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Social and economic statistics

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) produces and disseminates internationally comparable social and economic statistics that contribute to the analyses of agricultural trends and social and economic policies.

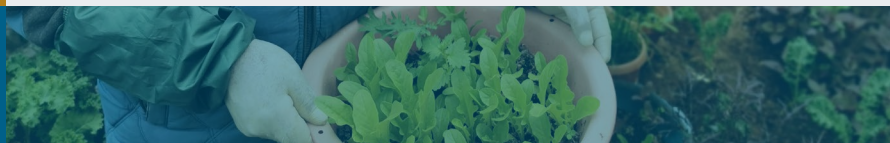
This work promotes the collection, analysis and dissemination of data and indicators to support evidence-based policymaking; the development of methodologies; and capacity development activities.

It contributes significantly to FAO's efforts to enable inclusive and efficient agrifood systems, with the goal to eradicate rural poverty and hunger, and make livelihoods more resilient to disasters.

Area of work

FAO's work on social and economic statistics focuses on the contribution of agriculture to economic growth and food production, as well as rural livelihoods, poverty and resilience to disasters. This includes:

- > Managing the Rural Livelihoods Information System (RuLIS), a tool aimed at supporting policy formulation and the structural transformation of agriculture and rural economies.
- > Collecting and disseminating indicators, ideally sex-disaggregated, computed from household-based surveys in support of policy formulation.
- > Developing methodologies and analytical work to enable measuring the multidimensional poverty indicator for rural areas.
- > Investment statistics, development flows to agriculture, agricultural credit and foreign direct investment; price statistics; macroeconomic statistics, capital stock and capital formation.





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Key outputs

Data collection and dissemination

- > Manage the RuLIS platform.
- > Provide data on SDG indicators 2.a.1., 2.3.1., 2.3.2. and 5.a.1. for international reporting.
- > Update FAOSTAT domains on macroeconomic indicators, agricultural public expenditures, credit to agriculture, foreign direct investment, development flows to agriculture, producer prices, consumer prices, the decomposition of food expenditures, and employment.
- > Provide data and indicators related to damage and losses in agriculture resulting from disasters.
- > Co-lead FAO's flagship report on the Impact of Disasters on Agriculture and Food Security.

Methodological work

- > Measure poverty in rural areas.
- > Enable and expand the country coverage for the measurement of SDG Indicators 2.a.1., 2.3.1., 2.3.2. and 5.a.1, and Indicator C-2 of the Sendai Framework, as well as the corresponding SDG Indicator 1.5.2.
- > Improve and refine estimation methods and processing mechanisms for the preparation of economic statistics.
- > Improve and refine estimation methods to measure the impact of disasters and crisis on agriculture and food security.

Capacity development

FAO provides technical assistance to countries to:

- > Enhance national and regional capacities to compute harmonized indicators relating to rural livelihoods, following the approach adopted in RuLIS.
- > Promote the gathering and use of sex-disaggregated data and indicators.
- > Compute harmonized indicators relating to decent agricultural and rural employment.
- > Collect data on agricultural capital formation, with details on crops, livestock, fisheries, aquaculture and forestry.
- > Adopt, produce, interpret and apply the SDG and Sendai Framework indicators mentioned above.

- > Developing methodologies to estimate economic indicators relevant for agriculture, and providing technical support to countries in producing these indicators.
- > Collaboration with international organizations to harmonize the data collection process and reduce the burden on responding countries.
- > Developing methodologies and data collection to support monitoring of international frameworks, in particular SDG Indicators and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- > Capacity development on the methodology for collecting and computing statistics of damage and loss from disasters in agriculture.

Core objectives

FAO's work on social and economic statistics aims to provide detailed information on the importance of agriculture in economic, financial and social indicators, and to support member countries in 1) formulating evidence-based frameworks and policies for reducing rural poverty and enhancing rural development, 2) strengthening the resilience of agricultural livelihoods, and 3) assessing agricultural damage and loss resulting from disasters and extreme events.

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FURTHER INFORMATION: www.fao.org/about/who-we-are/departments/statistics-division/en/
www.fao.org/in-action/rural-livelihoods-dataset-rulis/en



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