizations.

2022 MALAWI AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMMERCIALISATION CONFERENCE

"Tying Agricultural Diversification in Support of the Aspirations of MW2023"

DATE & TIME: ZOOM DETAILS

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

'Strategy and Responses to the Impacts of Russia-Ukraine Conflict on Malawi'

JOIN US

Virtual Capital-Physical (Strictly by Invitation)

Wednesday, 20 July 2022

02:00 pm - 05:00 pm (CAT)

Experts predict doom for AIP

Malawi's agricultural productivity is expected to decline significantly due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, according to experts. The Malawi Agricultural Productivity (AIP) program, which aims to increase food production and reduce poverty, is facing significant challenges. Experts predict that the program's success will be severely impacted by the global food crisis, which has led to a sharp increase in the prices of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. This situation is expected to lead to a decline in crop yields and a subsequent increase in food insecurity across the country.

Malawi explores opportunities in Russia-Ukraine conflict

Malawi is exploring opportunities in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, particularly in the agricultural sector. The country's government is looking for ways to benefit from the global food crisis, which has led to a sharp increase in the prices of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. Malawi is considering various options, including increasing its own production of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs, as well as exploring new markets for its agricultural products. The government is also looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

Export deal offers hope for cheaper fertilizer, food

Malawi's government has secured a deal to export agricultural products to a new market, which offers hope for cheaper fertilizer and food. The deal is expected to lead to a significant increase in the country's agricultural production, which will help to reduce food insecurity and improve the livelihoods of Malawian farmers. The government is also looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

IPC likely met, says ACB

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is likely to meet with the Malawi Police Commission (MPC) to discuss the ongoing investigation into the alleged corruption in the Malawi Police. The ACC is currently investigating the alleged corruption in the Malawi Police, which has led to a significant loss of public trust in the institution. The MPC is also investigating the same allegations, and the two bodies are expected to meet to coordinate their efforts and share information. The meeting is expected to be a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi Police and restoring public trust in the institution.

The Daily Times

ESTABLISHED IN 1875

WWW.DAILYTIMES.MW

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022 K800

Admiral asks govt to buy controversial war on corruption

Beer supports war on corruption

Mw earns \$52m from Kayekera in 13 years

Chakwera wants mega-farms in 6 months

President Lazarus Chakwera has set a target to establish 100 mega-farms across Malawi within six months. The president is pushing for a major agricultural reform to increase food production and reduce poverty. He is calling for the government to support the establishment of these mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

FRIDAY SHAKER

Economic right activity in check in Malawi

There is a growing concern that economic right activity is being checked in Malawi. This is due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which has led to a sharp increase in the prices of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. This situation is expected to lead to a decline in crop yields and a subsequent increase in food insecurity across the country. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

Chakwera wants mega-farms in 6 months

President Lazarus Chakwera has set a target to establish 100 mega-farms across Malawi within six months. The president is pushing for a major agricultural reform to increase food production and reduce poverty. He is calling for the government to support the establishment of these mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

rears impact of rising fertilizer prices

The rising prices of fertilizers are having a significant impact on Malawi's agricultural sector. This is due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which has led to a sharp increase in the prices of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. This situation is expected to lead to a decline in crop yields and a subsequent increase in food insecurity across the country. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

INPUTS ELUDE WERA VILLAGE

Inputs for agricultural production are eluding Wera village, which is a key agricultural hub in Malawi. This is due to the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, which has led to a sharp increase in the prices of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. This situation is expected to lead to a decline in crop yields and a subsequent increase in food insecurity across the country. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

Trucks intercepted with AIP fertiliser

Trucks carrying AIP fertilizer were intercepted, raising concerns about the distribution of the program. The Malawi Agricultural Productivity (AIP) program, which aims to increase food production and reduce poverty, is facing significant challenges. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

THE NATION

REGISTERED AT GPO AS A NEWSPAPER

VOL. 29 NO. 115

FRIDAY, 10 JUNE 2022

WWW.NATION.CO.KE

Chakwera for action on agriculture commercialisation

Chakwera demands mega farms

Tourism players fault ban on lakeshore meetings

Gender reports launched

Chakwera demands mega farms

President Lazarus Chakwera has set a target to establish 100 mega-farms across Malawi within six months. The president is pushing for a major agricultural reform to increase food production and reduce poverty. He is calling for the government to support the establishment of these mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Tourism players fault ban on lakeshore meetings

