



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

## AFRICAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS Twenty-Seventh Session

15 – 18 November 2021, Virtual Host – Dakar, Senegal

# Implementation of the SDG indicator 2.4.1 methodology in the Africa region

SDG indicator 2.4.1 (Proportion of  
agricultural area under sustainable  
agriculture)



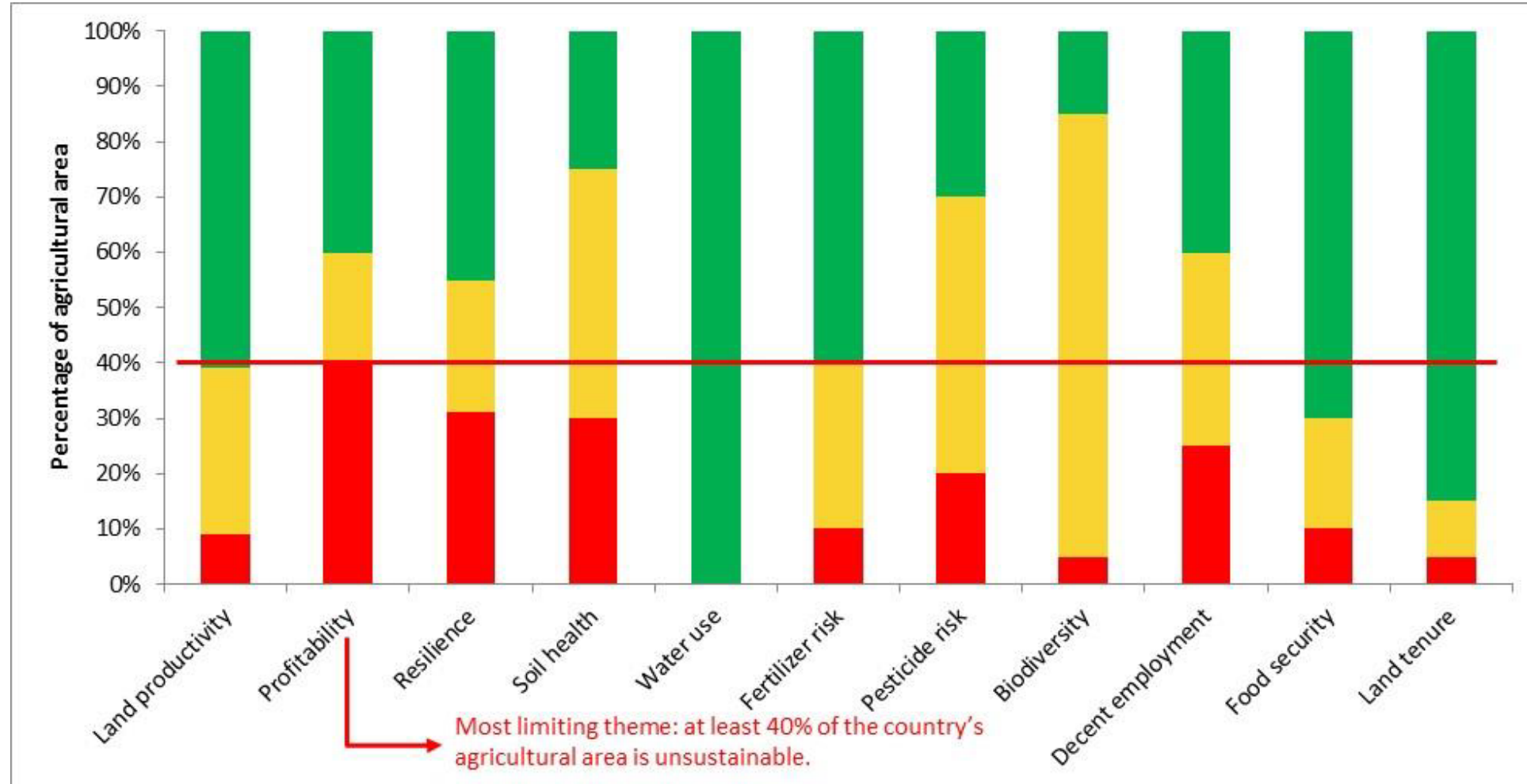
# Background on SDG2.4.1

- 1) Scale of assessment: **Agriculture farm holdings**
- 2) Scope: **Crops and livestock**
- 3) Dimensions covered: **Economic, social and environmental**
- 4) Themes covered: **11 themes**
- 5) Sub-indicators: **11 sub-indicator (3 Economic, 3 social and 5 environment)**
- 6) Sustainability criteria: **classification of the farms as green, yellow and red**
- 7) Data collection instrument: **Farm survey**
- 8) Periodicity of monitoring : **3 years**
- 9) Modality of reporting : **Dashboard and aggregate indicator**

