



Food and Agriculture
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SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



AFRICAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

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AFCAS 28
LEVERAGING
DATA & STATISTICS
FOR AGRIFOOD
SYSTEMS
TRANSFORMATION
IN AFRICA

AGENDA ITEM 3:
FAO'S ACTIVITIES IN FOOD
AND AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS RELEVANT TO
AFRICA REGION SINCE THE
LAST 27TH SESSION OF
THE COMMISSION



AFRICAN
COMMISSION ON
**AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS**

Overview of FAO's statistical activities in Africa and achievements of key recommendations of the 27th AFCAS Session.

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Contents

- Introduction
- FAO's statistical activities and main achievements of the key recommendations the 27th session of AFCAS
- Other key FAO Stats Activities in Africa



Introduction

- Collaborative work of the FAO Statistical Division (ESS), the Office of the Chief Statistician (OCS), the FAO Regional Office for Africa (RAF), as well as other FAO statistical units, contributed to strengthen the capacity of Member States in the collection, processing, analysis, publication and dissemination of food, agricultural and rural statistical data.
- Aspects relating to the establishment of standards, norms and methodologies continued to be covered in order to ensure international comparability, harmonization and the use of modern technological tools for better statistical collection and production



Introduction (cont'd)

- Overview of follow-up actions on key recommendations and FAO activities in food and agriculture statistics relevant to African Countries since the 27h AFCAS Session are covered by this presentation
- Detailed information on FAO statistical activities in the region will be provided in various presentations in the successive technical sessions



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

- **Agenda item 3: Synergy, facilitation and harmonization of data reporting for SDG and CAADP in line with the Bi-annual Review process including with a unique designated group of focal points**

FAO and AUC working toward and harmonization of the reporting scheme



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 3: member countries urged to make a stronger effort to respond to FAO's questionnaires

- Efforts have been made by FAO to update the list of focal points and liaise with them to collect information on the agriculture sector as well as the other domains or systems, including commodity market developments, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry, AQUASTAT, DAD-IS and plant genetic resources.
- However, responses rates for many domains followed a decreasing trend since 2021



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

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Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 3: encouragements for GSARS II implementation and expansion

- The second phase of the Global Strategy to improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (GSARS) (Action Plan for Africa 2021-2024) is being implemented by three partners (FAO, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and PARIS21) coordinated by a Global Office hosted by FAO Statistics Division in Rome.
- Focus on training and technical assistance at country level
- 25 African countries supported with 15 statistical packages into four components: (i) Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics; (ii) Training (strengthening of the technical capacities of statistical staff, improved graduate programs on agricultural statistics and facilitated access to scholarships) ; (iii) Cost-effective methods; (iv) Increase in data analysis and dissemination capacities



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 4: member countries to reduce dependence on face-to-face training and interviews and to introduce alternative modalities such as virtual learning and remote data collection

- Two FAO ESS programs (50x2030 Initiative and GSARS II) supported many beneficiary countries on the use of CAPI for data collection.
- The 50x2030 Initiative elaborated a methodological document on telephone interviews for agricultural statistics



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 5: various recommendations on harmonization and support on SDG measurements and disaggregation

- FAO Regional Office for Africa supported Eswatini, Gambia and Zambia on the collection, compilation, reporting and use of underreported SDGs 2.3.1, 2.3.2, and 5.a.1 :
 - Analysis and gap assessment of existing survey instruments
 - Training on the methodology of SDG Indicators
 - Integration of selected SDGs in existing survey instruments
 - Hand-on training on computations and analysis of the indicators
- FAO OCS supported Burundi the methodology and data collection on SDG 2.4.1



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 5: various recommendations on harmonization and support on SDG measurements and disaggregation

- FAO Office of the Chief Statistician has conducted extensive methodological work on data disaggregation techniques for SDG indicators based on survey data.
- a comprehensive set of training materials on data disaggregation and SAE for SDG Indicators based on survey data were made available for countries
- Benin, Botswana, Mali and South Africa supported on on data disaggregation and SAE for SDG



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 5: various recommendations on harmonization and support on SDG measurements and disaggregation

- FAO Office of the Chief Statistician expanded the SDG progress assessment approach discussed at the 27th Session of AFCAS, to include methods for the evaluation of the current status and trend both at target and Goal levels.
- Shiny App for progress assessment was developed and made available to countries
- In collaboration with the Bureau of Statistics (BOS) Lesotho, FAO has developed a national SDG monitoring solution which allows to compute the SDG indicator 15.4.2, the Mountain Green Cover Index (MGCI) on an annual basis, in an automatic fashion from EO data.