Tourism players are faulting the ban on meetings at lakeshore venues, arguing that it will harm the tourism industry. The ban is seen as a major setback for the tourism sector, which is a key source of revenue for Malawi. Tourism players are calling for the government to lift the ban, as they believe that meetings at lakeshore venues will help to attract more tourists and increase the country's tourism revenue. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

MIDDLE INCOME STATUS NEEDS K19TN GDP GROWTH

Malawi needs a 19% increase in GDP to reach middle income status, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF is pushing for a major economic reform to increase food production and reduce poverty. It is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Experts doubt cannabis success

Experts are doubting the success of the cannabis industry in Malawi, arguing that it will not provide the expected economic benefits. The cannabis industry is seen as a major source of revenue for Malawi, but experts are concerned that it will not provide the expected economic benefits. They are calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Police, court admit challenges in GBV fight

Police and the courts are admitting challenges in the fight against gender-based violence (GBV) in Malawi. The police are facing significant challenges in investigating and prosecuting GBV cases, and the courts are facing challenges in sentencing offenders. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

'Leave mega farms to private sector'

There is a growing call to leave mega-farms to the private sector, arguing that the government should focus on other areas of the economy. The mega-farms are seen as a major source of revenue for Malawi, but some argue that the government should focus on other areas of the economy, such as education and healthcare. They are calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Ecum faults truck drivers' strike

Ecum is faulting the truck drivers' strike, arguing that it is a major setback for the economy. The truck drivers' strike is seen as a major source of revenue for Malawi, but Ecum is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

THE NATION

RESEARCHERS BANG HEADS ON DATA SHARING

Manepo pushes for older persons' bill

Maic injects K100m in organic fertiliser project

Researchers chart data sharing path

Manepo pushes for older persons' bill

Manepo is pushing for an older persons' bill, which will provide for the welfare of older persons in Malawi. The bill is seen as a major step in the process of reforming the Malawi legal system and improving the livelihoods of Malawian citizens. Manepo is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Maic injects K100m in organic fertiliser project

Maic has injected K100 million into an organic fertiliser project, which will help to increase food production and reduce poverty. The project is seen as a major step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers. Maic is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Researchers chart data sharing path

Researchers are charting a path for data sharing, which will help to improve the quality of research and increase the effectiveness of public services. The researchers are calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Ministry under fire over AIP fertiliser deal

The Ministry of Agriculture is under fire over the AIP fertiliser deal, which has led to a significant increase in the prices of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. The Ministry is facing significant challenges in investigating and prosecuting the deal, and the public is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Export deal offers hope for cheaper fertilizer, food

Malawi's government has secured a deal to export agricultural products to a new market, which offers hope for cheaper fertilizer and food. The deal is expected to lead to a significant increase in the country's agricultural production, which will help to reduce food insecurity and improve the livelihoods of Malawian farmers. The government is also looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

AIP info blackout worries farmers

The AIP info blackout is worrying farmers, as it is expected to lead to a decline in crop yields and a subsequent increase in food insecurity across the country. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

Countess of Sussex hails Malawi on trachoma

The Countess of Sussex has hailed Malawi's progress in the fight against trachoma, a major eye disease. She is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

THE NATION

RESEARCHERS BANG HEADS ON DATA SHARING

Manepo pushes for older persons' bill

Maic injects K100m in organic fertiliser project

Researchers chart data sharing path

Manepo pushes for older persons' bill

Manepo is pushing for an older persons' bill, which will provide for the welfare of older persons in Malawi. The bill is seen as a major step in the process of reforming the Malawi legal system and improving the livelihoods of Malawian citizens. Manepo is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Maic injects K100m in organic fertiliser project

Maic has injected K100 million into an organic fertiliser project, which will help to increase food production and reduce poverty. The project is seen as a major step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers. Maic is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Researchers chart data sharing path

Researchers are charting a path for data sharing, which will help to improve the quality of research and increase the effectiveness of public services. The researchers are calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Ministry under fire over AIP fertiliser deal

The Ministry of Agriculture is under fire over the AIP fertiliser deal, which has led to a significant increase in the prices of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs. The Ministry is facing significant challenges in investigating and prosecuting the deal, and the public is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

Export deal offers hope for cheaper fertilizer, food

Malawi's government has secured a deal to export agricultural products to a new market, which offers hope for cheaper fertilizer and food. The deal is expected to lead to a significant increase in the country's agricultural production, which will help to reduce food insecurity and improve the livelihoods of Malawian farmers. The government is also looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

AIP info blackout worries farmers

The AIP info blackout is worrying farmers, as it is expected to lead to a decline in crop yields and a subsequent increase in food insecurity across the country. The government is looking for ways to improve its infrastructure and services, which will help to increase its competitiveness in the global market.

