

## **EAC RegionSTAT Regional Technical Working Group Recommendations and Conclusions**

- Finalization of the priority list of crops considering the data available in the 5 EAC countries. Each country should propose 10 crops that are important to them, and this input will allow the EAC to define the short-list.
  - ACTION: The TWG members suggested that the regional statistician for the project should follow up with the Principal Economist of the EAC, Moses Marwa, as all EAC countries provided a list of priority crops for the regional Food Balance Sheet.
- The TWG members agreed that in scenarios where certain indicators existed for livestock and other related indicators were missing, it could be possible to derive those missing from the existing data to fill the gaps. For example, in order to fill gaps related to slaughtered animals where quantities of meat are provided gaps could be filled using the average weight of live animals, average weight of hides and skins by each animal provided by the Ministry of Livestock in each country.
- It was discussed that producer prices are collected using different methodologies in the 5 EAC countries. If this is the case we cannot have comparable figures in the EAC countries. Different countries use different currencies.
  - ACTION: At the regional level the units should be USD for all price related indicators.
  - ACTION: Paul N’Goma-Kimbatsa can share with all TWG members Producer Price Methodology, and inform Carola Fabi of the requirement for follow up with the EAC Secretariat.
- Machinery plays a very important role towards increasing agricultural productivity and oftentimes its use is inadequate in the region. Therefore as a data domain machinery should rise in priority due to its importance in agriculture. In order to increase the investment in machinery, it is important to ensure data is available.
- Population Projections can sometimes be quite different from actual population values resulting from the population census. It is advisable to keep both values, but indicating the population projection versus the value coming from the census. This is a point that could also be explained in the metadata.
  - ACTION: Julia Stone must follow up with the project statistician on how this can be noted in the CountrySTAT system giving the example of provisional and actual crop production figures.
- Some colleagues within the EAC are missing codes for some fisheries indicators.
  - ACTION: Alex Mwaniki of CountrySTAT Kenya will share with his colleagues the codes for fish from the region as he has already done work on this in the correspondence table. This may aid his colleagues for the classification of their fish species.
- The EAC must support the efforts of the 5 CountrySTATs in the dissemination of rainfall data. In Burundi the meteorological data is free of charge. In Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda the CountrySTAT National Coordinator is expected to pay for it, and this affects the level of consistency of the data across the 5 CountrySTATs. There could be data gaps which affect the regional presentation of these indicators, and ultimately there are sharing agreements to considering with national Meteorological Offices. It doesn’t make sense for data to be paid for, and then put on a site and freely distributed.
- Key Indicators should be regionally aggregated. At the moment this page is static, but it must be possible to aggregate from the 5 countries.
- CountrySTAT should closely look at how data is exchanged between countries and how notifications are sent. It is clear that the Regional Statistician has had to download a number of files from all countries, and it was difficult for him to know when updates were made available.

- From the IT side it is important to evaluate the tools required by those analysing data at the regional level. Again the Regional Statistician has had to download a number of files from all countries, and he has been working in parallel with efforts in countries to update their sites. Therefore he needs tools that allow him to work online and in real time. The time spent to download data and analyse it could be cut dramatically with online tools.