

Training-of-Trainers Workshop on SDG Indicator 2.a.1

Concept Note

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations is organizing a training-of-trainers workshop at the International Labour Organization (ILO) Training Centre, in Turin, Italy on 27-28 March 2018. The workshop represents an opportunity to enhance participants' knowledge of the main concepts and methodology for compiling SDG indicator 2.a.1 – the Agriculture Orientation Index for Government Expenditures (AOI) – and to enhance the capacity of national institutions.

Background

Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture” includes eight targets. Target 2.a aims to “increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries”. SDG indicator 2.a.1, for which FAO is the custodian agency, monitors progress in achieving Target 2.a.

Indicator 2.a.1 is currently classified as Tier II in the SDGs monitoring framework, as this indicator is based on well-defined concepts and methodology from government expenditures and national accounts. However, many countries do not currently compile or report on their government expenditures on agriculture following these methodologies. FAO hopes, through workshops like this one, to enhance knowledge and capacity of countries by creating a cadre of experts who will, in turn, disseminate their knowledge to others within their organizations, to other organizations within their country, and to other countries within their region.

Rationale

As custodian agency of indicator 2.a.1, FAO has previously provided training on this indicator in regional statistical conferences, and in sub-regional training in collaboration with the International Monetary Fund.

This workshop will bring together a group of 12 to 15 participants from countries who have expertise in compiling and reporting data to FAO on government expenditure on agriculture. The participant would ideally be from the National Statistics Office or line Ministries involved in the production of government expenditure data, and a respondent to the FAO Government Expenditure on Agriculture (GEA) questionnaire.

Description of the Activities

The training workshop will last two days. The sessions will focus on the methodology, compilation and interpretation of the indicator, using actual data from national governments and hands-on exercises. Participants will be asked to bring their laptops, contribute to discussions on the



organizational relationships between government expenditure data owners and statistics producers, and to share national data that they would like to see used in the hands-on exercise.

Objectives and expected outcomes

The overall goal of the training workshop is to increase awareness of SDG indicator 2.a.1, as well as to enhance the knowledge and capacity of key stakeholders, including government representatives and statisticians, on the monitoring and reporting process of this indicator. At the end of the workshop, participants will be expected to apply the gained expertise and to disseminate the acquired knowledge within their own organizations and to other organizations and countries in their regions.

More specifically, at the end of the workshop participants will:

- Be familiar with Goal 2 and Target 2.a. of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
- Understand the methodology, compilation and interpretation of SDG indicators 2.a.1,
- Have improved knowledge of the different challenges that may arise during the compilation and reporting process of GEA data, and the possible solutions;
- Be able to provide training to others in their organization, country and region, and to share good practices across countries.

Target Audience

For each country, one government representative who is expert on compiling government expenditure data, ideally responsible for completing the FAO GEA questionnaire, and willing to become a trainer in his country and region.

Timing and duration and venue

The workshop will last two days (27-28 March) and will be held in Turin, Italy, at the International Training Centre of the ILO.

Working language

The workshop will be conducted in English, with facilitated hands-on training and discussions in French and Spanish. Interpretation services will be available in English, French and Spanish.