Countess of Sussex hails Malawi on trachoma

The Countess of Sussex has hailed Malawi's progress in the fight against trachoma, a major eye disease. She is calling for the government to support the establishment of mega-farms, which will be managed by private investors. The mega-farms are expected to produce a significant amount of food, which will be distributed to the local population. This initiative is seen as a key step in the process of reforming the Malawi agricultural sector and improving the livelihoods of Malawian farmers.

MWAPATA INSTITUTE

www.mwapata.mw

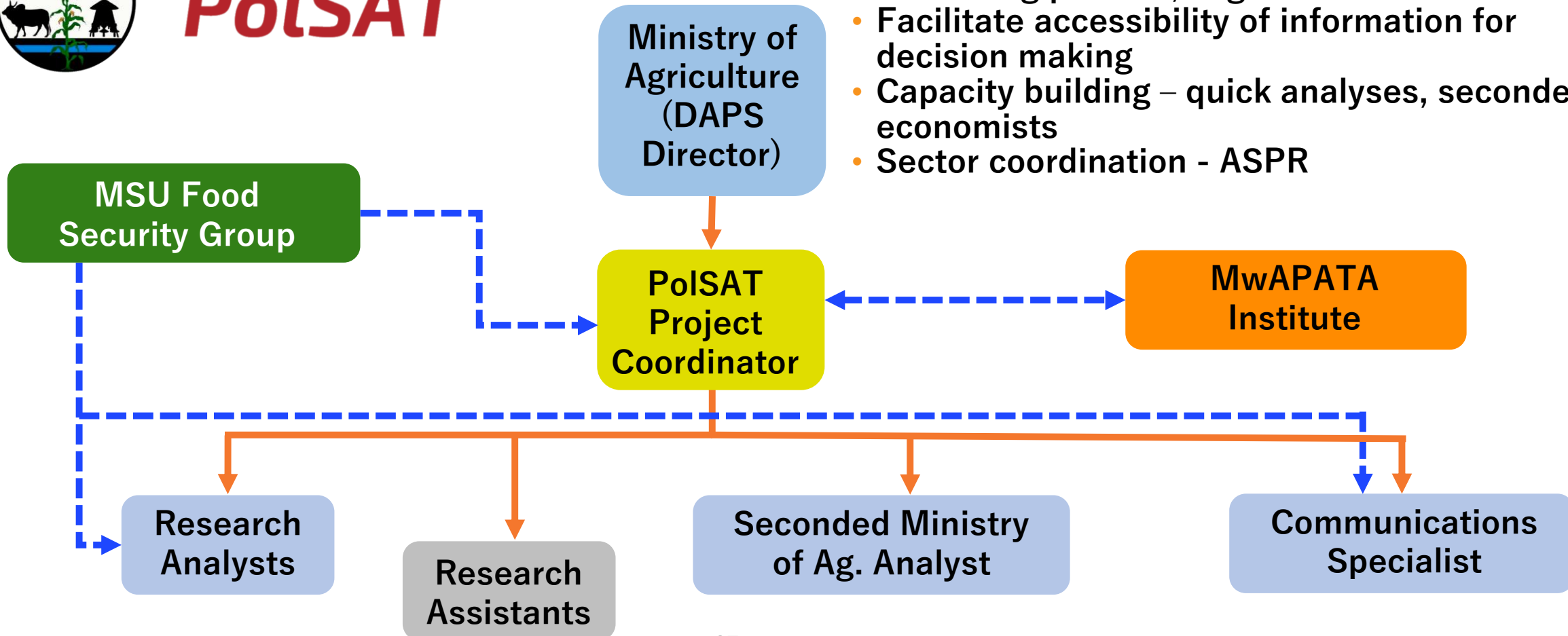
PoISAT Organization



PoISAT

How PoISAT supports MoA:

