



Crops, livestock and food statistics

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The work of the crops, livestock and food statistics (CLFS) team of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is to provide essential global food and agricultural data that covers the three domains of crops and livestock: production (primary and processed) and agricultural trade and food balance sheets (FBS). FBS is an analytical tool that provides comprehensive, detailed, global data on an annual basis relating to primary and processed commodities, including stocks and food loss, among others. FAO's agricultural production and FBS domains are globally unique and offer the most comprehensive and comparable coverage in terms of commodities and geographic territories.

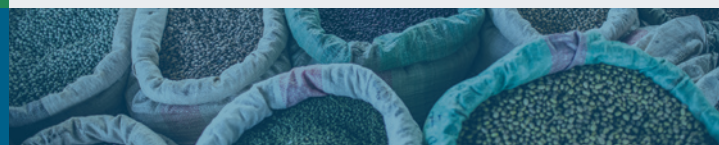
The work of the CLFS team contributes significantly to FAO's strategic objectives to eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, to make agriculture more productive and sustainable and to enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems. In addition, it contributes, directly or indirectly, to the international monitoring of several key indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 2.1 (food security), SDG 3.5 (substance abuse) and SDG 12.3 (post-harvest losses). The CLFS team also promotes the strengthening of the statistical capacities of member countries by providing technical assistance to develop and compile information on national food balances.

Area of work

Through FAOSTAT, the FAO digital platform on food and agriculture statistics, CLFS Team activities include compiling, validating, and disseminating global annual statistics that cover the following:

- > **Crops and livestock, (primary and processed) production**, including harvested areas, yields, and live and slaughtered animal numbers. The data are gathered primarily from annual production/utilization questionnaires.
- > **Agriculture and food trade** at the bilateral flow level. The data covers the quantities of imports and exports, and the amount/number and transaction values according to reporters and partners. For non-reporting countries, extensive use is made of mirror trade statistics.
- > **Supply and utilization accounts (consolidated as food balance sheets)** that cover variables such as food losses, stocks, animal feed, and industrial utilization, in addition to production and trade.

The CLFS Team also responds to country requests for **capacity development** and **technical support** relating to FBS methodology and related data validation. The team, furthermore, is active in the area of **inter-institutional cooperation**, relating to the streamlining of data collection processes of National Statistics Offices (NSOs) and their respective data reconciliation.





Core objectives

- > Collect, analyze, interpret and disseminate crop, livestock and food indicators.
- > Compile and disseminate food balance sheets (FBS).
- > Develop and update methodologies and analytical tools to calculate crop, livestock and food statistics, including feed, stocks and food losses.
- > Build the statistical capacity of member countries on crop and livestock statistics and on food and utilization accounts.

Key products by statistical function

Data collection and dissemination

- > Update the FAOSTAT digital platform domains relating to crops and livestock production (primary and processed) including harvested areas, yield and live and slaughtered animal numbers.
- > Update the FAOSTAT digital platform domains relating to agriculture and food trade.
- > Update the FAOSTAT digital platform domains relating to food balance sheets, including animal feed, seeds, stocks and losses.

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FURTHER INFORMATION

- > **Crops, livestock and food statistics:**
www.fao.org/economic/ess/fbs/en
www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-trade/en

Methodological work

- > Constant updating of methodologies for imputation and quality control of data collected from questionnaires.
- > Methodological documents and analytical tools are developed to validate data on crop, livestock and food statistics and calculate indicators and indexes.

Capacity development

- > Support to worldwide FAOSTAT digital platform data users of domains maintained by the CLFS Team, including the underlying methodologies.
- > Training and technical assistance to member countries on the compilation of national supply-utilization accounts and corresponding FBSs.



CONTACT

- > **Salar Tayyib, Team Leader**
Salar.Tayyib@fao.org