



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



AFRICAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

28TH SESSION

4–8 December 2023
Johannesburg (South Africa)

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

AGENDA ITEM 5:
Global Strategy
For Improving Agricultural
and Rural Statistics - Phase II
(GSARS II) & Statistical
Capacity Development



AFRICAN
COMMISSION ON
**AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS**

Progress on the implementation and future plans of GSARS II

Outline

1. General overview on the GSARS
2. Second Global Action Plan : GSARS II 2020-2025
3. GSARS II African Action Plan 2021-2023
4. GSARS II African Action Plan and the Global and Regional Frameworks
5. GSARS II African Action Plan and Synergies with Other Initiatives
6. GSARS II African Action Plan : Implementation structure
7. GSARS II African Action Plan : Main achievements
8. GSARS II African Action Plan : Activities up to June 2024
9. GSARS II Future Direction

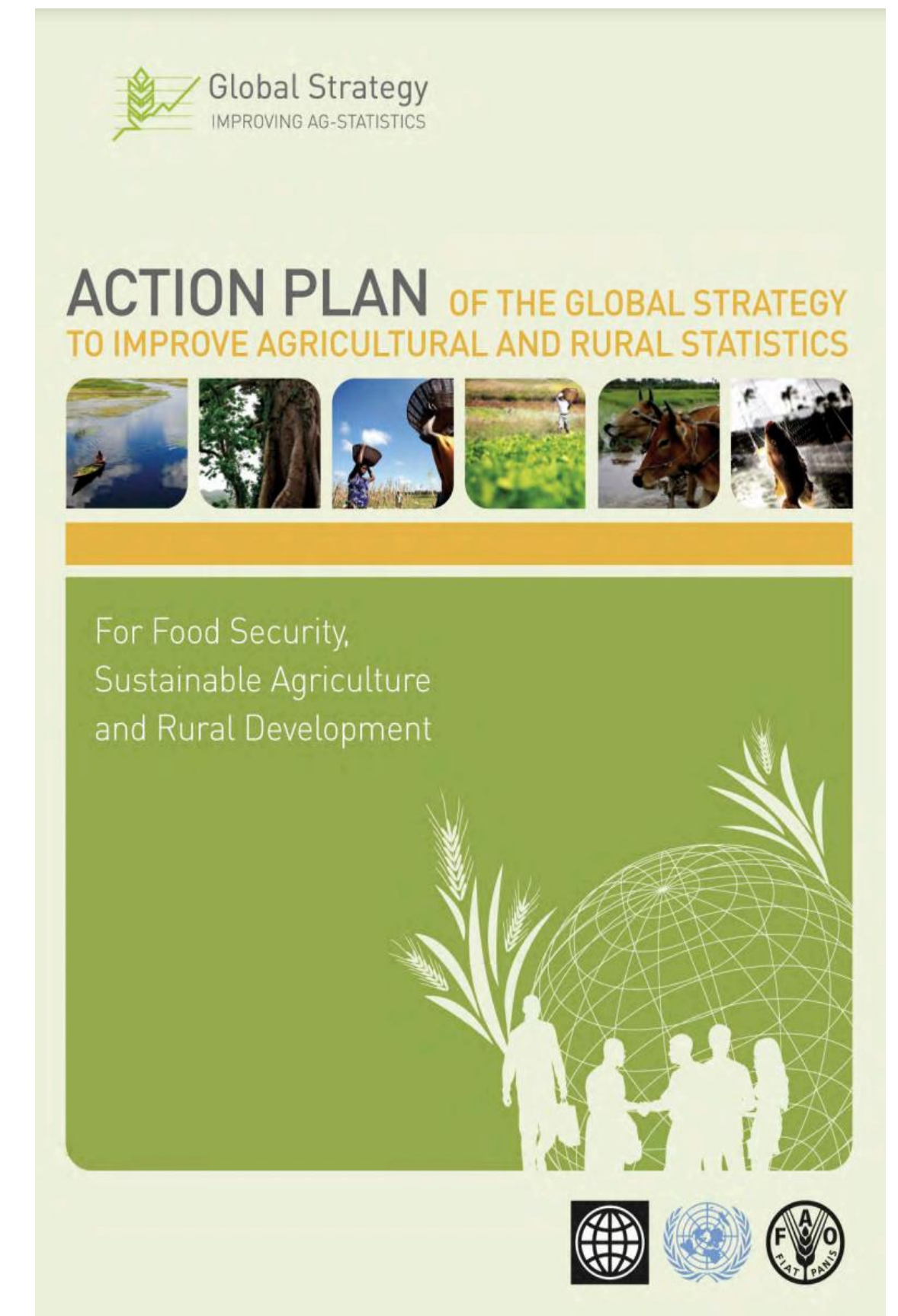
Presenter:

Lassina PARE, Statistician
GSARS II Global Office, ESS/FAO



1. General overview on the GSARS

- Flagship Capacity development programme of FAO
- Developed in 2010 as a long-term initiative (15 years) to address the decline in the agriculture statistical systems in developing countries.
- Endorsed under umbrella of the UN Statistical Commission
- First Phase: 2012-2018
 - Complete upgrade of agricultural statistical methods
 - Development of strategic development plans for ag stats
 - Strengthening of regional training programmes and overall capacity.
 - Development of a fast-track model of technical assistance.



2. GSARS II Global Action Plan : 2020-2025

Objectives

- Aims to accelerate the uptake of cost-effective methods developed in the first phase
- Focused on statistical capacity building and establishing the foundations to build sustainable ag systems in dev countries.
- Essential to convert investments into tangible capacity development activities for increased data production and dissemination at the country level.

Driving elements:

- Modular structure
- Outputs at country level
- Use of data
- Ownership at regional, country levels



3. GSARS II African Action Plan 2021-2023

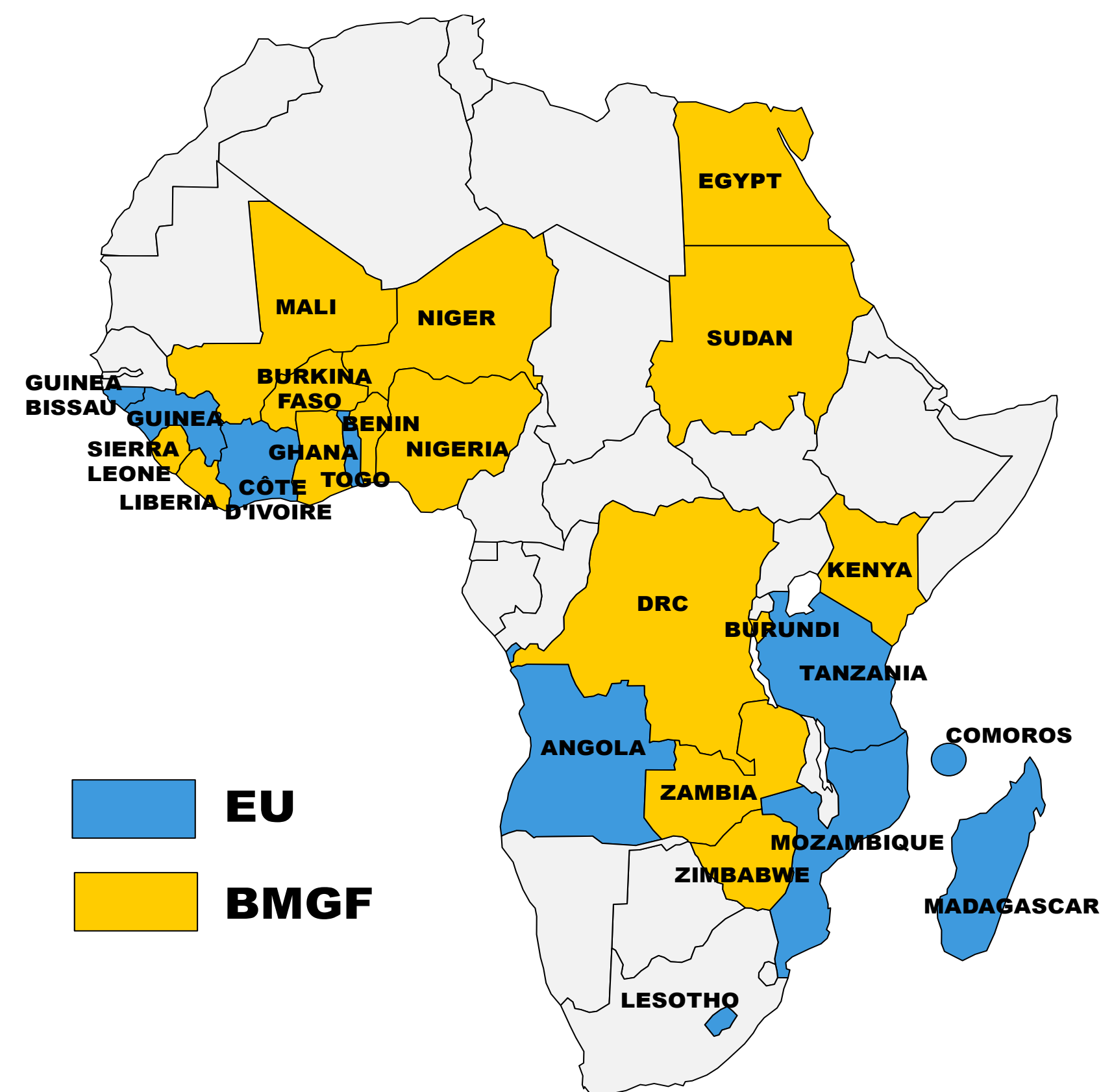
- ✓ Plan of activities developed at country level
- ✓ Plan of activities at regional level
- ✓ Involvement of Statafric