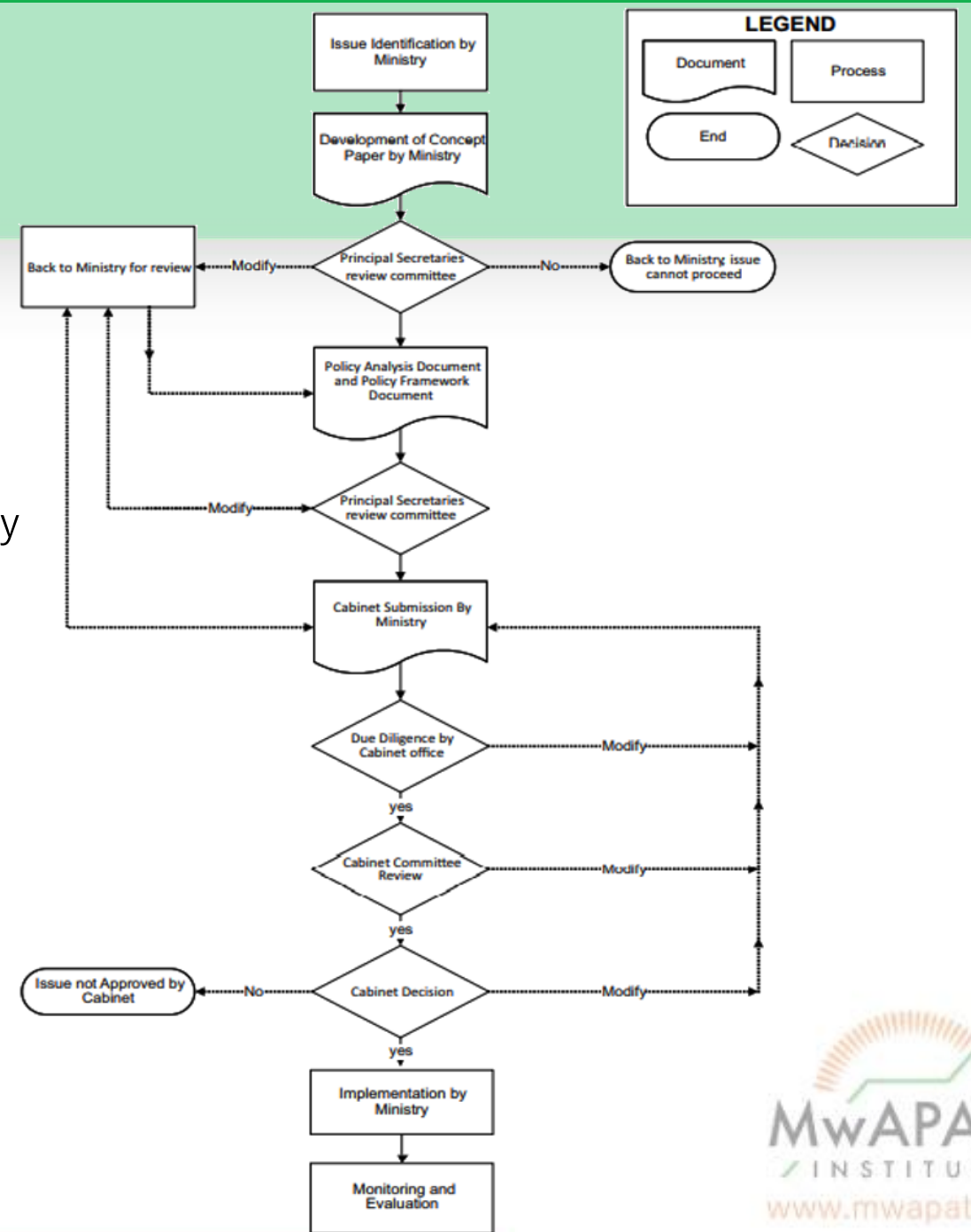
- Reviewing policies, align with transformation
- Facilitate accessibility of information for decision making
- Capacity building – quick analyses, seconded economists
- Sector coordination - ASPR



Policy review

Supports DAPS to convene Taskforce meetings that drive the policy review process:

