

# GSSP POLICY DIALOGUE

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017**

LABADI BEACH HOTEL, ACCRA, GHANA

## Building Competitive Agriculture in Ghana

How can entrepreneurship be spurred to support agricultural development in Ghana? For the public sector, the key challenge is creating incentives for private sector actors, including smallholders, to invest in agricultural production and build the backward and forward linkages necessary for a competitive agricultural sector.

The Ghana Strategy Support Program (GSSP) policy dialogue offers an opportunity to examine the policy implications emerging from recent research. Policy makers and development practitioners—from the private sector, civil society, academia, development partners, and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture—are invited to discuss actionable recommendations on some of the critical issues in agricultural development in Ghana.

Five panels will provide five-minute introductions to recent research findings and policy implications to initiate discussion:

**Panel 1. Investment environment.** How do smallholders and other actors perceive opportunities in the agriculture sector? Panel 1 will examine the effect of the Ministry's decentralization and of occupational changes and choices of rural households, especially those headed by women and youth.

**Panel 2. Competitiveness.** How can value chains of crops that Ghana imports in significant quantities be strengthened? Panel 2 will look at value chains for vegetables, maize, and rice, and at how improved transportation is affecting agriculture and welfare.

**Panel 3. Development strategies.** Are value chain development programs benefiting smallholders? Panel 3 considers the impacts of contract farming, the warehouse receipt system, value chain committees, and partnerships with the private sector.

**Panel 4. Data systems.** How can Ghana build an affordable information system that meets public and private needs? Panel 4 will review the outcome of an IFPRI-supported pilot, and will look at appropriate parameters for an information system, effective technologies and approaches to information collection, and strategies for financing data systems sustainably.

**Panel 5. Growing agribusiness.** What is the state of downstream production in Ghana? Panel 5 will provide an overview of the processing sector, and look at policy options for the poultry sector, such as the impact of a ban on imports, and takeaways from a comparison with a protected domestic inland fishery.