A vertical decorative strip on the left side of the slide features a stylized illustration of a rice plant with long green leaves and a central stalk. The background of this strip has a subtle grid pattern.

# Technical assistance component Regional Action Plan

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# TA in Asia and the Pacific

- TA in agricultural statistics has been provided by organizations and countries in AP.
- These include FAO, ADB, ESCAP, World Bank, Paris21, SPC, ILO, USDA, SIDA, Norway Statistics, EU, DFID...
- Bilateral (including south-south) assistance by AP countries such as Japan, Australia, China, India, Korea, New Zealand, Thailand the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia...



# Shortcomings of some earlier TA

- Directed at meeting urgent short-term data needs of supported projects rather than to meet nat'l needs and longer-term development of sustainable capacity;
- did not confer ownership to national governments. Many activities ceased when donor funding ended;
- lack of coordination and prioritization and high staff turnover, failing transferring of know-how and technical expertise to counterparts.
- For a lasting impact, the TA will be based on the UN Guiding Principles for Technical Cooperation for Statistics and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.
- TA should be, *inter alia*, demand-led, strategic, country owned, aligned, harmonized, managed and mutually accountable.



# The TA component: Purpose

## Main purpose:

- The TA component is a plan to improve and strengthen institutional, organizational, and technical capacities of AP countries for the development of their Agricultural Statistical Systems.



# TA component: overview

## At regional level

- One of the first steps of the TA is to adapt the guidelines provided by the Global Office to meet regional specificities.
- E.g. guidelines to conduct in-depth assessments, formulation of country proposals, technical, etc.
- Another step is the selection of target countries with proved commitment of the governments;
- In-depth assessments of the statistical needs and capabilities of target countries will follow.
- The assessments will form the basis for the development of Sector Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SSPARS).<sup>5</sup>



# TA component: overview

## At country level

- In-depth assessments will result in preparation of work plans and country proposals for donors.
- Work-plans would depend on the statistical development level of the country.
- Country proposals would focus on specific areas for TA.
- One country proposal might be the preparation of a sector plan (SSPARS) to integrate (or improve the integration of) agriculture into the NSS.



# Outputs and Activities

- TA component for AP relates to Outputs **A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J** and **K** of the regional action plan.





# Output B

- ***Output B. Country specific minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics identified by each country using the minimum set of core data contained in the Global Strategy as the basis***
  - *Sub-output B1. Country-specific minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics subscribed to by countries that also covers new and cross-cutting areas.*

*Activity B1. Organize in-depth country assessments with participation of users and producers using adapted country assessment guidelines.*

*Activity B2. Establishment of baseline information through a detailed assessment of specific country needs: questionnaire design, data collection, data processing, data analysis, and reporting.*

*Activity B3. Development and establishment of technical assistance programmes.*



## Output C

- ***Output C. Sector Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SSPARS) as a component of the NSDS provide the stages for the implementation.***

*Activity C1.* Adapting the global guidelines to mainstream agriculture into the NSS.

*Activity C2.* Preparation of detailed SSPARS as part of the NSDS process (undertaking needs assessment, visioning, strategizing, action planning, M&E, etc.).

*Activity C3.* Preparation of country proposals based on assessments of needs to support SSPARS.



## Output D

- ***Output D. Improved political support by decision makers for agricultural and rural statistics in terms of provision of budget and resources***

*Activity D1.* Assist key stakeholders to develop business cases for increased political and resource support.

*Activity D2.* Organize technical meetings between decision makers and data providers to showcase the importance of agricultural and rural statistics.



## Output E

- ***Output E. Strengthened legal and coordination mechanisms and frameworks for agricultural and rural statistics.***

*Activity E1.* Support legal frameworks for agri-stats by ensuring their alignment with other legal provisions.

*Activity E2.* Promote and enhance coordination for agricultural data production and use by:

- Establishing mechanisms for continuous dialogue between data producers and users (e.g. coordination committees);
- Coordination procedures among data producers.

*Activity E3.* Assist countries in the coordination of activities in the NSS to adequately integrate environmental and socio-economic issues, including gender, in agri-stats.