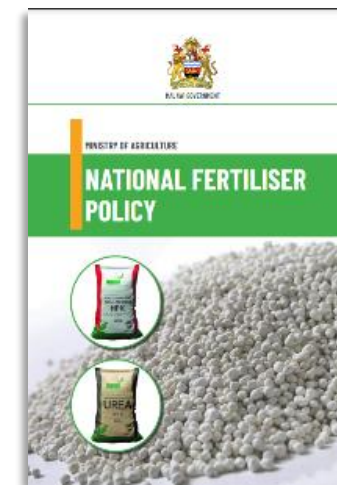
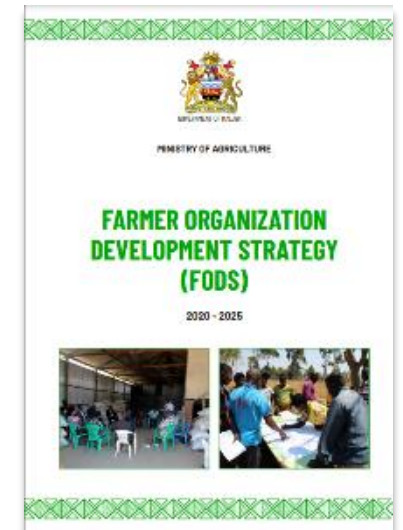
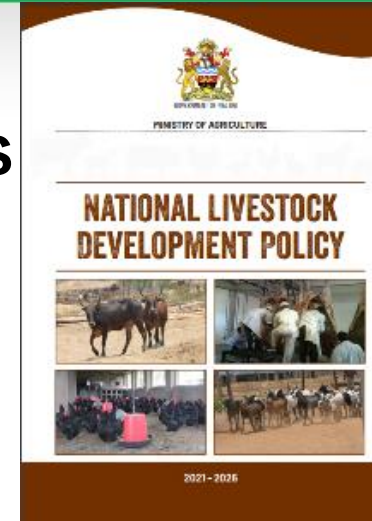
- Formulating and validating the terms of reference for consultants to undertake the review of the policy and/or develop a new policy
- Preparing the draft work plan and budget
- Facilitating team building among the consultants and the taskforce members
- Undertake review of the inception report, policy review report and the new policy document, and provide feedback to the consultants



Policy review - NAPAS

Policies were shortlisted for review based on Ministry of Agriculture's needs and EBA recommendations

- National Agricultural Policy
- National Agricultural Extension and Advisory Policy
- National Livestock Development Policy
- National Land Resource Management Policy and Strategy
- National Horticulture Policy
- Farmers Organization Development Strategy
- National Fertilizer Policy
- Agricultural Diversification Strategy



MoA Sector-wide Coordination

Support to Joint Sector Review

- Technical support towards production of 2020, 2021, and 2022 ASPRs
- Facilitate joint sector review committee meetings
 - right stakeholders; follow up action points

Sector Working Group

- Agricultural Productivity and Commercialization Pillar and Enabling Coordination Group
 - Synthesize issues during the meetings for MoA action

Technical Working Groups

- Four TWGs

MoA Sector-wide Coordination

Support to Joint Sector Review

- Technical support towards production of 2020, 2021, and 2022 ASPRs
- Facilitate joint sector review committee meetings - right stakeholders; follow up action points

Sector Working Group

- Agricultural Productivity and Commercialization Pillar and Enabling Coordination Group
- Synthesize issues during the meetings for MoA action

Technical Working Groups

- Four TWGs

Policy learning

Monthly Policy Seminars

- Act as a forum for reviewing and validating research outputs by different think tanks, and their policy implications
- Increase uptake of research outcomes into policy/program reviews and formulations
- Serve as a knowledge-sharing platform for Ministry of Agriculture to interface with other government MDAS and researchers and deliberate on policy issues for advancing agricultural transformation in Malawi

Malawi Annual Agriculture Policy Conference

- Part of the organizers of the 2021 and 2022 policy conferences

Enabling the Business of Agriculture

Booklet on Malawi Government Tax Incentives for Agricultural Productivity and Commercialization

- The handbook seeks to raise awareness on the tax incentives available in the agriculture sector
- Developed in collaboration with Malawi Revenue Authority, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Malawi Investment Trade Centre and other key stakeholders

Country Agribusiness Platform Framework

- CAP-F seeks to promote private sector investment within NAIP.
- Inception report with a proposed set up
- Priority value chains and business cases
- Available financing

Quick Analyses

 To support MoA management decisions

2021/22 Affordable Input Program Monitoring Surveys

- 1. Errors of inclusion and exclusion - non-beneficiaries connive with beneficiaries to buy the entitlement at a discounted price**
- 2. Maize is an expensive crop- at the levels of maize crop productivity, input prices and grain prices - it is not profitable for farmers to grow maize without a subsidy**
- 3. Potential political threat to reforms - a sense of entitlement to AIP is deepening among smallholder farmers**
- 4. Forced migration to legumes - due to high prices of fertilizer on commercial market, non-AIP beneficiaries migrated to production of legumes, especially groundnuts, beans and soya beans**

