



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
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et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

FAO-CCM-12-3E

CountrySTAT Consultative Meeting

(Back-to-back with the 22nd AFCAS)

MTF/GLO/345/BMG "CountrySTAT for Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)"

UTF/UEM/002/UEM "Appui à la mise en œuvre et au développement du Système CountrySTAT en Guinée-Bissau, au Niger, au Togo et au Siège de la Commission de l'UEMOA"

GTFS/RAF/465/ITA "Strengthening capacity of selected member countries of the East African Community in agricultural statistics for food security"

Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia 28 – 29 November 2011

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION/SYNERGIES BETWEEN PARTNERS AND COUNTRIES WORKING GROUP

CountrySTAT Projects Background

The overall goal of the three CountrySTAT projects is to contribute to better policies and investments that will lead to improved agricultural productivity growth and better livelihood for small farmers in 21 Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) countries through improved and sustainable access to better quality agricultural statistics data through CountrySTAT and Region STAT system by researchers, policy makers, development partners and the private sector.

The project will strengthen the CountrySTAT system to make them self-reliant for sustainable functioning after the end of the project, including the contribution of two regional organizations, the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and East African Community (EAC). Therefore at the end of these projects, it is expected that 21 SSA countries and 2 Regional Institutions will have established CountrySTAT and RegionSTAT having a self-reliant and sustainable system.

Main Objectives of the Projects

- **Strengthening the CountrySTAT systems established in the Sub-Saharan countries and promoting the use of data**, including updating and enhancing the technical capacity of national staff, strengthening technical and coordination institutions; improving data quality and promoting the use of CountrySTAT by data users.
- **Development of new IT tools and functions for CountrySTAT** for easy maintenance and updating by CountrySTAT technical staff and for user friendly access by users: developing new standard tools, including distance learning tools, improving the functionalities of existing systems.

- **Strengthening the partnerships with relevant Regional Organizations** in order to ensure the long-term sustainability of the systems by building capacity of a pool of regional and national experts and competent trainers able to provide technical support on continuous basis through regional institutions (UEMOA and EAC) or as South-South cooperation.

Topics to be discussed by Working Group

With reference of the projects objectives and the conclusions/recommendations of the Independent Evaluation Mission, the Working Group will analyse the experiences, lessons learned, improvement areas and work plans related to statistical component focusing on the following:

1. How to achieve the sustainability of the Institutional Framework?
 - a. Exchange the best practices to ensure the appropriate resources (staff, budget, etc.) to be allocated for National Secretariat CountrySTAT for better implementation of the work plans.
 - b. Exchange the best practices to ensure better collaboration between relevant National Institutions to organize regular meetings.
 - c. Ensure data users and stakeholders as part of CountrySTAT process for more sustainability of the CountrySTAT system.
 - d. Integration of CountrySTAT in the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), a better visibility and increase the number of CountrySTAT System users.
2. How to ensure better communication for more visibility of the CountrySTAT system?
 - a. Elaborate a Communication Plan which aims to strengthen governmental and private sector commitment and participation in CountrySTAT activities. This to anticipate the final Communication Plan that will have to follow in order to drive the national CountrySTAT into a full sustainable program.
 - b. Review and analyze lessons learned, best practices and/or new ideas on how to achieve sustainability.
 - c. Strengthening communication activities CountrySTAT for increased visibility, awareness and use at national, regional and international levels.
 - Ensure good coverage (articles written for local newspapers, interviews, reportages, coverage of major events on television and radio)
 - Regular updating of the News section of CountrySTAT website
 - Governmental institutions events
 - Promote the use of CountrySTAT in FAO Representation libraries, Universities libraries, Ministries, etc.
 - Communication Officer as part of CountrySTAT Team
3. Maintain qualified and well-trained staff on CountrySTAT at the national level.
 - a. Evaluate the content of the “Basic” and “Advanced” Training.
 - b. Advise on a “Train-the-Trainer” approach.

4. Building Capacity at the Regional Level in order to provide technical support within the region.
 - a. Evaluate a national and regional pool of CountrySTAT Experts (in countries and in regional institutions) in order to develop a “South-South” Cooperation (UEMOA and EAC).
 - b. Evaluate regional periodical meetings and experiences exchange between countries through study tours.

With reference to the four topics listed above, the Working Group should develop the following points :

- Writing the main recommendations, including possible suggestions for their implementation.
- Prepare a presentation on the main recommendations (in PPT format).