Planning of Conducting 2020 Myanmar Agricultural Census

Mr. Myint Thu (Deputy Director)
Department of Agricultural Land Management and Statistics
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Email: thumyin@gmail.com
Outline

• Background of 2020, Myanmar Agricultural Census
• Preparation activities for the implementation of 2020MAC
• Innovation of building area frame with the listing of agricultural holders
• Opportunities of building area frame and listing of agricultural holders
• Challenges for preparation activities
• Plans for upcoming activities
• Proposed recommendations
Background of 2020, Myanmar Agricultural Census

• Myanmar actively participated in the World Census of Agriculture (WCA) recommended by the FAO. After Myanmar gained its independence, 4 agricultural censuses had been conducted according to WCA guidelines.

• The 1\textsuperscript{st} Agricultural Census was conducted in 1953 and 1954.

• The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Myanmar Census of Agriculture was conducted in 1993, 40 years after 1\textsuperscript{st} Myanmar Census of Agriculture.

• The 3\textsuperscript{rd} Myanmar Census of Agriculture conducted in 2003 according to the WCA2000 round guideline. Settlement and Land Records Department, SLRD (Now Department of Agricultural Land Management and Statistics, DALMS) under Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation took the responsibilities to conduct the Census operation with assistance of FAO TCP Project (TCP/MYA/2801).
Background of 2020, Myanmar Agricultural Census

• In the 1953 Myanmar Census of Agriculture, Multistage Sampling Method was applied.

• Methodology applied in 1993 Myanmar Census of Agriculture was Stratified Systematic Random Sampling Method.

• In 2003 Myanmar Census of Agriculture, SLRD decided to use complete enumeration method although the WCA 2000 guideline did not recommended. Reason is to get the complete picture of the structure of Myanmar Agricultural Sector and to provide basic data and list frame for agricultural related surveys.

• In 2010, the modular approach had been used and two stages sampling method was used in supplementary module.
Preparation activities for the implementation of 2020 MAC

• 2020, Myanmar Agricultural Census has been conducted under FAO Technical Cooperation Project (TCP/MYA/3702/C2) since 2018

• During 2019, Training on Building Master Sampling Frame and GIS / Satellite Imagery was given in Nay Pyi Taw under the technical cooperation program in term of capacity building in human resources.

• On December of 2019, the 1st Steering Committee of 2020 MAC had been held in Nay Pyi Taw and methodology and resources allocation for 2020 MAC was decided by the member of Steering Committee.

• In accordance with the decision of steering committee, the process of building area frame and listing of agricultural holdings was planned and laid down the work plan for 15 Regions/States of Myanmar.
Preparation activities for the implementation of 2020 MAC

• In accordance with the essential items from the guidelines of 2020, World Census of Agriculture, short form questionnaire has prepared and sent it to the members of steering committee to provide comments and suggestions on it.

• As soon as the process of building area frame with listing of agricultural holders was achieved, the short form questionnaire will be used in tablets by applying CAPI system.

• The gender status for agricultural holders and land used right status will be expressed in short form questionnaire to meet the data requirement for sustainable development goals-SDG indicator 5.A.1.
Innovation of building area frame with the listing of agricultural holders

• Due to budget and time limitation, this activity is conducted by our own staffs from the Department of Agricultural Land Management and Statistics, DALMS.

• Satellite images will be used to build area frames by digitizing the crops cultivated areas using GIS software.

• Township level will be designated as domain.

• Agricultural holders are identified for each crops cultivated area by using administrative data such as land revenue records, land used certificates based on cadastral maps of DALMS.
Opportunities of building area frame and listing of agricultural holders

• In the experiences of previous four censuses, the sketched maps were required to build up list frame (agricultural holdings). In the present condition of our case, it is not possible to conduct with list frame due to time limitation for the implementation of main census in 2021.

• The staffs from every townships of 15 Regions/States have digitized the all crops cultivated areas within their Townships boundary. Since one of the responsibilities of our department is to survey agricultural land and produce cadastral maps, building area frame is familiar with our department. Thus this activity has already conducted with our department own effort.

• After finishing digital maps for crops cultivated areas, each agricultural holders will be identified for each area by using administrative records based on cadastral maps.

• Field inspection (ground truthing) will be made in some areas, as necessary, to avoid misinterpretation of satellite images.
Challenges for preparation activities

• CAPI training is immediately needed to enumerate the respondents and to categorize the agricultural holders into holders which are engaged in live-stocks, fishery and alternative economic activities.

• But, applying CAPI with tablets is supposed to be the first time for the implementation of 2020MAC. CAPI training is requested to support under the FAO’s Technical Cooperation Program.

• In the budget year 2019-2020, the department bought 250 tablets with tender system. The amount of tablets is nearly 500 including existing department stock. The additional requirement will be available in terms of resource mobilization from concerned departments.

• In the budget year 2020-2021, the department has also proposed to buy additional 3000 tablets for 2020 MAC. But, it is not sure whether the proposed budget will be allowed or not.
Plans for the upcoming activities

• After attaining the agricultural holdings throughout the country, the long form questionnaire for the agriculture, Live-stocks, aquaculture / fisheries activities, household information and village tract information (Community level) will be prepared to conduct pilot test survey during the November of 2020. At the same time, supervisor and enumerator manuals/ guidelines will be prepared and necessary training will be given.

• At the time of conducting pilot test, technical cooperation program for sampling methods, data processing, validation, imputation and producing tables and figures for the results and findings of 2020 MAC will be required by using CSPro software and CAPI system.

• After conducting pilot test survey, some requirement will be amended and followed by implementing main census in 2021. In order to achieve this activity, external funding will be required together with Government’s contribution including in kinds and funds.
Proposed recommendations

• Myanmar has conducted Myanmar Agricultural Census since 1950 round in accordance with the guidelines of World Census of agriculture.

• Although DALMS has paid concerted effort to accomplish the fifth round of 2020 MAC with the support of Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, FAO’s technical cooperation program plays a vital role to achieve technically appreciable outcome from 2020 Myanmar Agricultural Census.

• On behalf of our Department, I would like to request the FAO’s TCP support, especially in the application of CAPI system and CS-pro Software to conduct data processing, analyzing and producing the census data.
Thank you!

[Mr. Myint Thu] - (e-mail - thumyin@gamil.com)

[Deputy Director]
Department of Agricultural Land Management and Statistics (DALMS)
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
Republic of the Union of Myanmar