Funded by:

BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation



- ✓ Implemented by FAO, PARIS21 and UNECA



Source: author's own elaboration. FAO, 2024

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

4. GSARS II African Action Plan and the Global and Regional Frameworks

Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG2) framework

- 2.3.1
- 2.3.2



- 2.4.1
- 5.a.1.a

African Union Commission - Agenda 2063

as strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years. Its implementation framework should be evidence driven.

CAADP Malabo declaration

Emphasis on mutual accountability and improvement of the quality of the data necessary for measuring the progress and impact of CAADP Countries required to better address the data availability challenge in the framework of the CAADP Biennial

Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA)

The adoption of the African Charter on Statistics resulted in 2010 into the launch of Africa's first continent wide forward strategy.

5. GSARS II African Action Plan and Synergies with Other Initiatives

Pan-African Statistics Programme – PAS II (2021-2025)

Objective:

Support African integration by strengthening the African Statistical System, to ensure the use of quality statistical data in the Africa Integration decision-making process and policy monitoring.

Model of implementation :

Three levels of intervention: continental, regional and national: combination of activities at the three levels with need for coherence and synchronisation with the work done at the other levels.

GSARS is bringing a value added :

At all three levels in Agricultural statistics domain, providing technical assistance to improve the statistical capacities in planning, data management, statistical tools, data analysis and dissemination

5. GSARS II African Action Plan and Synergies with Other Initiatives (Cont.)

Initiative 50 x 2030

Objective:

Empower and support 50 low-income or lower-middle income countries to build strong national data systems, addressing in particular **availability of data for achieving SDG2** and provide good data for at least **10 indicators of the CAADP** results framework

Model of implementation :

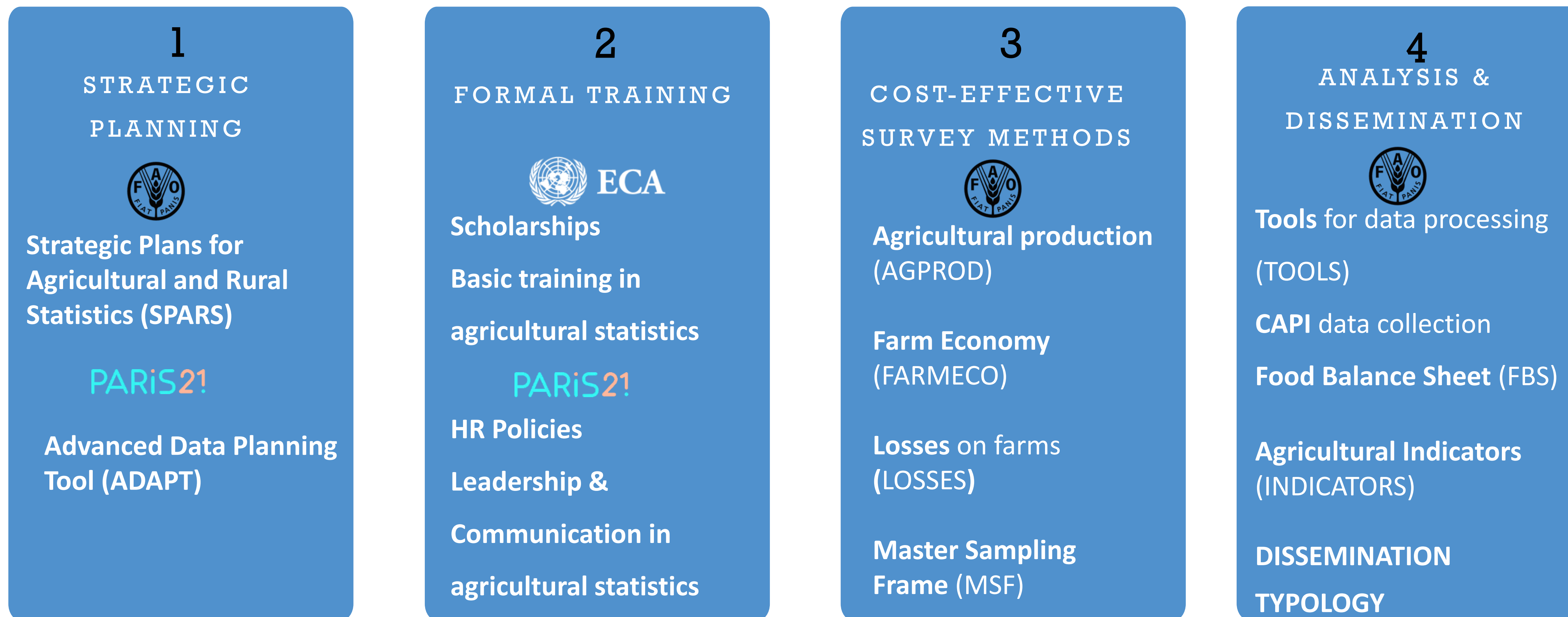
Relies on **one key factor: the capacity of the country to implement complex integrated agricultural surveys**

GSARS is bringing a value added:

Reducing the preparation time of implementation of 50x2030 surveys.
Examples in Benin, Guinea, Tanzania, Cote d'Ivoire, etc.