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 5: various recommendations on harmonization and support on SDG measurements and disaggregation

- In 2022-2023, FAO ESS built capacities on SDG 12.3.1.a Food Loss Index:
 - **Ethiopia:** pilot survey for on- and off-farm loss data collection, covering 4 cereal and pulses crops (maize, haricot beans, wheat, horse beans)
 - **Ghana:** pilot survey on off-farm food losses for 2 cereal crops (maize and rice)
 - **Zimbabwe:** Pilot survey on off-farm food losses covering 2 fruits and vegetables (banana and tomato)
 - **Mali:** on-farm storage loss data
 - **Kenya:** designing food loss measurement and
 - **Pilot on SDG reporting:** Rwanda, Ethiopia, Ghana and Mali participated in the pilot test on the new questionnaire to report on the FLI.



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 6: recommendations on expansion of the 50x2030 Initiative

- The 50x2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap is a multi-agency partnership (World Bank, FAO and IFAD) for data smart agriculture to strengthen national agricultural data systems in 50 countries by year 2030
- FAO is leading the data production component support countries on the implementation integrated agricultural and rural surveys
- The 50x2030 Initiative has been expanding in the Africa Region from six (06) countries in 2021 to 27 countries partnering with the program out of 31 countries worldwide.



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 7: recommendation on using OpenForis tools for agricultural statistics

- In 2022-2023, in the framework on the GSARS II, FAO Statistics Division in collaboration with FAO Forestry Division supported Ghana, Tanzania, Zambia and Burkina Faso on the use of FAO's System for Earth Observation Data Access, Processing and Analysis for Land Monitoring (SEPAL), an OpenForis tool for crop mapping and developing area frame for agricultural surveys



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 7: recommendation to FAO to strengthen collaboration with NSOs and agricultural statistics departments on using earth observation data for agriculture statistics

On 2022-2023, FAO OCS, through the EOSTAT project supported Rwanda, Lesotho, Senegal, Mali, and Zimbabwe building technical capacity to use EO data for official agricultural statistics in the following key technical domains:

- Optimization of field survey design and integration of best practices in georeferencing within the Annual Agricultural Surveys and Agricultural Census
- Land Cover mapping
- Crop type mapping
- Crop yield modelling
- Field parcel mapping
- Computation of SDG indicators using EO data



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 8: recommendations to FAO and development partners to coordinate their efforts to support countries in the improvement of fisheries and aquaculture statistics

- FAO Fishery Division's State-of-Stocks (SOS) Transparent Assessment Framework (TAF) regional workshops
 - Regional workshops with fisheries experts in each FAO major fishing area
 - May 2022 : area 37 (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt)
 - March 2023: southern Area 51 (Kenya, Tanzania, Zanzibar, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius)
 - May 2023: area 34 (Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra-Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo)
 - December 2023): area 47 (South Africa, Namibia, Angola)
 - Introduction of updated SOFIA methodology for assessing global and regional state of stocks
 - Emphasis on transparent, reproducible assessment framework



Activities and achievements since AFCAS 27

Agenda item 8: recommendations to FAO and development partners to coordinate their efforts to support countries in the improvement of fisheries and aquaculture statistics

- FAO Fishery Division's Strengthening capacities of Fishery Committee for Western Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and its Members (Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Togo) in fisheries data collection and information systems
 - Support the development of the FCWC Regional Database (RDB) of Catch and Effort at fishing units level for the industrial and artisanal sectors to meet FAO requirements for contents coverage, quality, timeliness and data exchange protocol;
 - Improve the capacity of FCWC member states to submit such statistics to FAO, FCWC and other regional and international bodies on a regular basis, in accordance with reporting duties of these Member countries;
 - Strengthen the capacity of FCWC Member States to maintain and contribute FIRMS fisheries inventories along with Catch and Effort by fishing unit, in line with CECAF-FIRMS policy, and decisions of FIRMS FSC13 (June 2023).



Other key FAO Stats Activities in Africa

Technical support on Census of Agriculture

- During the last two, FAO ESS and RAF provided technical assistance to about 15 African countries on the preparation and implementation of their censuses of agriculture

Technical support on food balance sheets (FBS)

- In 2022, the Statistics Division ESS built the capacity of 4 African countries (Nigeria, Cameroon, Comoros and South Sudan) on the methodology and compilation of national food balance sheets (FBS)
- In 2023, with the new global Food Conversion Table, ESS provided technical support to 6 African countries (Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, South Sudan, Mali, Zimbabwe and Mozambique) to compile national FBS

Thank you for your attention!

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