## Output F

- ***Output F.*** Enhanced capacity of NSS to advocate for adequate resources for developing and compiling country-specific minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics

*Activity F1.* Promote the use by NSS of best advocacy practices for the allocation of sufficient government and private resources to compile the minimum set of core data.

*Activity F2.* Prepare resource mobilization plan to put the NSS on a sustainable basis.



## Output G

- ***Output G. Increased ability of NSS to access and use ICT for production and dissemination of minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics.***

*Activity G1.* Assist countries to build/sustain statistical capacity, including survey and IT infrastructure, and application of technologies/tools such as remote sensing, GIS and GPS.

*Activity G2.* Assist countries with use of statistical software and IT solutions for compilation, reporting/dissemination of the min. core data set.

*Activity G3.* Assist countries to establish and/or strengthen CountrySTAT., e.g. for data management and harmonization and a portal for national agricultural data dissemination.



# Output H

- ***Output H. Improved competencies of NSS to produce and disseminate minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics in accordance with international standards and good practices through training and technical assistance.***

*Activity H1.* Assist countries to better plan and manage their agricultural censuses (sources of benchmark data) according to the latest guidelines.

*Activity H2.* Assist countries to design integrated survey frameworks and databases towards the establishment of a Master Sampling Frame.

*Activity H3.* Assist countries to review and audit methodologies and instruments in use for registers of administrative reporting data.

*Activity H4.* Assist countries to improve data collection and comparability among sources and over time. TA may be required to help countries:

- i. Assemble review, analyze, and document existing agri-datasets
- ii. Verify the accuracy and reliability of the agricultural production data series, using information from other sources
- iii. Establish and maintain a web-based technology system for food and agricultural statistics at the national and sub-national levels.



## Output I

- ***Output I. Strengthened capacity of national and regional training institutions to develop and deliver relevant, efficient, and effective training in agricultural and rural statistics***

*Activity I1.* Promote the application in-country of acquired technical knowledge and skills.

*Activity I2.* Support the emergence of regional centers of excellence in technical areas such as satellite imagery and other emerging technologies, sampling designs and other innovative methods.



## Output J

- **Output J.** Improved capacity of countries to adopt cost effective and reliable methods for producing minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics
  - *Sub-output J1.* Improved ability of countries to adopt methodological research results, guidelines and frameworks for agricultural and rural statistics.

*Activity J1.* Assist countries in the implementation of relevant and sound statistical methodology.

*Activity J2.* Assist countries to assemble, review, analyze and document good practices as well as existing datasets, including causes of inconsistencies and discrepancies in agricultural data from different sources and ways to reconcile them.

*Activity J3.* Assist countries to verify the accuracy and reliability of the agricultural production data series.

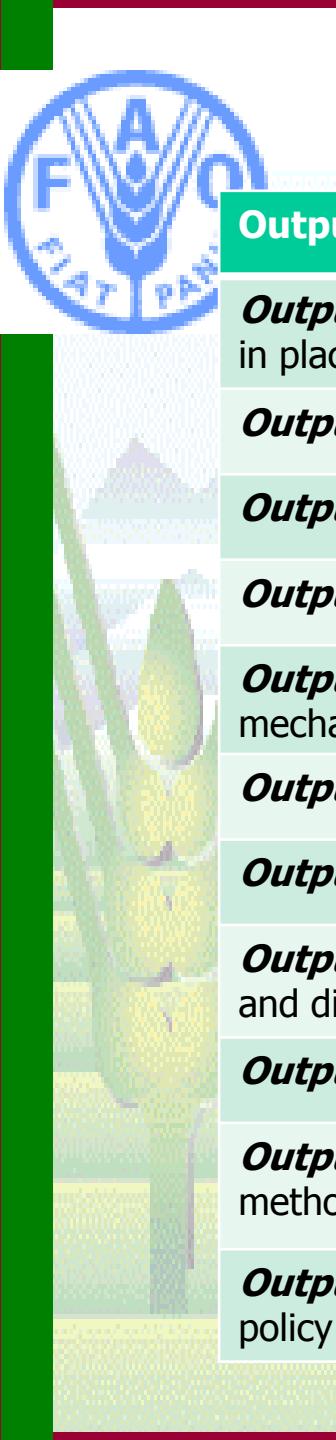


## Output K

- ***Output K. Increased capacity of countries in the use of agri-stats to meet priority needs for policy making, operation of efficient markets and foster sound investment.***

*Activity K1.* Disseminate guidelines on the application of data analysis for evidence-based decision making.

