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Organización
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Global Strategy: An Overview and summary of progress

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Global Strategy

IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL STATISTICS
IN ASIA PACIFIC

Global Strategy: An Overview and summary of progress

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26th Asia Pacific Commission on Agriculture Statistics

Bhutan, 15-19 February 2016



Presentation Outline

- Why do we need a Global Strategy?
- What is the Global Strategy?
- Impact and Outcome
- Three pillars of the Global Strategy
- Four components
- Regional Office
- Technical Assistance
- Training
- Research



Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics – Asia Pacific

Why a Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics?

Developing countries increasingly face:

- Declining Quality of Agricultural and Rural Statistics over time
- Declining capacity of Statistical Systems to meet growing data demands
- Inadequate integration of Agriculture into NSS
- Limited use in planning and policy formulation
- Duplicated efforts in data collection and dissemination
- Resource crunch for data collection => Low priority

Existing data collections do not permit cross cutting analysis across sectors



Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics – Asia Pacific

What is the Global Strategy?

- An initiative of the United Nations Statistical Commission
- Developed through an extensive consultation process
- Provides a conceptual framework for integrated approach to data collection
- To be implemented in 90 countries in the world and 20 countries in Asia Pacific region over 5 years
- Focus on Strategic Planning and Capacity Building
- Basis for a renewed initiative of capacity building in agricultural statistics: mobilization of resources



Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics – Asia Pacific

Impact and Outcome

- **IMPACT**
 - Improve evidence-based decision making for poverty reduction, increased food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development
- **OUTCOME**
 - Enable target countries to develop sustainable statistical systems for production and dissemination of accurate and timely agricultural and rural statistics, comparable over time and across countries.



Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics – Asia Pacific

The Three Pillars

- 1. Establish a minimum set of core data** that countries will disseminate on a regular basis to meet current and emerging demands
- 2. Integrate agriculture into NSSs** to meet the emerging requirements that statistical information be linked across the economic, social and environmental domains
- 3. Foster the sustainability of agricultural statistical systems** through governance and statistical capacity building



Four components

- Regional Office
- Technical Assistance
- Training
- Research



Regional Office

- Secretariat to Regional Steering Committee
- Coordination among implementing partners and other stakeholders
- Communication and advocacy activities
- Monitoring and Evaluation indicators
- Other Reporting
- Logistical Support



Regional Steering Committee

- Includes representatives of
 - Eight countries
 - Implementing partners
 - Resource partners and donors
 - Training and research institutions
- Role is to guide implementation of the Regional Action Plan (RAP)
 - Selection of participating countries
 - Allocation of funds to country activities
 - Advice and endorsement of workplans and budgets
 - Advice and endorsement of other governance reports
- Has met five times to date



Other Regional Office activities

- Coordination among implementing partners and other stakeholders
 - Regular meetings with Global Office, SIAP and ADB to ensure complementarity of work
 - Liaison with other organizations, World Bank, PARIS21
 - Liaison with sub-regional organisations, ASEAN, SAARC, SPC
 - Liaison with related projects, AMIS, AFSIS
- Communication and advocacy activities
 - Development and implementation of a communications strategy
 - Production of eBulletin every two months



Technical Assistance

- Organised by the Regional Office
- Delivered by RO staff and consultants
- Details of types of activities will be given in next presentation



Training

- Responsibility of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP)
- Activities include
 - Development of pilot modules for selected SDG indicators
 - Development of e-learning tools
 - Development of agriculture statistics training network
 - Conduct of Region-wide training needs assessments
 - Regional training courses/workshops on
 - integrating SPARS into NSDS
 - sampling and Master Sample Frames
 - Regional / sub-regional workshops on
 - use of statistics for policy analysis
 - data visualization tools
 - On demand country training courses, based on IdCA and SPARS outcomes
 - Pilot Country workshops on
 - advocacy and communication strategies
 - increasing statistical literacy and appreciation of agricultural and rural statistics



Research

- Primarily the responsibility of the Global Office
 - Very extensive program in place
 - Large number of publications at www.gsars.org
- Asian Development Bank undertakes some related methodological research and training, including
 - Examination of available data sources for Agricultural Statistics
 - Comparative analysis of existing surveys to understand characteristics of urban and rural households
 - Methods of improving administrative reporting systems
 - Exploring the use of optical satellite imagery to supplement land use data
 - Pilot testing the Agricultural Land Information System
 - Design of a Livestock Production Probability Survey
 - Pilot emerging technologies such as remote sensing for the estimation of rice area and production
 - Relevant training to assist country staff involved in the above programs



Overall Progress

- Regional Office
 - Set up and fully functioning
 - RSC working effectively
- Technical Assistance
 - IdCA / SPARS activities in 15 countries
 - SPARS substantially drafted in 7 countries
 - TA on specific topics underway in 4 countries



Overall Progress, ctd

- Training
 - Syllabus, curricula and training materials produced on nine priority topics
 - 15 regional/country training workshops
 - Agricultural statistics training network established
 - Capacity of Regional and national training institutions is improved
- Research
 - ADB active in developing and piloting new methodologies
 - Several countries involved in pilots of new methodologies and technologies developed by Global Office



Challenges

- Availability of suitable international consultants is very limited
- Turnover of focal points has been an issue in some countries
- Scheduling of missions, workshops
 - Availability of consultants
 - Suitable times for country participation
 - Unavoidable last minute changes to timing



Impact of Global Strategy

- Improved coordination arrangements in implementing countries
- Capacity building of staff through training
- Increased awareness in government of need for agriculture statistics
 - And increased funding in several cases
- Technical assistance on specific issues already started
- New methodologies being developed and tested



Thank You

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