

Press Release

Guinea-Bissau launches CountrySTAT for Food and Agricultural Statistics

30 May 2013, Bissau – The Ministry of Agriculture announced today the official launch of CountrySTAT Guinea-Bissau.

CountrySTAT is a web-based system for the dissemination of official statistics on food and agriculture at regional national and local levels. Its purpose is to centralize, harmonize, standardize, integrate and validate data on food and agriculture from different sources.

CountrySTAT was developed using the same open-source technology as FAOSTAT (FENIX platform).

CountrySTAT network aims to ensure long term ownership and sustainability of the system by strengthening the capacities of a pool of regional and national experts and qualified trainers who can provide technical support on an ongoing basis through regional and national institutions.

CountrySTAT Guinea-Bissau was developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture.

CountrySTAT Guinea-Bissau is the result of a close collaboration between the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) and FAO to improve the quality, accessibility, relevance and reliability of food and agriculture statistics.

UEMOA aims at improving development and promoting trade and investment opportunities. Reliable and timely statistics help to better understand food supply and demand dynamics and therefore are an important tool for policy-makers and analysts, particularly in the fight against hunger and poverty.

Beside the Ministry of Agriculture, the following key stakeholder institutions were involved in the implementation of CountrySTAT: Ministry of Economics and Regional Integration, National Statistics Institute (INE) and Cabinet for Food Security Planning – Food Stocking, National Meteorological Institute (INM) – Rainfall Values – Temperature – Humidity, Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy - Directorate General of Aquatic Resources, State Secretariat of Fisheries - Directorate General Fisheries, State Secretariat for the Environment, Directorate General of Environment, Ministry of Commerce - Directorate General of External Trade.