

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

RuLIS – Rural Livelihoods Information System A joint FAO - World Bank - IFAD initiative



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Goal

The goal of RuLIS is to shed light on where and how people make a living in rural areas and to help improving their living conditions.

In practice

In the coming months, RuLIS will provide users access to:

- More than 100 harmonized indicators, mostly computed from nationally representative household surveys, disaggregated by gender, rural/urban areas, expenditure quintiles, share of income from agriculture and farm size.
- An additional function of the platform will allow users with relevant technical skills to build their own customized indicators using the background data, without the need of directly accessing the data.
- Links to information and research products in the area of rural • development and rural transformation.

Indicators are organized in ten clusters:

- **Income and Productivity** 1)
- 2) **Poverty and Inequality**
- 3) Employment and Education
- 4) Social Protection
- 5) Land
- Livestock 6)
- 7) Inputs, Technology and Credit
- 8) Infrastructure and Services
- 9) Shocks and Migration
- 10) Sample Characteristics



Why RuLIS?

Rural areas are home to about 47 percent of the global population (in 2014) and to about 75 percent of the world's poor and hungry people. A large share of this population depends directly or indirectly on agriculture for their livelihood.

Information on rural incomes, livelihoods and living conditions plays a fundamental role in understanding medium and long term trends in the structural transformation of agriculture and rural economies.

Comparable data are required to properly design, monitor and asses the impact of context-specific policies aimed at making the transformation more inclusive, with the goal of reducing rural poverty, hunger and inequality.

The monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and especially SDG 2 and target 2.3, also requires data on rural livelihoods and productivity.

However, comparable data across countries and over time on rural incomes, livelihoods and rural development are often sparse and scarce.

RuLIS and the SDGs

FAO and the World Bank are the custodian agencies for a number of SDG indicators. This calls for the identification of methodological options for the calculation of indicators that can be shared with member countries.

RuLIS will support the monitoring of SDG indicators 2.3.1 (Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/ pastoral / forestry enterprise size) and 2.3.2 (Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status).

Contributions are offered to improve the monitoring of other goals, such as those on access to land – 5.a of SDG 5 and 1.4 of SDG 1.

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