6. GSARS II African Action Plan Implementation structure

4 AREAS OF WORK 3 Implementing Partners

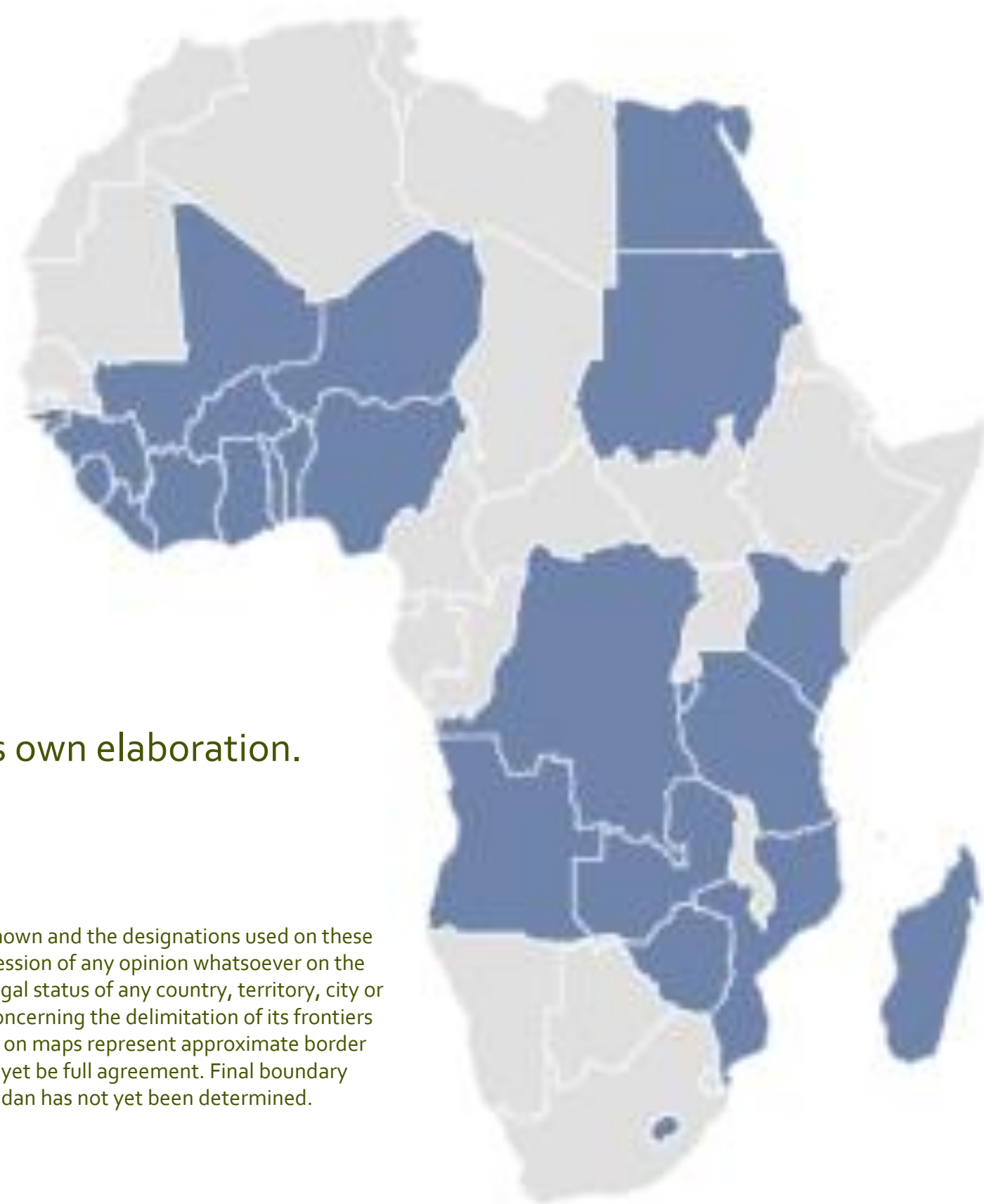


2021-2024

7. GSARS II African Action Plan

Main achievements

Each of all 25 target countries benefitted from at least 6 packages of activities



