

CountrySTAT REGIONAL BASIC ADMINISTRATOR TRAINING for GCC MEMBER STATES

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE), 26 – 30 January 2014

**Creating a Global Data Sharing Network for the Strengthening
Agriculture and Food Security Statistics Systems in the GCC Region at
National and Regional Levels through the implementation and
development of RegionSTAT at Gulf Cooperation Council GCC
Headquarters and CountrySTAT in 6 GCC Members States (Bahrain,
Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates)**

SUMMARY OF PROJECT STRATEGY

by

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I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Starting date:** January 2015
- **Completion date:** December 2018
- **Regional Organization responsible for project execution:** Gulf Cooperation Council
GCC
- **United Nations Agency responsible for project execution:** Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United
Nations (FAO)

II. STRUCTURE OF THE PROJECT AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

- The purpose of the project is to scale up the current data exchange framework and create a **Global Data Sharing Network** (in the spirit of the “**Open Data**” concept and approach). Network resources such as datasets, coding systems and classifications, GIS layers, satellite images and text (but also ready-made products such as charts, maps and reports) will be made accessible through their metadata.
- The **structure is flexible** and **allows to add/remove modules** and/or to prioritize activities without losing consistency in the overall project framework. The proposed structure considers that there are following modules that contribute to build the global data sharing network:
 - **Institutional capacity building** at national and regional levels, which implies supporting existing national and regional institutional framework
 - **Strengthening of statistical methodologies** and **data collection/processing support**
 - Information technology support to countries and regions **to facilitate data storage, harmonization, processing, exchange and dissemination**; increase efficiency of the IT platform for data analysis and sharing
 - Implementation of a **multi-disciplinary communication strategy** to maintain CountrySTAT user’s community, share knowledge and promote the system worldwide

III. OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

- **Objective 1:** CountrySTAT Operational at National Level
 - Output 1.1: Institutional Framework implemented which involves key Government institutions of the 6 countries as recognized by GCC
 - Output 1.2: Operational capacities implemented and strengthened in 6 GCC countries
- **Objective 2:** CountrySTAT Operational at Regional Level (GCC RegionSTAT)
 - Output 2.1: National CountrySTAT System implemented and rolled out in 6 GCC countries
 - Output 2.2: Technical capacity of national staff is strengthened

III. OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

- **Objective 3:** GCC increasingly provides support to their member countries and technical support to countries is increasingly provided by the established regional expertise
 - Output 3.1: Institutional Framework and operational capacities implemented and strengthened in GCC Secretariat
 - Output 3.2: Data flow from national CountrySTATs to GCC RegionSTAT (and vice versa) is operational
 - Output 3.3: Data harmonization mechanisms in place and agreed among all the stakeholders
 - Output 3.4: Communication channels and promotional activities have raised awareness of the value and successes of the GCC Agricultural Data Network

III. OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Main Activities at National Level component:
 - Preparation, approval and signing of legal texts of the two Country-Level Entities of CountrySTAT (National CountrySTAT Secretariat, National CountrySTAT Technical Working Group)
 - Purchase of laptops, computers and other equipments
 - Preparation of panorama reports I and II
 - Preparation and implementation of a communication strategy/plan
 - Organization of 16 Technical Working Group Meetings for the collection, assessment, validation and harmonization of data and metadata to be uploaded to the national CountrySTAT System:
[Collection of data and metadata for all domains of the Core and Sub-National Modules, Global Strategy, Surveys and Censuses, Statistical Year Book, Food Balance Sheets, Thematic Modules, Update Key Indicators, Analysis and resolution of discrepancies and inconsistencies in data, Data Analysis and Harmonization (Times Series, Outliers, FAOSTAT Questionnaires and CountrySTAT), Finalization of the Correspondence Table].
 - Organizing the Official Launch of CountrySTAT with extensive media coverage

III. OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Main Activities at Regional Level component:

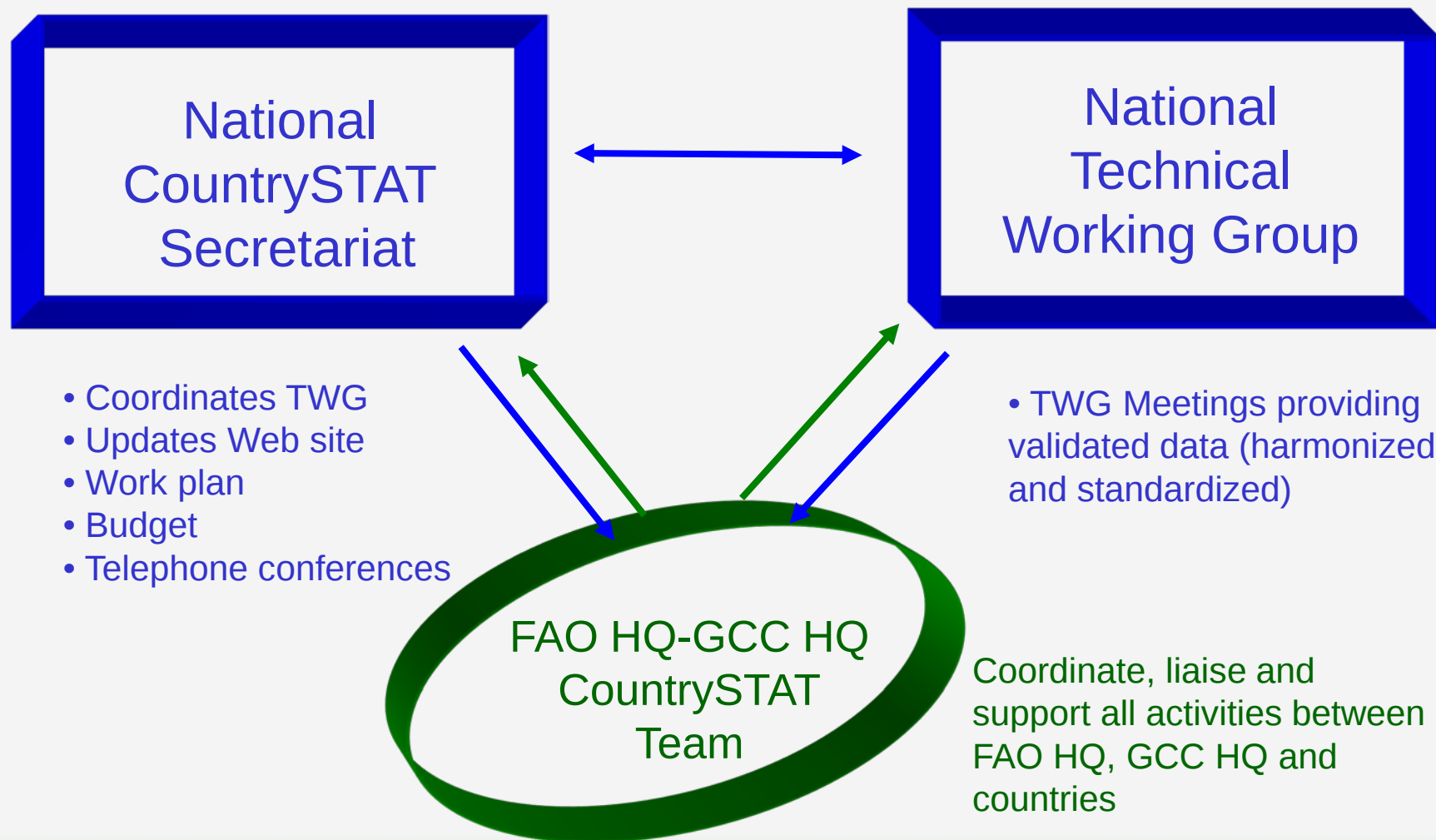
- Building a CountrySTAT Team of Regional Experts in GCC HQs (Regional Coordinator, Statisticians, ITs and Administrative Support)
- Organization of 3 ECO CountrySTAT Regional Technical Working Group Meetings for 6 GCC countries and GCC Secretariat for exchange of experiences and joint resolution of technical problems. (4 CountrySTAT Administrators from each GCC country and 2 GCC Staff trained for 5 days). (Venue: GCC Secretariat in Oman and Capital of one GCC Country)
- Organization of Basic regional training for administrators of the CountrySTAT System for 6 GCC countries and GCC Secretariat (6 CountrySTAT Administrators from each GCC country and 4 GCC Staff trained for 5 days). (Venue: GCC Secretariat in Oman)
- Organization of Advanced Regional Workshop for administrators of the CountrySTAT System for all 6 GCC countries and GCC Secretariat (5 CountrySTAT Administrators from each GCC country and 4 GCC Secretariat Staff trained for 5 days). (Venue: FAO Headquarters in Rome)
- Aggregation of official data from the 6 CountrySTATs and dissemination of GCC regional indicators
- Organizing the Official Launch of GCC RegionSTAT with wide media coverage
- Translation in Arabic of all CountrySTATs Website, Technical documents and Training materials

III. OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

- The deliverables expected are as follows:
 - Data exchange mechanism in place: at 6 GCC countries and GCC Secretariat
 - Data collection and validation improved
 - Key baseline data available: Although data and indicators to be collected and published through CountrySTAT. Some key indicators from both national and international sources will be made available to all participating countries and GCC Secretariat. Where appropriate, data will be geo-referenced and in GIS-compatible format.
 - Links with key international and national partners established
 - CountrySTAT platform and Communications improved
- Some deliverables may be envisaged, as such:
 - Collecting market price information from mobile devices for real-time price data analyses;
 - Food balance Sheet
 - Collect and make available to users the digitized maps (specific to countries)
 - Prepare a comprehensive set of indicators reporting to agriculture and rural areas, economic and social to put at the disposal of policy makers and development actors
 - Sub-national level crop calendar for major commodities

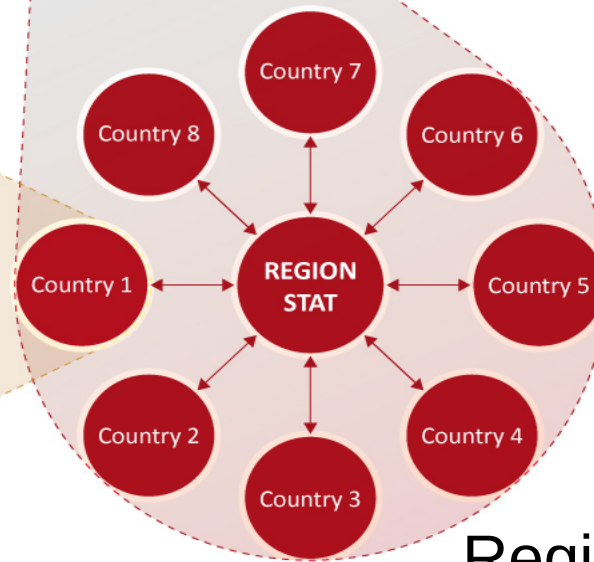
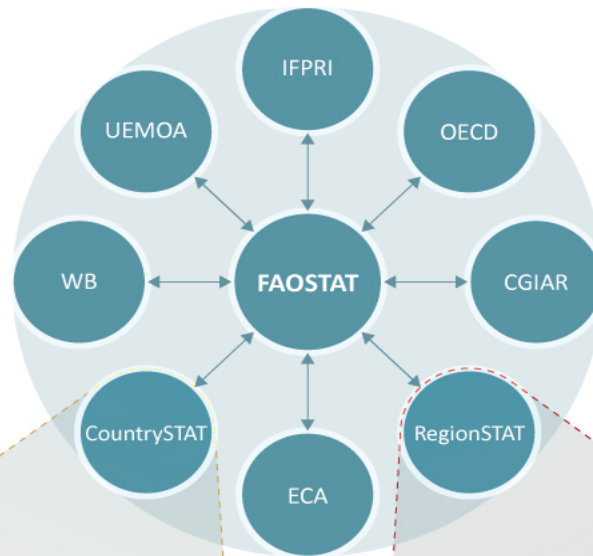
IV. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

CountrySTAT's dynamic framework and process
for strengthening institutional capacity in GCC Members States



Relationship with CountrySTAT, RegionSTAT and FAOSTAT

International level
FAOSTAT



National level
CountrySTAT

Regional level
RegionSTAT

V. BUDGET

- The total project cost for the implementation and development of the CountrySTAT in the 6 GCC countries and RegionSTAT system in the GCC Secretariat is about **5,100,000 USD**. The key components of the budget are as follows:
 - Translation of all CountrySTATs Website, Technical documents and Training materials in Arabic
 - Country and GCC HQ Activities and Training
 - Equipment (Expendable and Non-expendable)
 - Regional and International Personnel/Consultants
 - Administrative Support
 - Local Contracts, Internet/Communications
 - General Operating Expenses and Supplies

V. BUDGET

Budget of the project for the period 2015-2018	
Countries	Budget in USD
United Arab Emirates	700,000
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	700,000
State of Qatar	700,000
State of Kuwait	700,000
State of Bahrain	700,000
Sultanate of Oman	700,000
GCC Secretariat	900,000
Grand Total Budget	5,100,000

VI. NEXT STEPS

- **Update the Concept Note**
- **Preparation of the CountrySTAT/GCC project document**
- **Mobilization of project funds**
- **Signature of the project document and Launch the CountrySTAT/GCC Project**

THANK YOU

29/01/2014
Statistics Division