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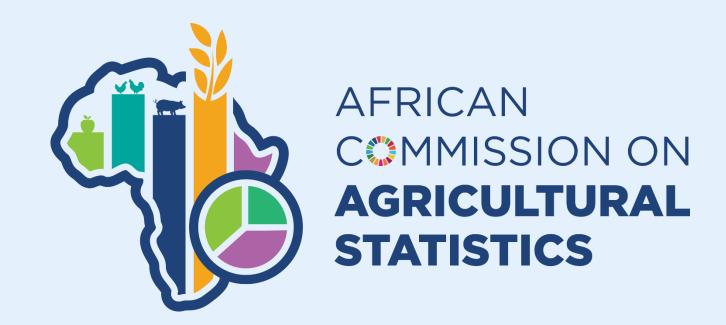
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AFCAS 28

LEVERAGING
DATA & STATISTICS
FOR AGRIFOOD
SYSTEMS
TRANSFORMATION
IN AFRICA

AGENDA ITEM 4:
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
50X2030 INITIATIVE IN
AFRICA REGION





Implementation of 50x2030 initiatives in Sierra Leone: The National Agriculture Sample Survey - achievements and perspectives

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<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- Following the meeting with the World Bank, FAO, and the 50x2030 Program Management Team in June 2022, Sierra Leone expressed strong interest in being a partner country of the 50x2030 initiative.
- The Government of Sierra Leone embraced this Initiative as being essential in addressing the availability and quality of agricultural data in Sierra Leone and strengthening the country's agricultural statistics system.
- The 50x2030 Initiative was jointly launched by the World Bank, FAO, and IFAD, with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) and Statistics Sierra Leone (STATS SL) as the key implementers.
- The PIP was then signed in March 2023 by the 50 X 2030 PMT team, the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, and the Statistician General



<u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- The Government of Sierra Leone currently implements the 50x2030 Initiative as a sub-component of the World Bank IDA project Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West Africa (HISWA-P19265).
- Sierra Leone strongly relies on this initiative to produce agricultural survey data necessary to monitor regional, and international development agenda (i.e. SDGs, CAADP indicators, etc), and national development agenda(specifically the government's flagship program on agriculture and food security, "Feed Salone".
- The Government of Sierra Leone considers the availability of reliable, up-to-date, and consistent agricultural statistics as a critical enabler to achieving the targets set out in its flagship Program.



Based on some projections

- In Sierra Leone, the agriculture sector employs 54 percent of the population and drives 60 percent of the GDP.
- Agriculture GDP growth has hovered between 3% to 5% in the past 10 years (Now at 2.5%).
- Rice is the country's staple, however, the country imports 480,000 MT of rice each year worth ~\$191 million, almost 40% of our annual expenditure on food imports.
- Average yield for Rice yield ranges between 0.5-1.78 MT/ha, while the average farm size per household is 2ha(90% of farmers are smallholders).
- Currently, less than 20% of arable land under cultivation



- The last agricultural census in Sierra Leone was conducted over 4 decades.
- Data on agricultural activities has relied on annual agricultural sample surveys.(the conduct of which has been lately irregular due to lack of resources.
- The last comprehensive National Agricultural Survey (NASS) was conducted in 2014.
- Since then, the sector has relied on projections complemented by crop-cutting surveys conducted on a limited scale.



- In a bid to change the narratives and reverse the current trend in Agriculture and Food Security indicators the government of Sierra Leone planning to implement the "Feed Salone" Initiative.
- The Feed Salone Flagship Programme is aimed at boosting agriculture productivity, increasing local food production, reducing our dependence on food import, reducing hunger, increasing export earnings, creating jobs, and building resilience.
- Feed Salone initiative is intended to be guided by a comprehensive and up-to-date data system, essential for effective monitoring, seeking feedback, and guiding policy and decision making.



- Through Feed Salone initiative, the government of Sierra Leone sets out ambition targets geared towards achieving its overall goal. It aims to:
 - ✓ Reduce food imports by 25% each year.
 - ✓ Increase export of cocoa and oil palm by 20% each year.
 - ✓ Create 35,000 formal jobs through agro-industrial zones.
 - ✓ Cut chronic hunger by 50% by 2028.
- The Government of Sierra Leone sees the implementation of the surveys under the 50 x 2030
 Initiative as being timely in providing baseline data and monitoring the progress of set targets and indicators



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS(50 x 2030)

- **Prepare Workplan and Budget:** Preparation of a multi-year work plan and budget guiding the implementation of the 50x2030 activities in Sierra Leone which runs for five years (2023 2028).
- **Signing of PIP**: Signed in March 2023, by the Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, the Statistician General World Bank, and 50 X 2023 PMT.
- Capacity Building on CAPI: Developed the capacity of MAFS and STATS SL Staff on data collection using CSPro.
- **Implementation of Household Listing:** listing in 520 selected EAs, to select a total of 5,200 households, before the implementation of the main surveys (post-production and post-harvest).



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS(50 x 2030)

- Conduct of the ILP-AG post-planting Survey: Implement the ILP-AG post-planting survey.
- Training on Capacity Building on Data Quality Checks and Monitoring: Special training conducted on data quality and monitoring.
- Conduct of the NSU Survey: Carry out the NSU survey in 90 Markets across the country.
- Conduct ILP-AG Post-Harvest Survey Data Collection: Train and deploy enumerators to collect data on the ILP-GP Survey



NEXT STEPS

- Carryout data collection on the PH (both HH and non-HH farms)
- Bring forward a comprehensive report on the ILP-AG survey(combining the listing, PP,PH and using the results from NSU survey).
- Build the capacity of MAFS and Stats SL on data analyses for subsequent surveys(sustainability).
- Prepare a work plan for Next year's activities(including crop cutting).
- Harness opportunities offered by the data-use component to build capacity.



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