

## Purchase For Progress: Alfredo Muarapaz, Mozambique



*Photo by WFP/Peter  
Transburg*

Alfredo Muarapaz did not expect such a windfall.

“I used the money to buy school things for my children, dishes and clothes for my family and even some tools to improve my house,” said Muarapaz, a poor, semi-subsistence farmer, who pocketed around US\$50 from the sale of his small cowpea surplus to the World Food Program (WFP).

It may not sound like much but Muarapaz lives in Mozambique – a country where over a third of the population survives on less than \$1 per day.

And it is certainly enough of an incentive for him to grow a larger surplus next year.

“I will plant two hectares and hope to grow 1760 lbs of cowpeas,” said Muarapaz, who sold just 330 lbs this year. “I have not grown many beans until now because I didn’t have a buyer but now that there is a secure buyer, I will produce a lot more beans.”

This optimistic production plan is exactly the response that WFP is hoping to foster among smallholder farmers with Purchase for Progress (P4P).

By providing a reliable market for smallholder farmers, local cooperatives and small traders, WFP is hoping to put more money into the pockets of poorer farmers and to provide them with a powerful incentive to invest and increase production.

In Mozambique, WFP has already finalized its first P4P contract, agreeing to pay \$145,000 for 250 tons of cowpeas from IKURU – a cooperative based in the northern province of Nampula, which works with 9,500 small-scale farmers, including Muarapaz.