

# **The Revised Wye Handbook: Statistics on Rural Development and Agricultural Household Income**

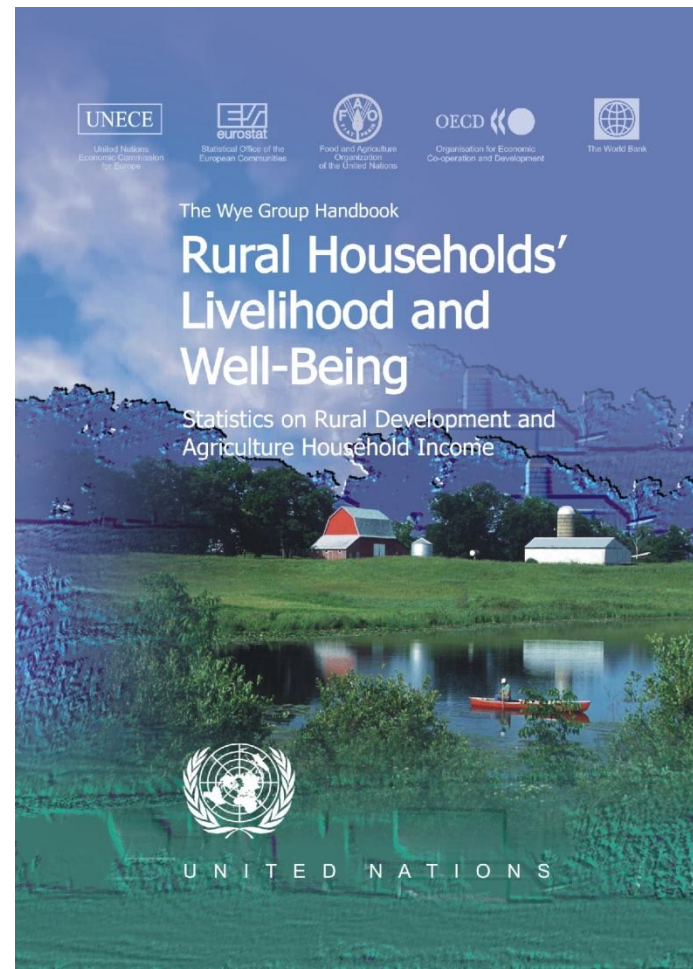
Berkeley Hill, Graham Eele and Veronica  
Gianfaldoni

# Overview

1. What has changed since 2005?
2. Organization of the Handbook – moving from a book to a set of resources
3. Who the Handbook is aimed at
4. How it might be used
5. Updating

# The First Edition

- ▶ Aimed to promote the compilation and use of statistics about rural areas and the incomes of agricultural households
- ▶ Prepared in 2006, major focus on Europe and OECD countries
- ▶ Published on-line and in print



# What has changed since 2006?

- ▶ Improved understanding of the importance of agriculture and the need for rural development
  - World Development Report 2008
  - Impact of climate change
  - Food price crisis
- ▶ Recognition of the need to strengthen agricultural statistics
  - Global Strategy approved in 2010
- ▶ Need to expand coverage to include developing countries

# Updating the Handbook

- ▶ Initially proposed to have two publications
  - Update of original
  - Supplement to discuss developing countries
- ▶ Soon agreed to have one publication, but prepared as a web-site or CD-ROM
  - Core text for all countries
  - Focus Pieces to discuss issues in more detail for developed and developing countries
  - Expanded list of references and further reading (level 3) with links where possible

# Managed by the Wye City Group

- ▶ Started as an inter-agency Secretariat (UNECE, FAO, OECD and Eurostat)
- ▶ Task force set up in 2003
- ▶ Handbook completed in 2006
- ▶ Wye City Group approved by UNSC in 2007
  - Aims to promote the refinement and adoption of international standards in statistics for rural areas and agriculture household incomes

# Structure

- ▶ Two parts
  1. Rural Development Statistics
  2. Agriculture Household Income and Wealth
- ▶ Some restructuring from the first edition
- ▶ New focus pieces
- ▶ Level 3 will always be work in progress



# Part 1 Rural Development Statistics

1. Introduction
2. National and international rural development policies
3. Conceptual framework – defining rural areas
4. Conceptual framework – rural development indicators
5. Inventory of national approaches
6. Inventory of rural indicators by international organizations
7. Data sources



# Part 2 Agriculture Household Income, Wealth and Well-being

8. Conceptual framework
9. The agricultural household – concepts and definitions
10. Definitions of income
11. Income levels, distribution and poverty
12. Measurement and composition of farm household wealth
13. Inventory of methods used to measure agricultural income and wealth
14. Income and wealth statistics for selected countries
15. Findings and good practices in statistics on rural development and agricultural household incomes – implementing the Global Strategy

# Who is the Handbook for?

- ▶ Guide for the producers and compilers of statistics
- ▶ Provides information for analysts and the users of rural and agricultural statistics
- ▶ Aims to document and present good practice
- ▶ Can be a basis for the development of new statistical programs and activities
- ▶ Aims to be a living document

# Links with the Global Strategy

- ▶ Statistics on rural areas and on agricultural incomes are central to many policy concerns
- ▶ Supports integration of data activities, concepts and definitions
- ▶ Places emphasis on the common survey framework
- ▶ Documents good practice
- ▶ Provides documentation to support the development and implementation of statistical projects and programs

# How might it be used?

- ▶ As a source of reference material for managers of statistical agencies
- ▶ To guide data users
- ▶ As a starting point for analysts and researchers
- ▶ Provides an overview, but can also support more detailed research through the focus pieces
- ▶ As a guide to technical documentation and examples of good practice in different topics

# Keeping the Handbook up to date

- ▶ It will be important to ensure that the material in the Handbook is updated to include new material and recent research
- ▶ Need a mechanism for including new links and references in the level 3 material
- ▶ Will need to update the core and add new focal pieces from time to time
- ▶ Focus on supporting the implementation of the Global Strategy