*Activity K2.* Provide support for cross-cutting analysis from the economic, social and environmental dimensions for policy purposes.



# Work Plan

Outputs	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<b>Output A.</b> Regional Governance structure in place					
<b>Output B.</b> Country Assessments					
<b>Output C.</b> SSPARS					
<b>Output D.</b> Political support					
<b>Output E.</b> Legal & coordination mechanisms					
<b>Output F.</b> Advocacy					
<b>Output G.</b> Access, use of ICT					
<b>Output H.</b> Competencies NSS to produce and disseminate minimum set of agri-stats					
<b>Output I.</b> Capacity for training institutions					
<b>Output J.</b> Cost effective and reliable methods for producing min. set of agri-stats					
<b>Output K.</b> Use of agricultural statistics for policy making					



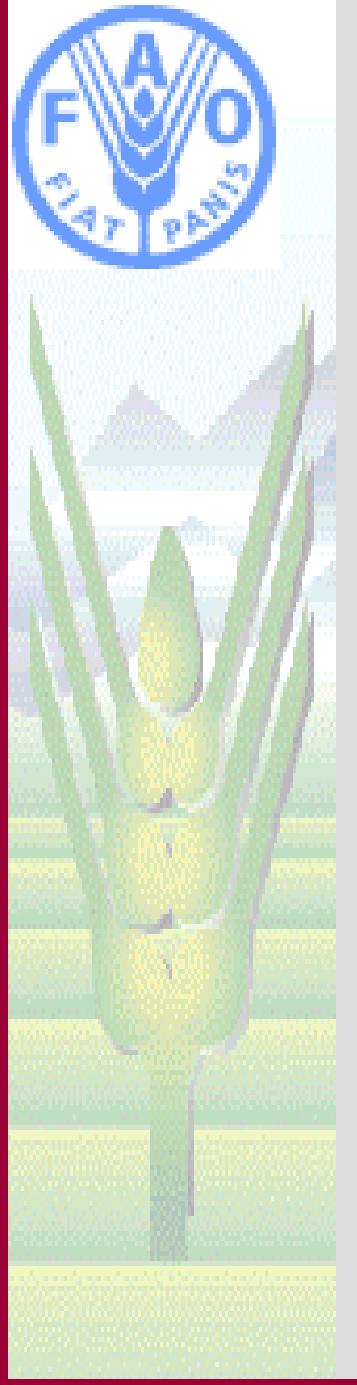
# Technical Assistance Budget

Outputs	USD
<b>Output A.</b> Regional Governance structure	742,500
<b>Output B.</b> Country Assessments	490,000
<b>Output C.</b> SSPARS	1,400,000
<b>Output D.</b> Political support	780,000
<b>Output E.</b> Legal & coordination mechanisms	300,000
<b>Output F.</b> Advocacy	90,000
<b>Output G.</b> Access, use of ICT	2,530,000
<b>Output H.</b> Competencies NSS to produce and disseminate minimum set of agri-stats	1,330,000
<b>Output I.</b> Capacity for training institutions	960,000
<b>Output J.</b> Cost effective and reliable methods for producing min. set of agri-stats	3,230,000
<b>Output K.</b> Use of agri-statistics for policy making	160,000
<b>Technical Assistance Budget Total</b>	<b>12,012,500</b>



## Final Remarks

- TA should be coordinated at the regional/ global levels to ensure consistent methods and standards (resulting in internationally comparable statistics)
- TA should consider other development activities that are underway.
- Agreement on regional and sub-regional minimum sets of core data could be defined before in-depth country assessments.
- Assistance shall be provided to countries that require it and show political will and commitment.
- Governments need to demonstrate ownership and commitment by funding regular statistical services/activities.



**Thank you for your attention**