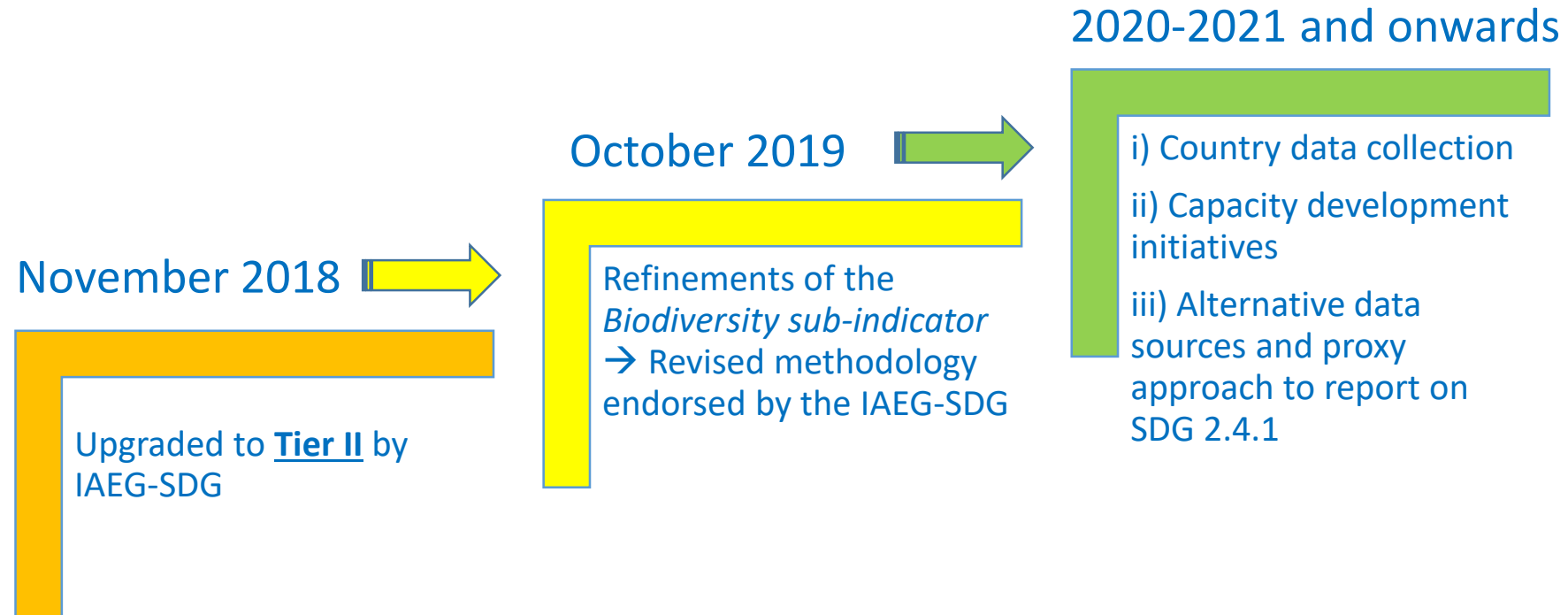
# Indicator Framework

Dimension	Theme	Sub-indicator	Farm type	Reference period
Economic	1. Land productivity	Farm output value per hectare	All types	Last calendar yr.
	2. Profitability	Net farm income	All types	Last 3 calendar yrs.
	3. Resilience	Risk mitigation mechanisms	All types	Last calendar yr.
Environmental	4. Soil health	Prevalence of soil degradation	All types	Last 3 calendar yrs.
	5. Water use	Variation in water availability	All types	Last 3 calendar yrs.
	6. Fertilizer risk	Management of fertilizers	All types	Last calendar yr.
	7. Pesticide risk	Management of pesticides	All types	Last calendar yr.
	8. Biodiversity	Use of agro-biodiversity supportive practices	All types	Last calendar yr.
Social	9. Decent employment	Wage rate in agriculture	Farms hiring unskilled labour	Last calendar yr.
	10. Food security	Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)	Household farms	Last 12 months
	11. Land tenure	Secure tenure rights to land	All types	Last calendar yr.

# Traffic Light Dashboard



# Milestones



<http://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/241/en/>

# Progress to date

- Survey questionnaire and support documents prepared and tested in Bangladesh, Mexico Rwanda and Kenya – **2017-2018-2019**
