



**FAO-OEA/CIE-IICA WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK
STATISTICS FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Twenty-sixth Session

Port of Spain, 5-7 June 2013

Recommendations

- 1.** Requests that the next FAO Regional Conference reviews the current status of the FAO-OEA/CIE-IICA Working Group on agricultural and livestock statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean, and make relevant recommendations to establish a **Regional Commission on Agricultural Statistics**.

- 2.** Recommends that FAO establishes a **Committee on Agricultural Statistics at Global Level** in order to (a) ensure better coordination and standardization of the activities and recommendations emanating from Regional Commissions and bodies; (b) provide a global forum for Country Representatives to review and endorse methodological and other normative work; and (c) create a peer-review process for data published and methodologies used by FAO.

- 3.** Recognizes that **low response rates** to FAO questionnaires could be improved between FAO and countries through (i) the identification and designation of **focal points** at national level (ii) the improvement of **coordination mechanisms** within the NSS which are to be addressed through the implementation of the regional action plan of the Global Strategy to improve Rural and Agricultural Statistics (Global Strategy) (iii) the organization of **specific workshops** addressing issues related to data collection frequency, imputation techniques (iv) the use of web based data entry system questionnaires.

- 4.** Recommends that the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) of the **Global Strategy** ensures full and formal **country commitment** in the selected priority countries for the implementation of the regional action plan.

- 5.** Recommends considering the possibility to use relevant **sub-regional institutions** as participating partners in the implementation of the Global Strategy regional action plan, in accordance with their respective capacity and availability of funding.
- 6.** Recommends that given the low general availability of data for **Caribbean countries** a specific approach adapted to statistical capacity development in the sub-region should be adopted.
- 7.** Recommends that the RSC consider **regional organizations**, notably the IADB, ECLAC, etc. to help with the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the regional action plan of the Global Strategy, including the possibility of leveraging south-south cooperation where appropriate and relevant.
- 8.** Recommends that countries and Regional/Sub-regional organisations consider adopting **CountrySTAT** as one of the possible platforms for the integration, management and dissemination of official statistics for food and agriculture, including data from agriculture censuses and surveys, statistical yearbooks, Food Balance Sheets (FBS) and other specific statistical products.
- 9.** Encourages FAO to continue working on the integration of CountrySTAT with FAOSTAT with a view to using CountrySTAT as a standard vehicle for easier provision of national data from member countries to FAO.
- 10.** Encourages countries to collect and disseminate timely and reliable data on food supplies in conformity with **international classification** schemes such as CPC version 2.1 for production and HS for trade.
- 11.** Recommends that countries produce their own **FBS**, providing reliable and detailed information on food utilization and recommends that **FAO** (a) **assists** in the FBS compilation process, (b) assists countries to adopt the most recent methodological improvements, and (c) helps create the necessary statistical capacity at country level.

- 12.** Encourages that countries consider the possibility to make **micro data from surveys** available to help FAO to identify possible data issues (unit of measurements, nutrient content, food away from home, etc.). FAO is asked to address carefully possible concerns, both of a technical and data confidentiality nature through an MoU.

- 13.** Recommends that countries collaborate with the International Household Survey Network (**IHSN**) in particular to develop the **optimal design of food consumption modules** to be used in multipurpose Household Surveys.

- 14.** Recommends that countries work closely with FAO to agree on **common standards and tools to be used for food security monitoring** such as Food Balance Sheets, household surveys, the ADePT Food Security module and the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).

- 15.** Recommends that FAO continues with the work on the **suite of food security indicators and the compilation of composite indices** and that countries provide critical feedback on the proposed set of indicators and indices.

- 16.** Recommends that the **FAO indicator on the Prevalence of Undernourishment is denominated in Spanish “Prevalencia de sub-alimentación”,** rather than “*Prevalencia de sub-nutrición*”, as it has been done thus far, to avoid continued misinterpretation of the indicator as one of people’s nutritional status.

- 17.** Recommends **continuance of the modular approach in WCA 2020** which places agricultural census in the context of an integrated survey program. Further guidance would be necessary to operationalize the modular approach.

- 18.** Recommends in **WCA2020** furthering **elaboration of methods for aggregation and linkage of the many holdings** which have the same holder (which is commonly found with large corporations or persons in some countries).

- 19.** Recommends in **WCA2020** the **linking of population and housing censuses with agriculture censuses** be considered as a useful approach in particular for **smaller countries** in the region.
- 20.** Recommends further consideration for **WCA 2020** on improving methods for **collection of gender disaggregated data**.
- 21.** Recommends that workshops be conducted for sub-regions to discuss and elaborate the proposals for WCA 2020.
- 22.** Recommends that FAO continues its work on measuring **agricultural investment**, and requests member countries to review and provide feedback to FAO on the Country Investment Profiles before dissemination on FAOSTAT.
- 23.** Recommends that FAO continues its work on measuring **costs of production** and encourages countries to critically review the emerging methodological issues, and make contributions to the handbook in preparation for 2014.
- 24.** Recommends that FAO continues its work on measuring **producer and consumer prices in agriculture and food, preparing handbooks/guidelines**, and encourages member countries to provide feedback on the methodological developments regarding agricultural price statistics. Member Countries are also encouraged to make additional data available that allow FAO to complete and further improve its price profiles.
- 25.** Endorses the work undertaken by FAO in developing an **agri-environmental indicators database in FAOSTAT**.
- 26.** Recommends that FAO works with member countries in **developing agri-environmental indicators that are integrated with the FDES and SEEA** and are relevant for the region.

- 27.** Endorses the methodological scope and coverage of the **SEEA-AGRI** to be developed by FAO, and recommends working with member countries in implementing the SEEA-AGRI framework in the region.

- 28.** Endorses the work undertaken by FAO in developing a **Greenhouse Gas Emissions database in FAOSTAT and its use as a useful platform for analysis** of mitigation data.

- 29.** Recommends that FAO continues to work with countries, individually and at regional level, to support their **analysis and estimation of greenhouse gas emissions data and indicators, for use in developing inventories and to plan mitigation strategies in agriculture** that are in line with their rural development goals.