Source: author's own elaboration.
FAO, 2024

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

15 in-country activities
322 trainees

COST EFFECTIVE METHODS

64 in-country activities
606 trainees

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISSEMINATION

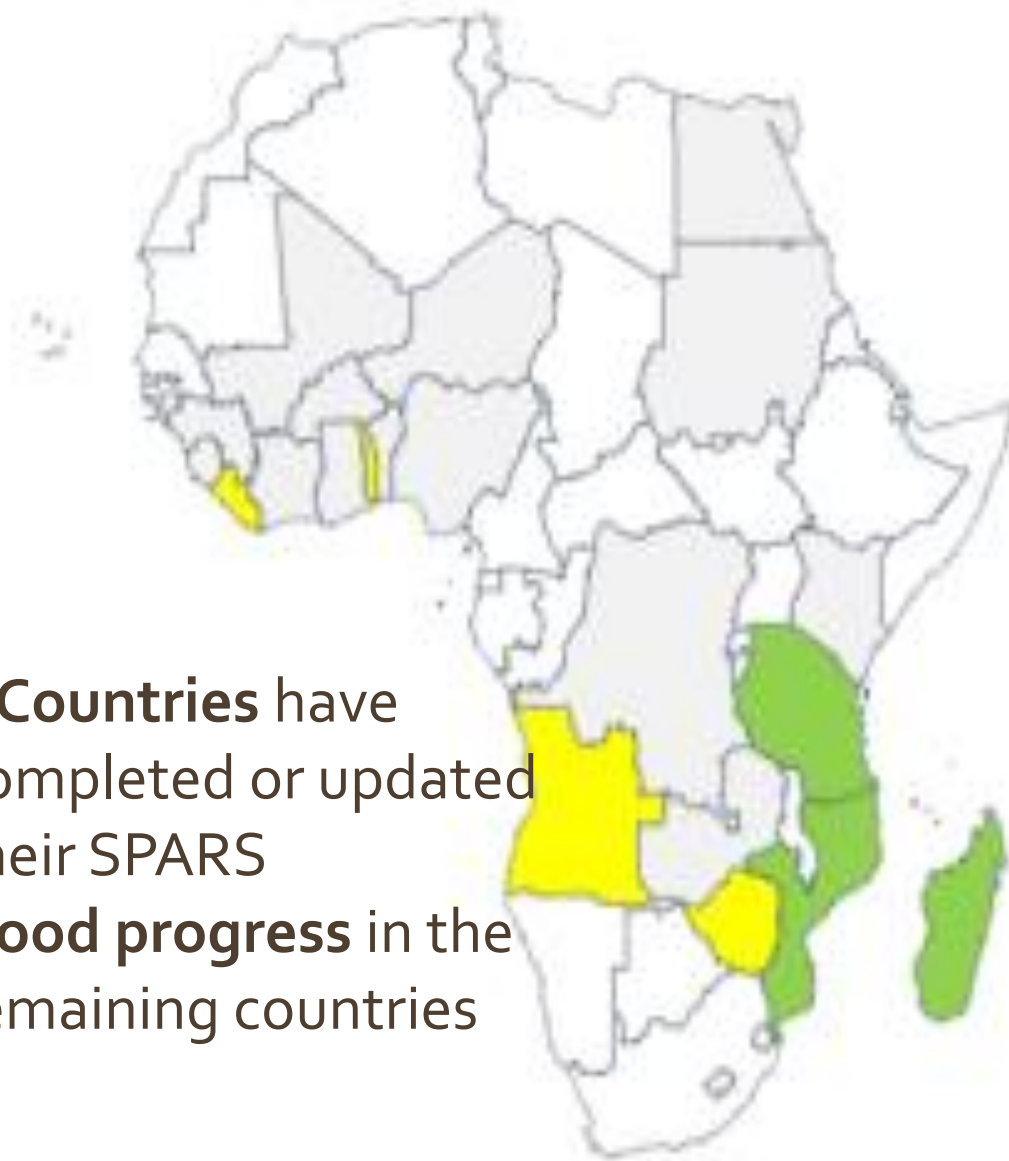
83 in-country activities
1,066 trainees

7. GSARS II African Action Plan Main achievements (Cont.)

STRATEGIC PLANNING

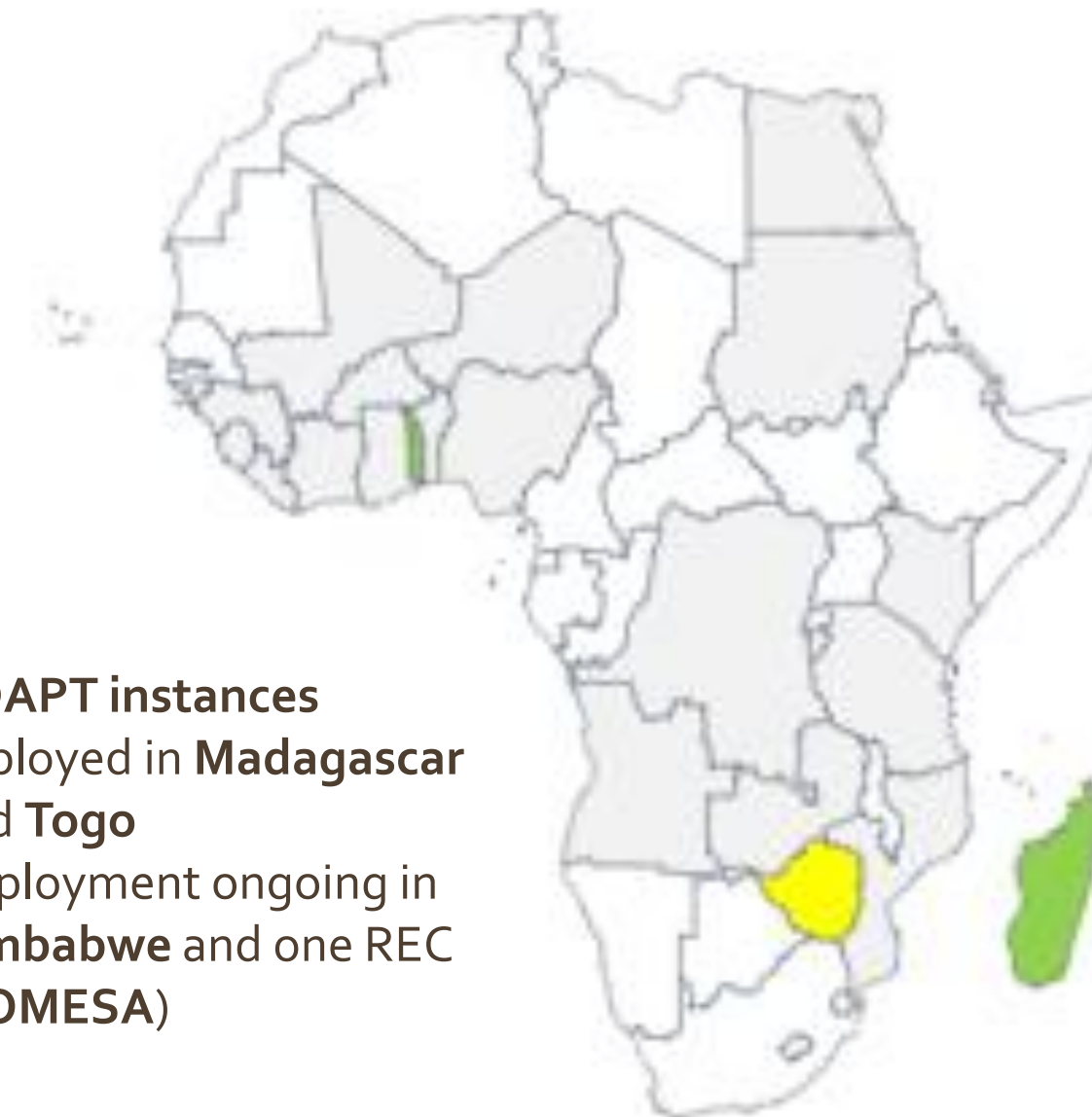
SPARS - 7 Countries

- **3 Countries** have completed or updated their SPARS
- **Good progress** in the remaining countries



ADAPT - 3 Countries

- **ADAPT instances** deployed in **Madagascar** and **Togo**
- Deployment ongoing in **Zimbabwe** and one REC (**COMESA**)



Source: author's own elaboration.
FAO, 2024

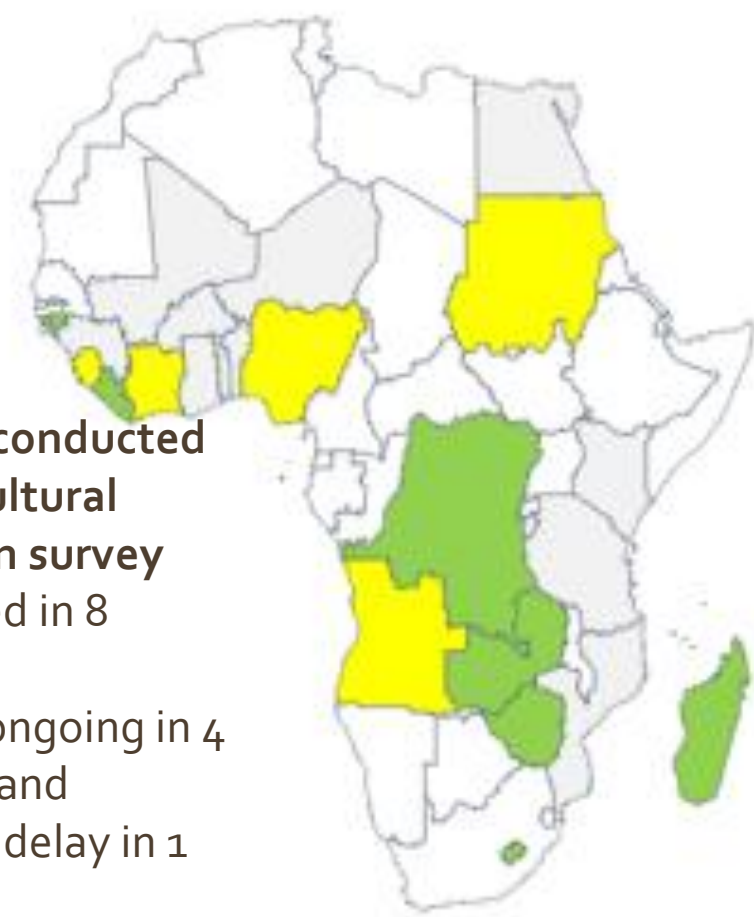
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

7. GSARS II African Action Plan

Main achievements (Cont.)