- Integrated the indicator's data needs in AGRISurvey programme and 50x2030 initiative – **2019-21**
- Translated methodological documents and data collection questionnaires in major UN languages i.e. Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish – **2020-21**
- Work stream initiated to explore the possibility of using proxy indicators and alternative data sources e.g. remote sensing, census, administrative records, etc. to bridge the data gaps for selected sub-indicator – **2020-22**

# Progress to date – Capacity Development

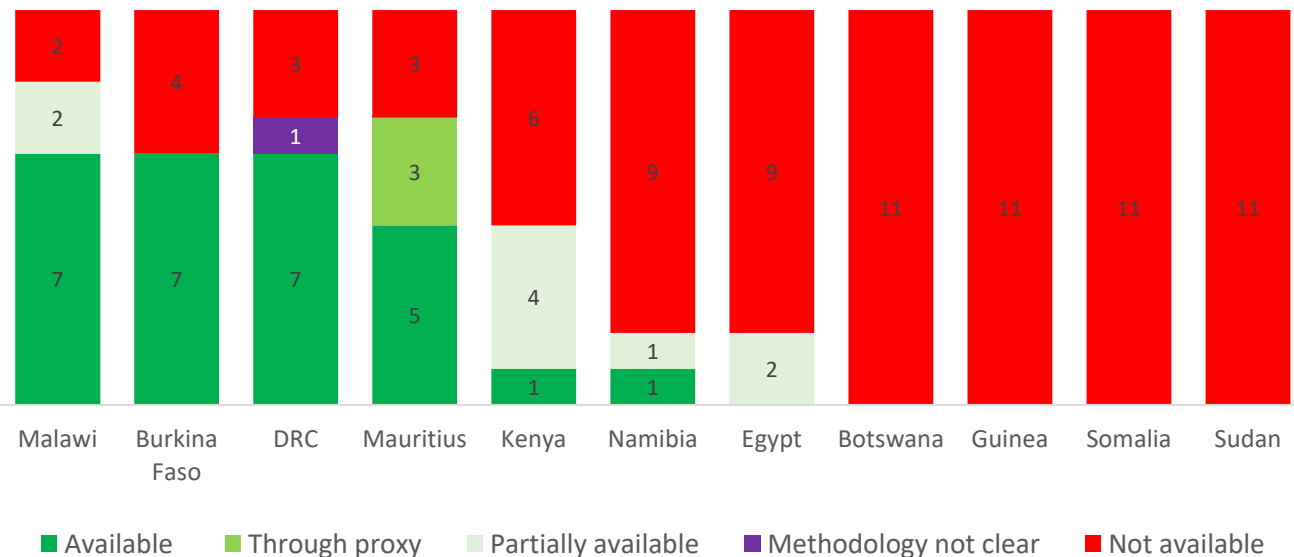
- E-learning course developed and made available in multiple UN languages (English, French, Spanish) – **2019-2021**
- 3 Regional Training workshops covering 50 countries (including bilateral assistance to Bangladesh and Vietnam) – **2019-20**
- 3 Virtual Trainings covering 29 countries (298 national staff) from 4 Regions (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America) - **2020**
- 2 bilateral virtual trainings for Pakistan and Somalia – **2020**
- 12 customised bilateral virtual sessions for Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Malawi, South Sudan, Sudan, Switzerland, UK, Viet Nam, Zambia – **2020**
- 6 Virtual Trainings covering 81 countries (488 national staff) from 5 Regions (Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe, Pacific) – **2021**

