

# Asia and Pacific Commission on Agricultural Statistics

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## Implementation of Agricultural Marketing Information System (AMIS) in India

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# Agricultural Marketing Information System (AMIS)

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- High Food prices and volatility have adverse effects on food security.
- It impacts poverty levels particularly in developing and food importing countries.
- G20 countries have committed to address the global food security through collective action through several initiatives of which Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) is an important one.
- The AMIS is promoted by the FAO.

# Need for AMIS

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- The need for AMIS was felt due to inadequate information on stocks, domestic prices, and linkages between international and domestic markets, inappropriate and/or uncoordinated policy responses to market crisis.
- *AMIS is designed to;*
  - Improve agricultural market information, analyses and forecasts at both national and international levels.
  - Report on abnormal international market conditions including structural weaknesses, as appropriate, collect and analyse policy information, promote dialogue and international policy coordination and
  - Build data collection capacity in participating countries.

# Role of AMIS

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In June 2011, the G20 Ministers of Agriculture launched the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), a collaborative food information initiative.

- AMIS builds on and complements existing systems and improves global food market information.
- AMIS is a platform through which countries, international organizations and the private sector can work together to strengthen synergies and collaboration in order to improve data reliability, timeliness and frequency.
- AMIS also builds developing countries' capacity in market outlook analysis and promotes policy dialogue.

# Main Objectives of AMIS

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Main objectives of AMIS are to ;

- strengthen global early warning capacity,
- enhance the quality, timeliness and reliability of food market outlook information.

# Important Instruments of AMIS

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- AMIS is expected to address the high food prices and food price volatility through:
  - *Global Food Market Information Group (Information Group)* under AMIS is intended to collect and analyse food market information,
  - The *Rapid Response Forum (RRF)* intended to discuss policy responses.
- Presently AMIS is confined to following 4 crops;  
(i) wheat, (ii) rice, (iii) maize and (iv) soybean

# Participants of AMIS

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- Participants of AMIS consist of:
  - G20 countries,
  - Spain, Egypt, Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, Kazakhstan, Nigeria and Ukraine.
  
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, has the responsibility of uploading country data to AMIS website and supply other relevant information.

# Activities of of AMIS

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- AMIS website ([www.amis-outlook.org](http://www.amis-outlook.org)) is the main platform through which AMIS activities and outputs are made available to the public.
- The second area of activity covered monitoring market and policy indicators.
- The third area of activity concerned capacity development in the framework of AMIS.
- A final area of AMIS activities concerns the release of regular reports on market conditions- i.e. Market Monitor.

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# Activities of AMIS...

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- A preliminary report on indicators was presented to the Information Group during its first meeting, in February 2012.
- An overall framework the so-called “Umbrella” programme developed which will facilitate the development and approval process of future capacity development activities.
- In addition, the “Umbrella” will also provide an effective framework to integrate all projects that are relevant to the work of AMIS in the years to come.
- Two capacity development projects that were announced- one supported by the Government of Japan and another one supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

# Implementation of AMIS in India

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- As a member of AMIS, India regularly participates in the deliberations of *Global Food Market Information Group (Information Group)* and *Rapid Response Forum (RRF)* of AMIS,
- Uploading the national information/data on production, utilisation, stocks, imports, exports etc to the AMIS portal.

# Data Requirement for AMIS

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For compilation of AMIS Balance Sheet, data on following items are required in addition to population, area harvested and yield rate :

## I. Total Supply

- a) Domestic availability (Production + Opening Stock)
- b) Imports

## II. Total Utilization

- a) Domestic Utilization (Food + Feed + Other Uses)
- b) Exports
- c) Closing Stock

# Data Sources

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Estimates of production are available regularly through official sources. Final estimates for production are generally released with a time lag of about 6 months. Crop Production estimates are obtained by multiplying yield rates with area sown under the crop.

- a) Crop Area:* India possesses an excellent administrative setup, which generates quality information on crop area.
- a) Yield Rate:* The yield rate is estimated directly from Crop Cutting Experiments.

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# Data Sources...

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- Data on import/export is compiled by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence.
- Estimates of feed and other uses(seed) is estimated on the basis of norms which are derived on the basis of studies.

# Constraints of Data

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- Official estimate for food, feed and other uses is not compiled. However, estimates are generated on the basis of certain norms.
- Though Advance Estimates of production are available, there is a time lag of about 6 months in Final production estimates.
- India does not provide forecast of the variables of Balance Sheet.

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# Constraints of Data...

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- Only government stock is reflected in the AMIS balance Sheet as reliable estimates of stock in private hand is not available.
- Since Soya-bean is mostly in private hands, the data on Soya-bean in India is not comprehensive enough.
- There are certain problems in uploading the data on AMIS website. For example, it does not accept estimates of maize crop for two seasons and smaller quantities of export/import data.

# Historical AMIS Data in India

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[AMIS commodity balance 2013-14.xlsx](#)

# Update on AMIS Activities

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- In the recently held Fourth meeting of AMIS Information Group at Rome on 1-2 October 2013 a review of data uploading was done.
- AMIS secretariat informed that complete balances have been received for all countries except China, Egypt and Kazakhstan.
- But the quality of these data is acceptable for only about half of these countries, including **India**.
- For all other countries, several issues are not yet resolved, including missing data, imbalances between total supply and total utilization, as well as heterogeneity in the definition of the national marketing year.

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***Thanks for your attention***