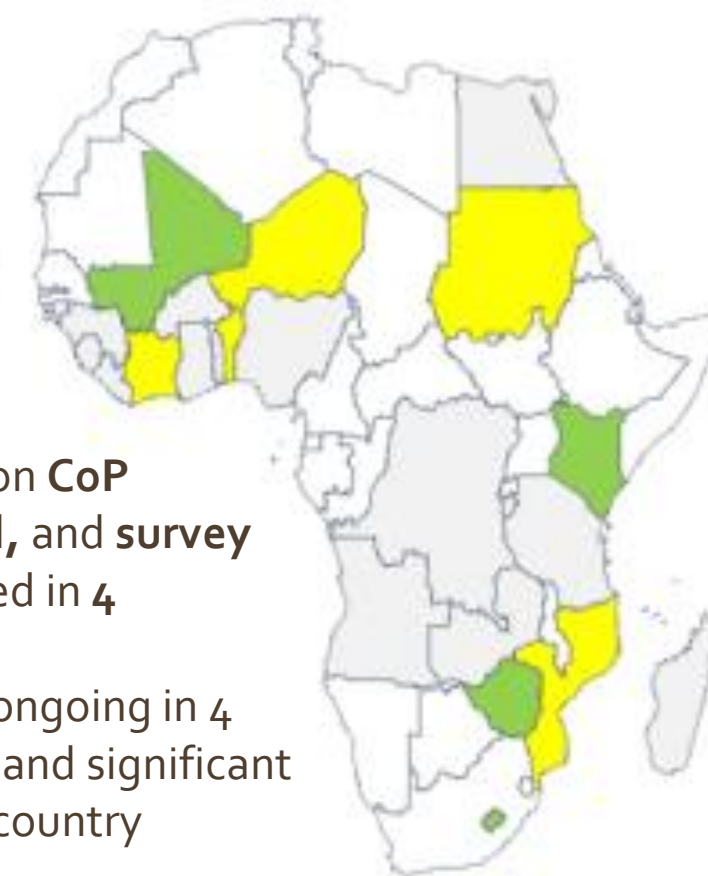
COST EFFECTIVE SURVEY METHODS

AGPROD - 13 Countries



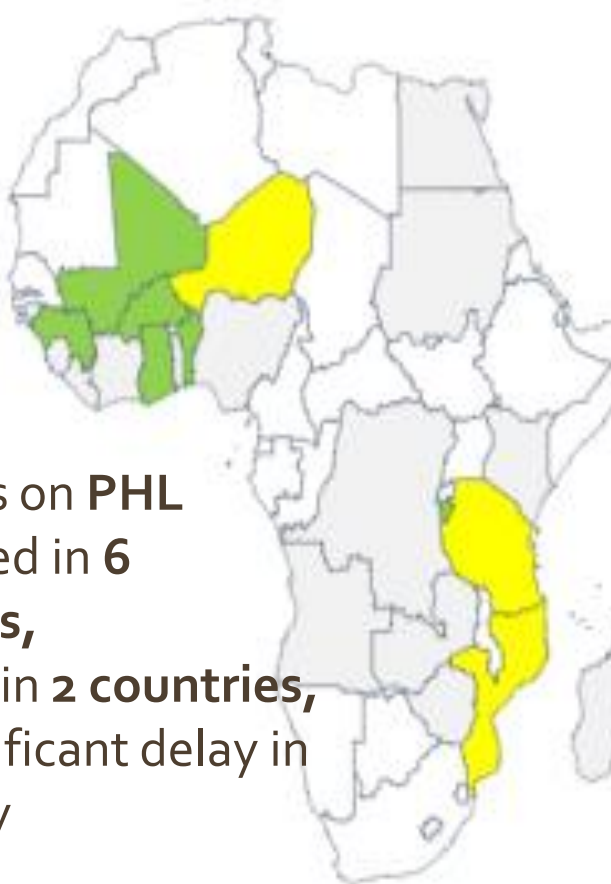
Trainings conducted and Agricultural Production survey tools tested in 8 countries, Activities ongoing in 4 countries, and significant delay in 1 country

FARMECO - 9 Countries



Trainings on CoP conducted, and survey tools tested in 4 countries, Activities ongoing in 4 countries, and significant delay in 1 country

LOSSES - 9 Countries



Trainings on PHL conducted in 6 countries, ongoing in 2 countries, and significant delay in 1 country

MASTER SAMPLING FRAME - 13 Countries



Regional trainings for all 13 countries In-country support ongoing in most countries

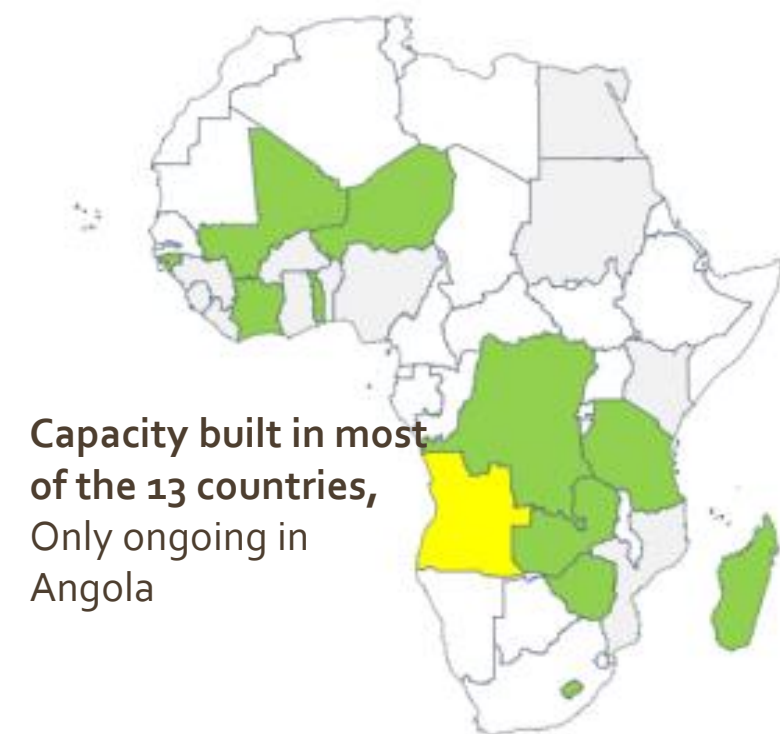
Source: author's own elaboration.
FAO, 2024

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

7. GSARS II African Action Plan Main achievements (Cont.)

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISSEMINATION

STATISTICAL TOOLS - 13 Countries



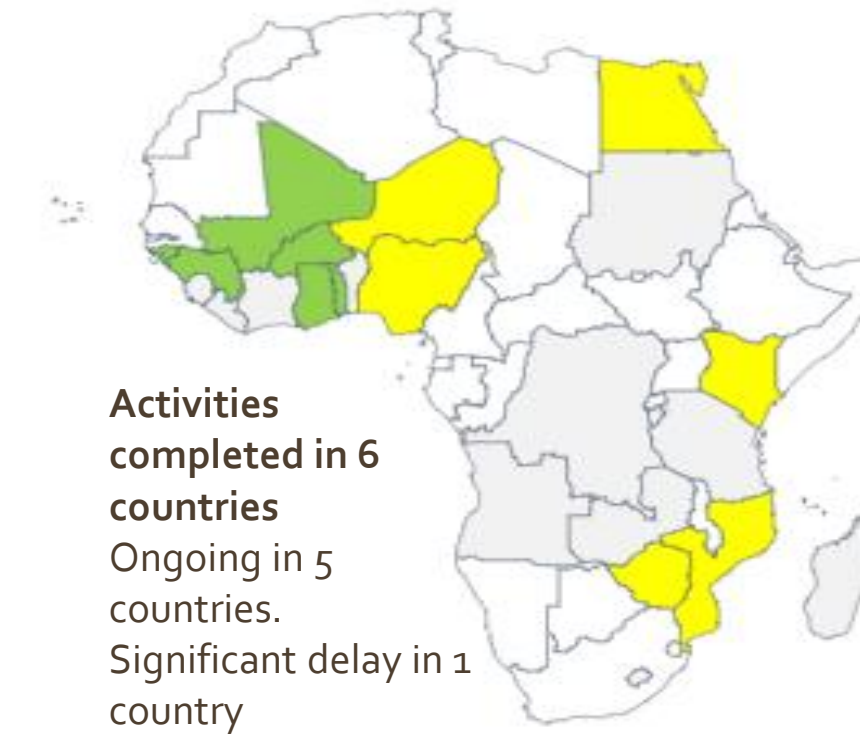
CAPI - All 25 beneficiary countries



FOOD BALANCE SHEETS - 4 Countries



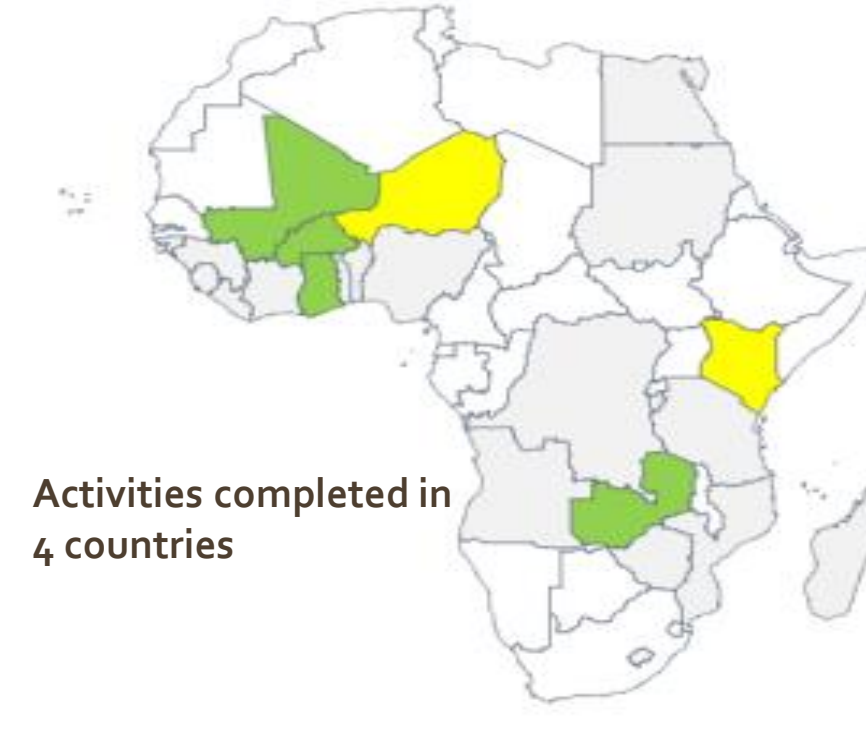
INDICATORS - 12 Countries



DISSEMINATION - 9 Countries



FARM TYPOLOGY - 6 Countries



Source: author's own elaboration.
FAO, 2024

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

8. GSARS II African Action Plan Main activities up to June 2024

Main Activities Up to June 2024

Finalize in-country activities and focus on the strengthening of statistical capacities in regional and continental institutions

9. GSARS Future Direction: Beyond June 2024

Future Direction: Beyond June 2024


9. GSARS Future Directions: Enhancing Efforts at All Levels

Continued efforts required at country, regional, and continental levels in the coming years.

