

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Organisation Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture

Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y Īa Alimentación



Statistical Yearbook for Africa

Statistics Division, FAORAF Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

The background



Previous yearbook:

- based on excel sheets, no or limited accompanying text
- manual updates of graphs and tables, no direct links to underlying databases
- labour-intensive, no automatic documentation, poor version control, no scale economies (more tables) no scope economies (more SYBs)
- different layouts, different production processes between central and regional yearbooks
- methodologies: disparate classifications, imputation methods, etc.

The new approach



- 1. Sustainable and cost-effective architecture
- Exclusively based on open source software (R and La-Tex)
- Transparent, documented, reproducible product, version-controlled data and derived indicators
- 4. New template:
 - standardized tables, graphics, layout
 - standardized chapter set-up
- 5. Transferable to other publications with FAO and to other organizations (UNESCAP, UNECA)

The project and its products



- 1. Global Yearbook
- 2. Regional Yearbooks (five in 2014)
- 3. Pocketbook
- 4. Website/database
- 5. Extend concept to publications (SOFI) and data products: corporate M&E tools, scorecards, etc.

The structure



Each part contains –

- Narrative: description with background and major trends
- 2. Visualizations: various types of maps and charts, by region, country, and over time
- 3. Data tables: detailed country-level and aggregate information for hundreds of indicators
- → Creation of a **single reference point** for key statistics on F&A and other FAO flagship publications

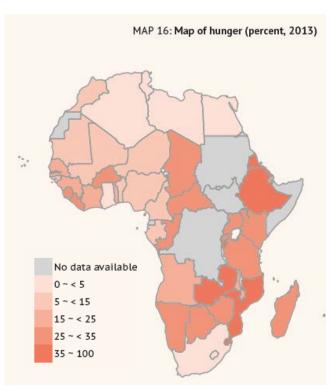
The content

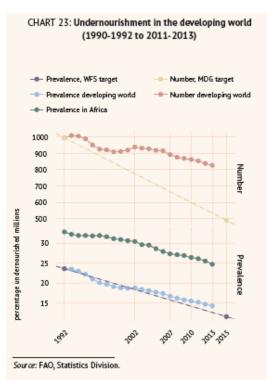


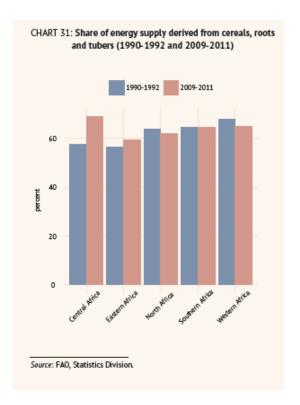
- The setting: economy, labour, inputs, capital and investment and innovation
- Hunger dimensions: suite of food security indicators
- Feeding the world: supply of food, therefore production in crops, livestock and fisheries, and trade
- Sustainability dimensions: land, forestry, water, biodiversity, climate change and greenhouse gases

Examples









The Statistical yearbook for Africa



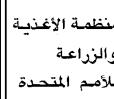
- Keep the same structure like the Global yearbook with four thematic parts:
- Specifications of the Africa yearbook:
- For each chapter and section, indicators and the correspondent tables, maps and charts to be used
- Provide regional economic entities in the Region composition for which aggregated indicator have to be produced and displayed;
- Narrative for each part and section that offer insights into the region;
- Printing and distribution of the yearbook

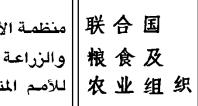
Conclusion



- 1. Transparent, extendable (other publications, other clients), fully documented product
- 2. Central control of the production process: One-stop-shop for production, version control of data and text
- 3. Open source software: no royalties, free sharing and free adaptation, large community of practice (new ideas, new approaches) space for country to adopt
- 4. Particularly useful for template publications, however benefits decline with frequently changing formats and styles.







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Thank you

For more information, please contact **Amy Heyman or Eloi Ouedraogo**

Production



R: free software environment for statistical computing and graphics

LaTeX: LaTeX is a (free) advanced typesetting system designed for the production of technical and scientific documentation

Jointly they:

- Download data automatically and import datasets
- Merge together datasets with different coding systems/country classifications/formats
- Construct new variables (growth rates, shares, indexes, etc) and aggregates automatically
- Produce charts, tables and maps and export objects into LaTeX code
- LaTeX automatically generates the layout importing text and objects
- One click away from blueprints (professional print quality file) or interactive web-based dissemination