

GAMBIA - Agricultural Census 2001/02 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline

The 2001/02 Agricultural Census was the first comprehensive agricultural census exercise conducted in the country.

Organization

The census was organized and implemented by the Agricultural Statistics and Resources Economics Unit (ASRE) of the Department of Planning (DOP) of the Department of State for Agriculture (DOSA). Technical and financial assistance was provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Catholic Relief Services, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Action Aid in the Gambia, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, the European Development Fund, and the Republic of China.

Enumeration period

The enumeration took place from July to September 2002.

Definition

- **Dabada/Household:** A group of individuals usually related, conducting farming or non farming activities as a unit and pooling their resources from their activities. In line with the WCA Programme, it is defined to include all land that is used wholly or partially for agricultural production under one technical or operational unit, single management by one person alone or with others, regardless to title, legal form, size or location.
- **Enumeration Area (EA):** Is the area assigned to an enumerator. For census purposes, the pre-determined number of sample EAs for the country is allocated to the Administrative Districts in proportion to their agricultural population.
- **Field:** It is a piece of land inter-cropped or planted with one or more crops.
- **Plot:** Is a piece of land demarcated on a field for yield and density studies.

Coverage

The census covered the entire country.

Frame

The responsible agency for the Population Censuses, the Central Statistics Department (CSD), provided a statistical frame comprising a list, compiled from the results of the 1993 Population Census, of small geographic segmentations of the territory called Enumeration Areas (EAs) used as primary sampling units, each one with relevant demographic information and a map for proper identification. The secondary sampling units were dabadas (i.e. clusters of household) found within the EAs.

Method

The census is considered an Expanded Agricultural Sample Survey, expected to be conducted at ten-year intervals, with annual sample surveys to be carried out in the years between the decennial censuses.

The sample design: All EAs within a District were listed in the frame as first stage units and a sample of 25 percent was selected with probability proportional to size. As second stage units a systematic random sample of five households (Dabadas), was selected for enumeration within the EAs. This resulted in a total of 405 EAs corresponding to the 3 percent of total EAs in the country and 1 400 households corresponding to the 25 percent of total number of households in the country. Data was obtained by the interview method and physical measurements of fields and yields. Sixty enumerators, under the supervision of thirteen supervisors, performed the field work.

Data source

Report of the Agricultural Census of the Gambia 2001/02, Vol. 1 and 2, Banjul. Government of the Gambia, Agricultural Statistics and Resources Economics Unit (ASRE), Department of Planning (DOP), Department of State for Agriculture (DOSA), the Gambia.

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