Next Steps:

1. Strengthen integration and coordination with the Pan-African Statistics (PAS) Programme to enhance the capacity of AfSS at regional and continental levels.
2. Continue to develop the statistical capacities in the countries involved in 50 x 2030 Initiative
3. Respond to numerous requests from countries for additional capacity development activities on topics covered by GSARS II.
4. Expand the program to include new countries/regions.

	Africa	Asia and Pacific	Middle East	Latin America and the Caribbean
Research				
Training				
Cost-effective methods				
Data Use				

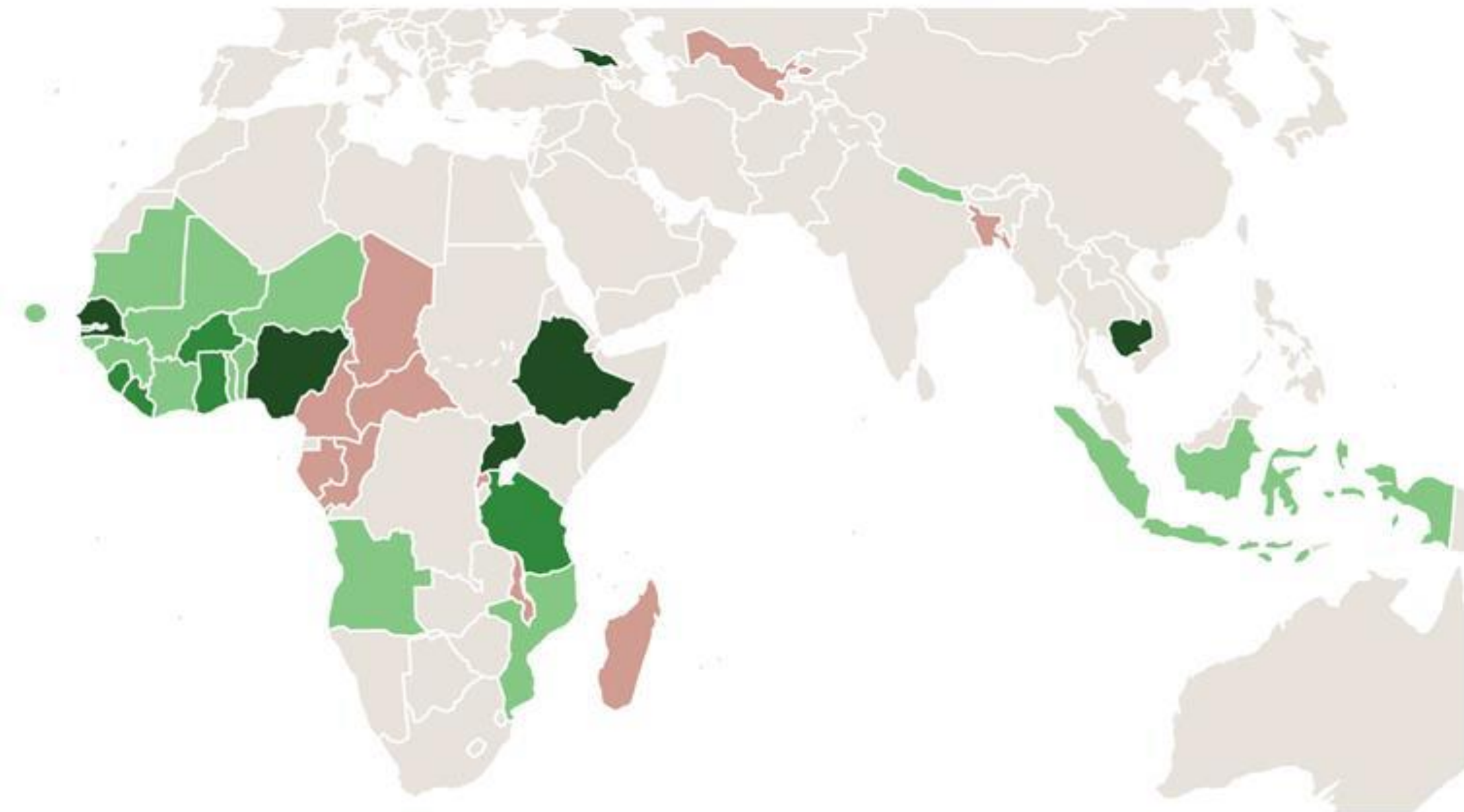


Action Plan Africa 21-23

Sustained and expanded efforts are crucial for reinforcing statistical capacities at every level, ensuring comprehensive and reliable agricultural data across Africa.

9. GSARS Future Directions: Enhancing Efforts at All Levels

The synergies with the 50x2030 Initiative



- By 2024, 32 countries are expected to be engaged in the 50x2030 at different stages
- In Africa: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda

- Data collected
- Data collection in preparation
- Survey system preparation
- Potential country to join 24-25

Source: author's own elaboration.
FAO, 2024

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

**GLOBAL STRATEGY
TO IMPROVE
AGRICULTURAL AND
RURAL STATISTICS**



Phase II: Component 2

**Scholarships and Short-term Trainings on
Basic Agricultural Statistics**

AFCAS 28: Agenda item 5

**GSARS II: Building AFSS Capacity in Agricultural
Statistics**

African Centre for Statistics

5 December 2023

Presenter: Eileen Capilit (UNECA-ACS)

