



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

Project Proposal:

Promoting innovative technologies and use of earth observation data for improving agricultural and food security information systems

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30th Session

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Contents

➤ **Problem and Institutional Context**

- **Output 1:** Regional capacity increased to use earth observation data and open-sourced tools for generating agricultural statistics.
- **Output 2:** National strategies developed for the use of earth observation data for generating agricultural statistics *in selected countries*.
- **Output 3:** Crop maps, and crop area statistics produced using Earth Observation data and open-sourced applications *in selected countries*.
- **Output 4:** Project proposal developed and submitted to the IDB's Regional Public Goods for *Strengthening Regional Capacity for using Earth Observation data for producing agricultural statistics*.

Context

Problem

- In LAC, there is wide variation in capacity to use earth observation data for producing agricultural statistics.
- Very few countries have regular, nationally representative agricultural surveys.
- In countries where agricultural surveys are regularly conducted, these models can be leveraged to **forecast** and **generate seasonal estimates** at low-cost using existing survey data to train models.

Institutional Context

- During the 36th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, member states recommended continued support to “...assist in improve data and analyses for the development of new generation of policies, regulations, and strategies on food and nutrition based on evidence, science and technology to combat malnutrition in all of its forms, based on sustainable food systems for healthy diets.”

Context

Timeline

- Project proposal submission: August 2021 (pending endorsement from commission)
- September – December 2021 - Project Review by FAO RLC
- Jan 2022 – Dec 2023 –Implementation

Other details

- Country selection depending on budget availability, capacity, interest, and FAO country level strategic priorities

Output 1: Regional capacity increased to use earth observation data for generating agricultural statistics.

➤ **Key activities:**

- Series of webinars open to all countries in LAC on:
 - General training on methodologies for generating crop maps and agricultural statistics using Earth Observation Data
 - Training on best practices in collecting in-situ data
 - Hands-on training using open-sourced software suites such as Sen2-Agri, UN Global Platform, and EO-Stat CropMapper

Output 2: National strategies developed for the use of earth observation data for generating agricultural statistics in selected countries.

➤ **Key activities:**

- Establishment of inter-institutional working group (IIWG)
- Series of national level stakeholder events to:
 - Identify and prioritize data gaps
 - Communicate the opportunities offered by EO data for generating statistics
 - Understand institutional priorities
- Development and endorsement of national strategy

Output 3: Crop maps, and crop area statistics produced using Earth Observation data and open-sourced applications in selected countries.

➤ Key activities:

- Customized training on methodologies and tools for using EO
- Collection of in situ data through new or existing survey programs
- Development of models, and IT platforms to systematize the generation of maps for priority crops, and generation of crop area estimates

Output 4: Project proposal developed and submitted to the IDB's Regional Public Goods for Strengthening Regional Capacity for using EO data for producing agricultural statistics.

➤ Key activities:

- Formation of project proposal drafting working group (at least 3 countries)
- Identification of implementer(s)
- Regional webinar(s) to identify main needs and components of Project
- Drafting of RPG Project and submission by May 2022.

Thank you