INTERNATIONAL PRODUCT CLASSIFICATIONS FOR AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

a brief report of activities 2012-2013

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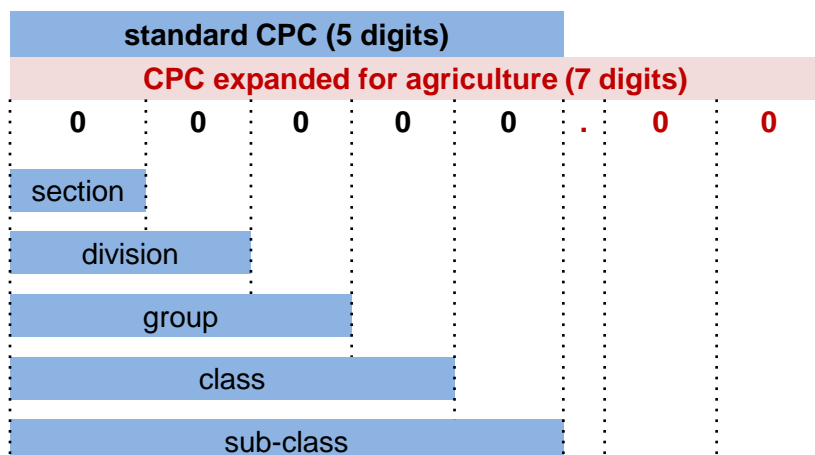Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Outline

UPDATE AFCAS MEMBER COUNTRIES ON:

- **CPC** - UN Central Product Classification of the United Nations
- **HS** - Harmonized System
- **Survey** on National Classifications for Agriculture and Food Products
- **Database** on Commodity Classifications
- **Guidelines** on Classifications for Agricultural Statistics (Global Strategy)

INVITATIONS TO AFCAS MEMBER COUNTRIES

Review of CPC 2.1 & CPC expanded for agricultural statistics

- Collaboration between FAO & UNSD to improve CPC for AG statistics since 2005

- Next CPC version (**2.1**) available in 2014 incl. review of **AG**&**FI**&**FO** items

- In addition, **CPC 2.1 expanded for AG** adds detail at the lower level of standard CPC (5digits) with supplementary codes on crops, livestock & derived products

standard CPC (5 digits)							
CPC expanded for agriculture (7 digits)							
0	0	0	0	0	.	0	0

section
division
group
class
sub-class

- CPC 2.1 expanded will **replace** FAOSTAT commodity list → no loss of information

- Currently under testing in the statistical working system

Strengths of CPC compared to FCL

- **Structure**, **definitions** and **codes** are improved

- **Possibility for countries to expand** the structure to include local products/varieties at lower level

- **Better harmonization** with HS 2012

- **High level of detail** and **meaningful aggregates** for statistics and economic analysis