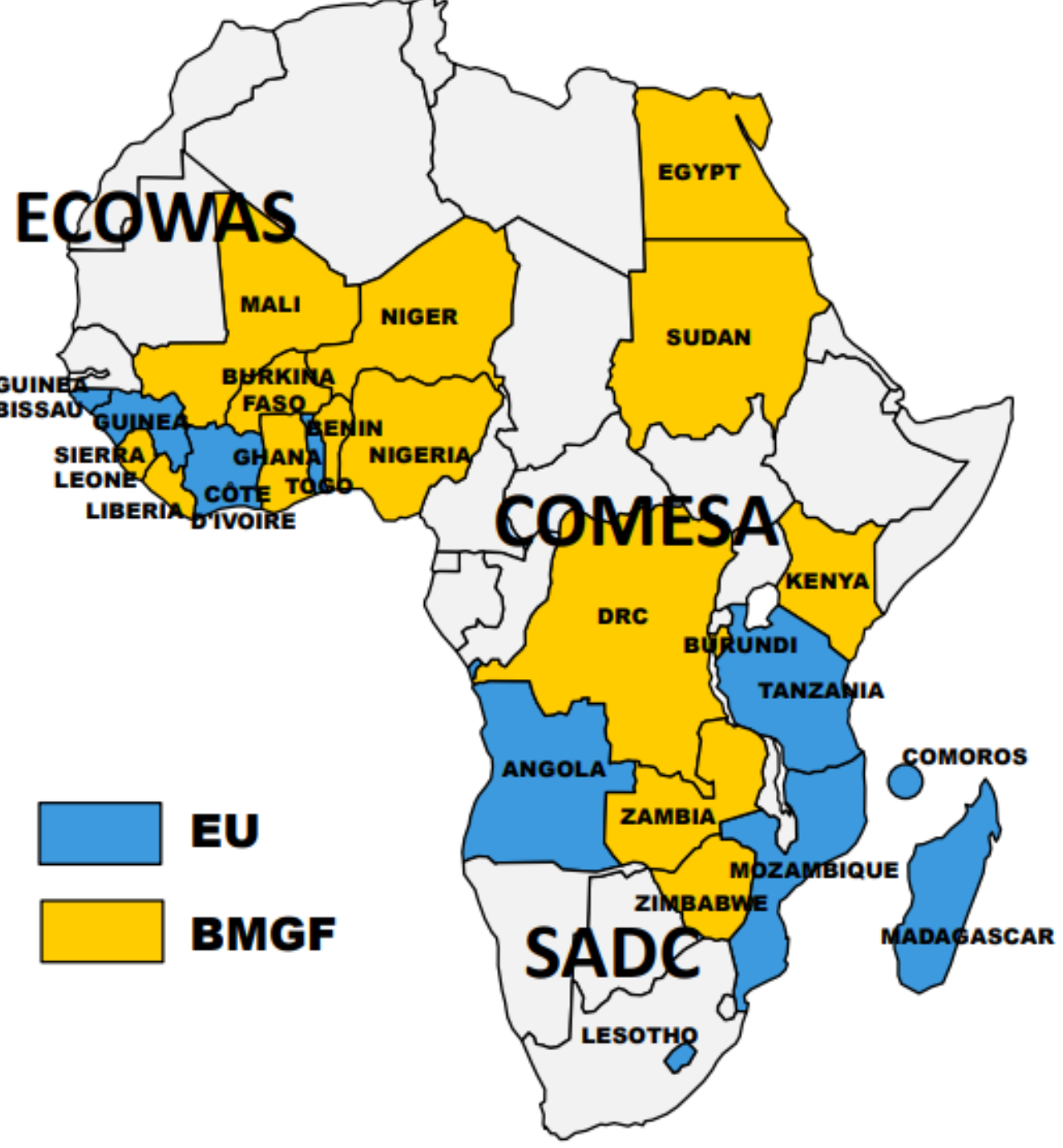


United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

ECA: Facilitating access to relevant training programs...

capacitate and support member states with theoretical and practical knowledge and skills to produce high-quality agricultural statistics

Funds received: **USD 1.67M**



1. Scholarships (Master's in Agricultural Statistics)

- 48 scholars from 24 countries, 42% female (**USD 784K**)
- EASTC – 12 countries; 24 scholars, 50% female;
- ENSAE and ENSEA – 6 countries; 12 scholars; 25% and 42% females, respectively.

Source: author's own elaboration. FAO, 2024

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement. Final boundary between Sudan and South Sudan has not yet been determined.

2. Basic agricultural statistics

- **2022 November – Cote De Ivoire**
- USD 156.5K
- 31 participants, 32% female
- 18 countries
- **2023 July – Nigeria**
- USD 111.6K
- 30 participants, 47% female
- Nine (9) countries, three (3) RECs

Signing of agreements:

- ECA and FAO: March 2022
- ECA and STCs: July, Aug, Sept 2022



Implementation modalities

Basic Training

Joint preparation and delivery of the training

- Training 1: UNECA, FAO and ENSEA
- Training 2: UNECA, FAO, NBS

Acceptable female participation rate

- Training 1: 32% out of 31
- Training 2: 47% out of 30

Sharing of experiences among countries

- conducting agricultural surveys and related technical issues

Participants' reflections and commitment

- cascading the knowledge received during the workshop

Scholarship component

Rapid assessment of STCs
technical and systemic capabilities

Development of prospectus for postgraduate diploma scholarship

Transparent selection criteria
Selection committee comprised of UNECA, FAO &

Hybrid mode joint selection of students
UNECA and STCs staff on site and FAO remotely.

Good gender balance representation
42% of the 48 scholars are females

Secured Scholars Commitment to serve
At least two (2) years after completion

Monitoring and assessment of STCs
(periodic meetings, reporting templates: narratives, academic, financial, presentations)

Monitoring and assessment of students' performance

Where are we now...

Processing final fund transfer to one STCs for scholarship package

Monitoring scholarship performance per STCs

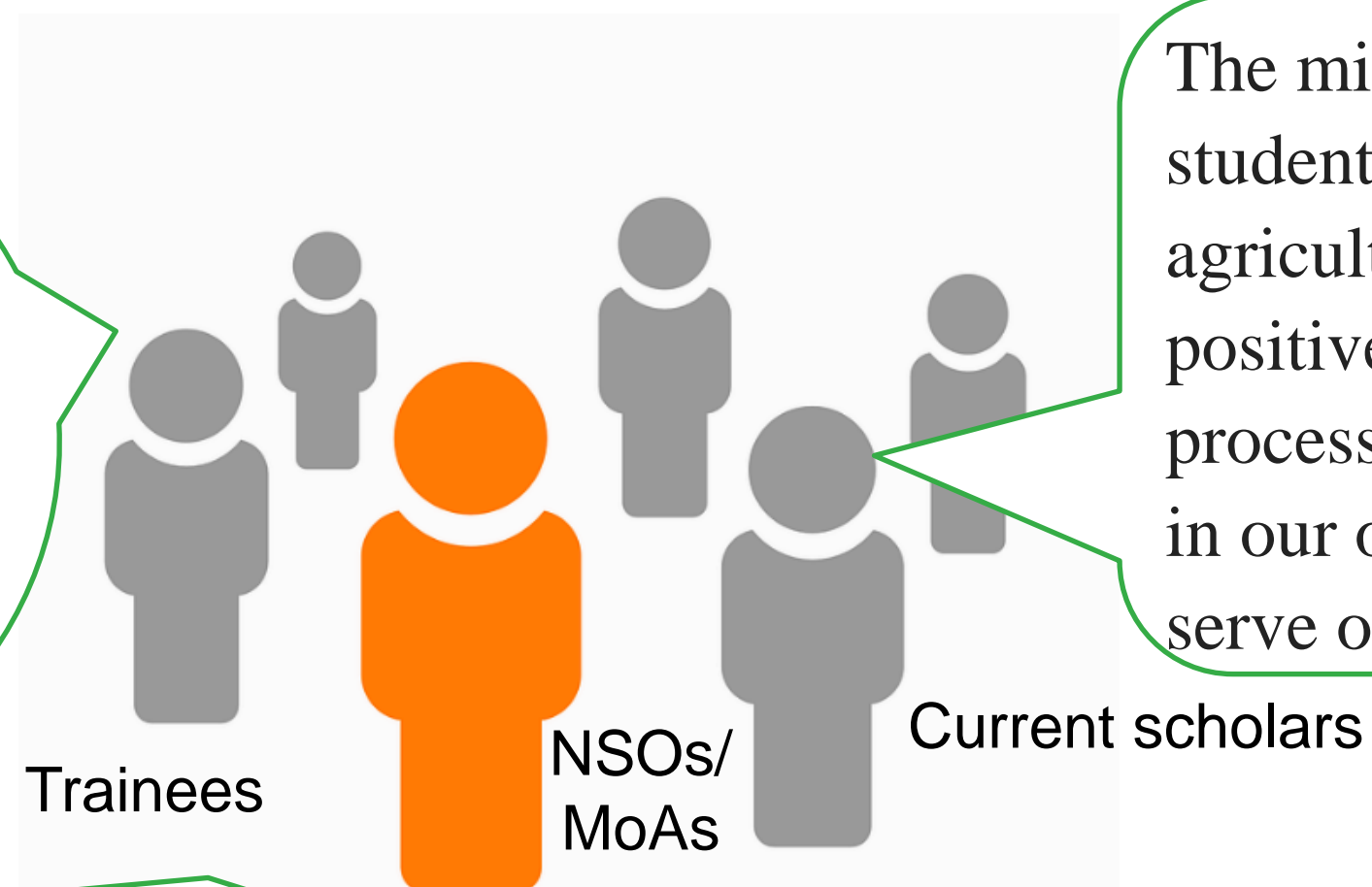
Reviewing performance of students on a monthly and quarterly basis

Reviewing liquidation documents

Preparing the fourth narrative report

What “they” say about GSARS II...