# Focus to African Region

## ■ Trainings

- Face-to face: Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Sudan, Uganda and Zambia - **2019**
- Virtual: Burkina Faso, Malawi, Mali, South Africa, Uganda - **2020**
- Virtual: Botswana, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe and Zambia – **2021**

2020 Dispatch - Data availability in Africa



## ■ 2020 Dispatch results

- Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Malawi and Mauritius reported real values on at least 3 sub-indicators each (Burkina Faso reported real values in 2019 – pilot phase)



# Next Steps

- **Short term**
  - Work ongoing on Guidelines for use of alternative data sources (remote sensing, administrative records, census and others), test the approach in selected countries and publish guidelines – **2021-22**
  - Continue formal data collection via questionnaire on annual basis
  - Third and final round of first global data collection cycle is to be completed by and reported to UNSD in **2023**
- **Medium-to-long term**
  - Ensure regular SDG 2.4.1 survey data collection in close collaboration with AGRISurvey Programme, 50x2030 Initiative and Global Strategy (50 countries by **2025** and over 100 countries by **2030**)
- **Ongoing Capacity Development**
  - 5 countries receiving bilateral technical assistance in collaboration with RLC (2), RAF (1) and RAP (2) – **2021**
  - Bilateral technical assistance to Rwanda has commenced where the indicator will be integrated with national agricultural data collection instrument and tested – **2021-22**
  - 4 Virtual Trainings aiming to train all remaining countries that have not been trained during the years 2019-2020-2021 – **2022**
  - Bilateral technical assistance to other 4 countries by **2022**

# Proposed Recommendations *in brief*

- Encourage countries to report on a subset of sub-indicators of SDG 2.4.1 based on existing data and to develop an action plan for adoption and implementation of the indicator;
- Support interested countries in implementing the farm-based SDGs (including SDG 2.4.1) in order to collect nationally-representative data.