- **Facilitate integration** of agriculture into national statistical systems

- **Review every 5 years** by way of a international **participative process** where countries are fully involved
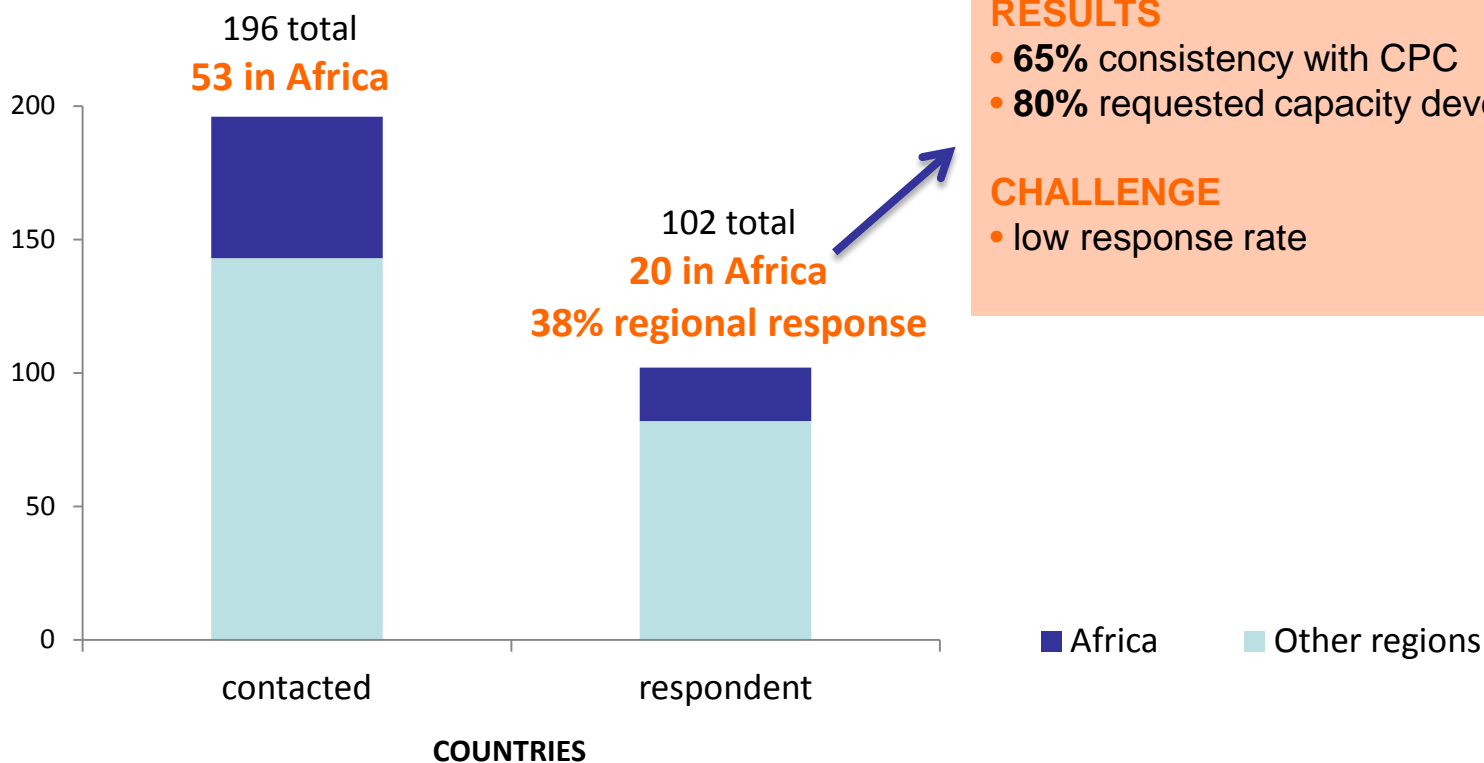
Review of HS 2012 and 2017

- HS 2012 (into force in 01/12): >**300** new **AG&FI** items: more suitable for AG&FI statistics, establishes solid correspondences with CPC

- HS 2017 (into force in 01/17): FAO submitted a number of proposals to WCO incl. **AG&FI&FO** products, fertilizers & machinery

  - o **consultations** within and outside FAO conducted to verify the extent to which HS12 detail was sufficient for the FAO

  - o items selected according to global **trade value,** no. of **countries** involved, monitoring of **food security**, **endangered species** or stocks in need, and **conservation** agriculture practices

  - o proposals were discussed at the HS Review Sub-Committee/ 43/44/45/46 sessions and HS Committee/42 session

  - o most of the FAO proposals are approved

Survey on National Classifications for Agriculture and Food Products (2012/13)

To assess:

- **what** product classifications used by countries for AG & food products
- **extent** to which international standards are implemented (focus on CPC)
- **needs** on technical assistance and capacity development

196 total
53 in Africa

102 total
20 in Africa
38% regional response

RESULTS
- **65%** consistency with CPC
- **80%** requested capacity development

CHALLENGE
- low response rate

■ Africa   ■ Other regions

contacted   respondent

COUNTRIES

Database on Commodity Classifications

- facilitate countries and other users in their search in the FAOSTAT commodity list definitions & correspondences to CPC and HS

- available in EN

- FR and SP translations underway

  Statistics Division website

  www.fao.org/economic/ess/ess-standards/commodity/en/

Guidelines on Classifications for Agricultural Statistics

- development planned for 2014 under the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics

- will provide a useful aid to countries planning to adopt and adapt international classifications for agricultural statistics to their statistical system

Questions & Recommendations for Discussion

- **Encourage member countries** to adopt CPC, and other international standard classifications. FAO is committed to provide assistance to this process
  - discuss **opportunities, challenges** and **potential solutions**

- **Ask for endorsement** of the progress made by FAO in integrating agriculture, fishery and forestry into major international product classifications

- **Seek advice and collaboration** from member countries on the development of future work and support the role of the RAF in this area of work

- **Recommend member countries** complete the FAO Survey on National Classifications for Agriculture and Food Products

- **Affirm the need** to strengthen partnerships on statistical classifications with Regional Organizations in Africa and member countries in the near future

Thank you

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