Our organizations continue to benefit from the knowledge gained and the modules which served as references for our work including Agricultural Census/Surveys...



The mixture and diversity of students (statisticians and agriculturist) contributed positively to the learning process. We commit to stay in our organizations and serve our country.

We are thankful for GSARS project as it continues to improve the way we do things by providing solid foundations for our colleagues...

What's next...

Project extension
(June 2024) :

- Global Strategy Conference (May 2024)
- Advocacy and communication work
- Further strengthening the support, and coordination for capacitating member states

Ex-post analysis of the employment status of students

- Online platform for networking, discussion, development forums, etc.

GSARSII PARIS21 Activities

December 2023

Presenter: Ms Paz Patino, Paris21

PARIS
21

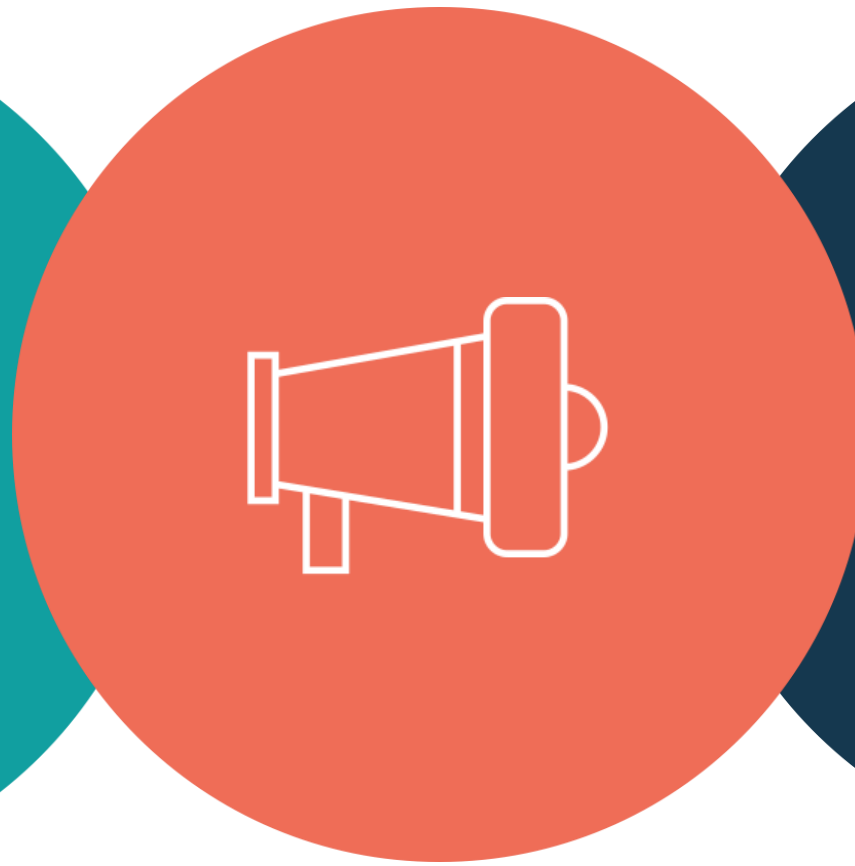
PARIS21 Activities

GSARS II



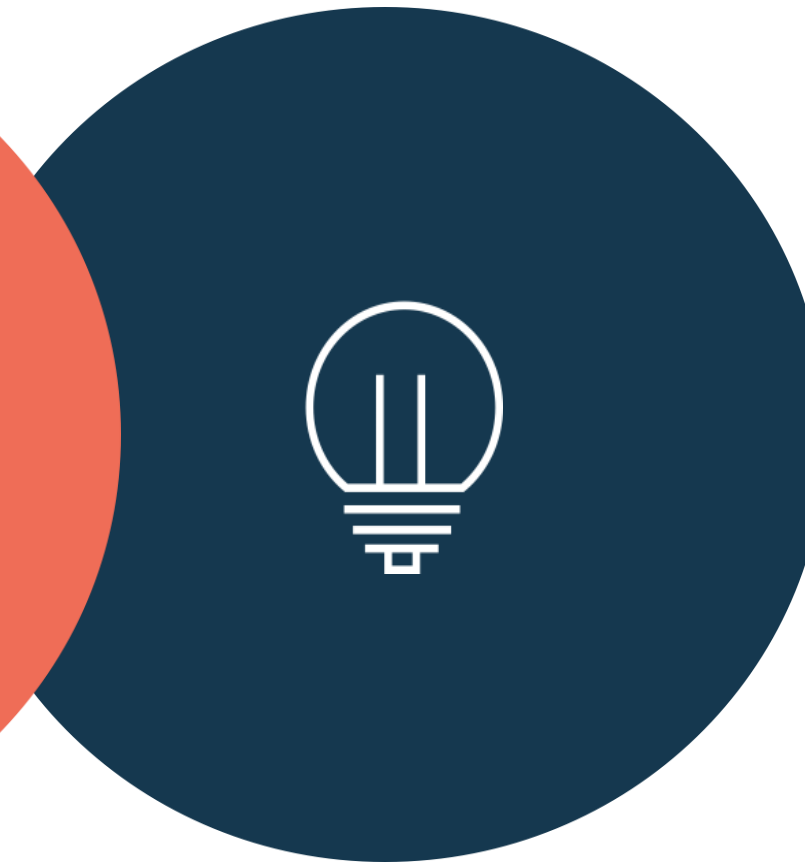
HR policies

Supporting the development of HR policies in statistics agencies through trainings and deep-dives



Leadership & Communications

Strengthening leadership and communications skills through trainings and technical assistance



ADAPT

Using PARIS21 Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT) to identify data gaps and facilitate data planning in the SPARS process

Developing Leadership and Communication Skills for Statistics



Statistical Leadership Training

18-20 May 2022, Rwanda

Targeted at heads of statistics offices and agricultural statistics services to:

- Unlock the potential of the statistics community to be **effective** in **leadership** roles
- Create strong leaders who can **face current challenges**: crisis, new data sources, change management, capacity development and modernization of statistics
- Open spaces for **peer-learning** and sharing of good practices across Africa
- Complemented with **middle-managers trainings** to attain institutional transformation and prepare the next generation of statistical leaders



PARIS21 Regional
Leadership Training 2022

Data Communications Skills Training

July 2023, Benin, Togo, Mali, Sierra Leone

Targeted at communications officers, statisticians and journalists to achieve:

Connection media/statisticians

Strengthen the channels of communication between statistics producers and media



Data literate journalists

Increase data literacy skills of journalists so they can become infomediaries of statistical information

Non-technical data communication

Develop skills around data communications to non-technical audiences to promote and ease the use of statistics



Trust in official statistics

Foster trust in official statistics and an evidence-based decision-making culture

PARIS21 Communications
Training 2023

Improve HR management and skills in statistics agencies



HR skills trainings

End-2022, Kenya & Benin

Targeted at HR officers to improve:

Staffing and succession plans

Strengthen HR planning to reduce the impacts of staff turnover and difficulties in recruitment



PARIS21 HR Training Benin

Sustainable capacity building

Ensure systemic approach to training of staff and capacity building across the NSS

HR support to the organization

Strengthening the role of HR officers as facilitators of the institutional day-to-day, and as support systems for managers

Knowledge sharing

Participants were able to share innovative solutions to HR issues and highlight good practices

Other activities in these areas:

HR deep-dives

- Burundi – NSO organigram and job profiles
- Mali – Training development program for NSO and MoAg
- Burkina Faso

Follow-up webinars

- Two on key topics around HR management
- One on communications capacity for agricultural statistics

Communications Strategies

- Madagascar
 - Sierra Leone
- Including a focus on agricultural statistics

Middle-managers trainings

- Lesotho
 - Benin
 - Burkina Faso
- Targeted at the statistics system, including MoAg

GET IN TOUCH



Subscribe to our mailing list to receive news on development data and statistics.



www.paris21.org

PARIS
21