# Thank you

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# The Challenge Ahead

## Heterogeneity



## Data collection



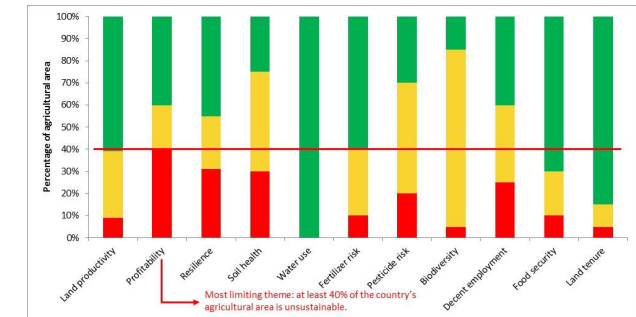
## Analysis and Reporting

Medium-to-long term: Fully Structured Farm Surveys

2020-2025

Short-term: Alternative data sources: EO, Admin

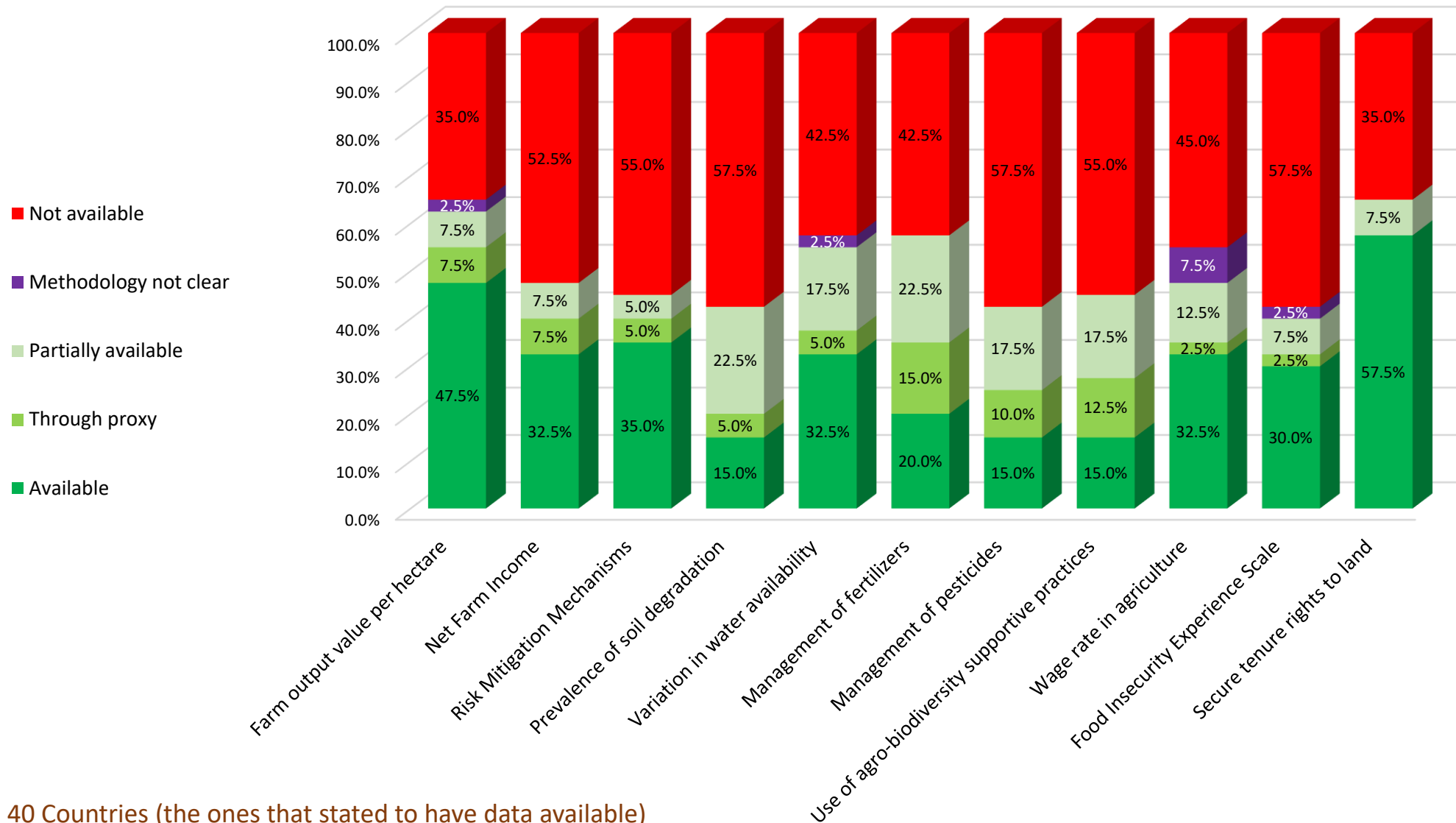
2025-2030+



# Progress to date – Data collection

- Pilot test of data collection questionnaire carried out in 45 countries – **2019-20**
  - 21 (47%) provided some feedback
  - 7 (16%) provided actual data for some of the sub-indicators (only 1 with all sub-indicators)
- Dispatch to all member countries (195) – 1<sup>st</sup> Dispatch **August 2020**
  - 22 (21%) provided data on at least 1 sub-indicator
  - 40 (38%) stated to have data available
  - 46 (43%) informed on data non-availability
- Dispatch to all member countries (195) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dispatch **August 2021**
  - Data collection in progress – deadline end of November 2021 (tentatively)
  - Results available at the end of 2021

# Highlights Dispatch 2020 - Data Availability by Sub-Indicator



Based on 40 Countries (the ones that stated to have data available)

# Dispatch 2020 Highlights – Identified Challenges from Countries

- Complexity of concepts/methodology/definitions
- Lack of data availability/time series
- Calculation of the SDG 2.4.1 needs efforts and time
- Information available but usually partially for the sub-indicators:
  - “Prevalence of soil degradation”
  - “Management of fertilizers”
- Data availability is a challenge for the sub-indicators:
  - “Management of pesticides”
  - “Food Insecurity Experience Scale”