2021/22 Affordable Input Program Monitoring Surveys

1. High demand for subsidized fertilizer - the reduction in the subsidy rate did not have a significant effect on access to inputs among AIP beneficiaries.
2. Costly Government's delays - in making a decision on the subsidised price robbed the poorest of the time needed to mobilise the MK 15,000+ needed to purchase the fertilizers and seed on time.
3. Subsidized maize seed is unguarded - the uncapping of maize seed prices stifled access to elite hybrid seeds for the poor, as the top-up for a 5 kg seed pack in some selling points was reported to be around MK 8-9,000.
4. Legumes exclusion no effect - exclusion of legume seeds from the 2021/22 AIP did not negatively affect the area planted and production volume of legumes, and production trend has remained positive

2021/22 Affordable Input Program Monitoring Surveys Recommendations

1. Cap the maize seed price to moderate the agrodealer prices
2. Enforcement of the minimum set price for maize in local markets
3. Capacitate ADMARC to distribute and sell farm inputs in remote rural areas
4. Strengthen database of farm households in Malawi with National Agriculture Census data, which should be universalized and used for targeting all programs and projects by the MoA, other MDAs, even NGOs
5. Review the subsidy rate in light of the prevailing prices of fertilizers in the local markets
6. Flex the AIP package to promote diversification

Highlights of the SCP of fert market in Malawi

- ☀ Weak knowledge of 4R – right type, right crop, right amount and right timing for product sellers and farmers – not get optimum value for money
- ☀ Fertilizer is used mostly for maize - of all farmers interviewed, none applied fertilizers to legumes such as soya beans because they do not know that soya beans benefit from fertilizers.
- ☀ Import challenges – shortage of forex, port congestion, information asymmetry among importers
- ☀ Weak regulation - of fertilizer on the wholesale and retail markets

Highlights of the SCP of fert market in Malawi

- ☀️ Reported fertilizer adulteration problems - suppliers believe that the country has lax quality control measures.
- ☀️ Delayed opening of AIP fertilizer market – missing right time fertilizer application to crops
- ☀️ Weak demand/small market - some rural areas shunned by private sector due to high transportation cost
- ☀️ Devaluation and rising diesel prices (hence transport costs) - further worsen fertilizer prices on the local market

Compendium Booklet of Value Chain Studies in Malawi

- ☀️ **Agro-value chain studies determine strengths and weaknesses as well as opportunities and risks in specific product chains**
- ☀️ **The outcomes of these studies have been rarely disseminated, and most still exist in grey literature, thereby not conveniently available to inform programme design and policy formulation**
- ☀️ **Compendium has a summary of 12 value chains:**
 1. Map core processes (nodes)
 2. Actors involved in the processes (nodes)
 3. Distribution of costs and benefits among actors across the processes
 4. Governance of the value chains (contracts?)
 5. Opportunities for upgrade

Strategic partnerships

- ☀️ **MwAPATA being accepted by stakeholders as adding value to demand for empirical evidence in Malawi**
- ☀️ **Developing partnerships and cooperation with stakeholders founded on mutual interest**
 - Buy-in
 - Memorandum of understanding
- ☀️ **Leveraging partnerships**
 - African Network of Agricultural Policy Research Institutes
 - PRCI – STAAARS+
 - Irish Embassy
 - Catholic Relief Services
 - CIMMYT
 - International Food Policy Research Institute
 - World Bank
 - United States Agency for International Development

USAID Administrator Power visit and food security roundtable at MwAPATA



Strategic partnerships

- 🌅 **Leveraging additional funding and technical resources for evidence generation, outreach and dissemination**
- 🌅 **Enhancing the reputation of MwAPATA as a source of solid, evidence-based policy thinking**
- 🌅 **Potential greater impact of MwAPATA's strategy of generating evidence and dissemination**
- 🌅 **Could potentially derail and cause loss of focus if not managed as partners expectations are diverse**

Challenges and Lessons

- 🌅 **Enormous demand for empirical evidence from stakeholders**
- 🌅 **Streamlining objectives and themes of focus**
- 🌅 **Covid-19 pandemic and its containment measures**
- 🌅 **MwAPATA model – partnership between north-south institutions and PoSAT embedded in government ministry**
- 🌅 **Frequent management changes in the Ministry of Agriculture**

Looking forward – longer term

- 🌅 **Continuation of effective strategies**
- 🌅 **Diversifying and leveraging on funding and strategic partnerships**
- 🌅 **Sustainability – need for permanent office home**
- 🌅 **Effective measurement of impacts**
- 🌅 **Continue developing the reputation**
- 🌅 **Sustained demand for evidence from stakeholders**
- 🌅 **Ability to hire and retain high performance personnel**



Zikomo

info@mwapata.mw

www.mwapata.mw

ed@mwapata.mw