

Hotel Avenida-Sala Incomati
Maputo

15-16 November, 2004

CIPE Workshop on Developing Guidelines for Building Sustainable Market Information Systems in Africa with Strong Public-Private Partnerships

Sponsored by the Center for International Private Enterprise
With the technical support of Michigan State University

Background

- Malian experience provides case study
- Study tours to Mali by Zambians and Mozambican to Malian Market Outlook Conference
- SIMA recent experience in Nampula and with first Market Outlook Conference, Zambians in attendance
- Zambian efforts at building MIS
- CIPE desire to learn the lessons and share

Objectives

1. Learn from Experience
2. Identify complementary MIS actions
3. Analyze design issues that will influence the potential for future evolution of MIS in Africa
4. Potential role of MIS in development of agricultural exchanges

Objective #1

- Analyze the experiences of Mali, Zambia and Mozambique in building MIS
 - Financially sustainable
 - Client-oriented agricultural market information system
 - Contributes effectively to agribusiness growth and food security
- Identify critical steps necessary for success
 - Develop a set of design guidelines for market information services that can be used in other countries.

Objective # 2

- Complementary MIS actions beyond market reporting (price and quantities)
 - Crucial to increasing the payoff to investment in market information services:
 - ❖ Marketing Extension – Helping clients use market information more effectively
 - ❖ Market and marketing policy analysis. Understanding why markets behave the way they do and likely impact of different government actions

Objective # 3

- MIS Design Issues
 - Private/public roles
 - Entrepreneurial spirit in MIS
 - Privatization of MIS
 - Regional MIS
 - New information technologies

Objective #4

- How can an MIS facilitate the development of agricultural commodity exchanges, including electronic exchanges? What is the relationship between an MIS and an exchange?

Outputs

- Finalize the Guidelines for the development of sustainable, client-oriented Market Information Systems
 - Focus on developing appropriate and dynamic public-private partnerships to improve agricultural market information
- Encourage development of short papers and powerpoints as supporting documentation on the experiences of the three countries