

An indicator framework for monitoring the SDGs: The role of FAO

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Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



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- ▶ A document to be approved by UN General Assembly in September 2015 will replace the MDGs
 - ▶ New broader universal Agenda focusing on **People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership**
- ▶ New **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and targets will drive the work & efforts of the international community for the next 15 years:
 - ▶ 7 Goals, 169 targets (comparison with MDGs)
- ▶ **Agricultural-related targets** are now much more prominent:
 - ▶ Food Security & Nutrition
 - ▶ Sustainable Consumption and Food Systems
 - ▶ Sustainable Agriculture, Forestry, Fishery Production
 - ▶ Sustainable Use of Natural Resources
- ▶ **Increased role for FAO**
 - ▶ Capacity Development and Reporting

Indicator Framework for monitoring the SDGs



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- ▶ To a large extent, **SDG indicators will drive the international statistical agenda in the next 15 years**
- ▶ The UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) has been made responsible for developing an SDG **monitoring framework** (UN General Assembly decisions, Sept. 2014)
 - ▶ List of indicators, overall architecture, timeframe for reporting
- ▶ The UNSC in 2015 established an **IAEG on SDG indicators** to drive this process:
- ▶ 4-stages:
 - ▶ A preliminary list of proposed indicators, compiled without a proper technical review process was submitted in **March 2015** to the UNSC and to inter-governmental negotiations
 - ▶ At the **1st meeting of the IAEG-SDG**, on **1-2 June 2015**, a second list of indicators was compiled by UNSD, based on input from UN agencies
 - ▶ A web-based discussion forum has been established by the IAESG-SDG, June-Sept. 2015
 - ▶ A final list will be compiled at the 2nd meeting of the IAEG-SDG, 26-28 October 2015;
 - ▶ Final endorsement by UNSC is expected in March 2016

IAEG on SDG indicators



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- ▶ **Membership** of the IAEG
 - ▶ 28 National Stats Offices (2 by Region) on a rotating basis (in LAC: **Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico**)
 - ▶ International agencies + UN Regional Commissions act as observers
 - ▶ UNSD as secretariat
 - ▶ Other stakeholders (private sector, civil society) invited
- ▶ **ToR** of IAEG
 - ▶ Develop the indicator framework
 - ▶ Guide implementation of approved indicators:
 - ▶ establishment of global monitoring groups by goal
 - ▶ Regularly review methodological developments, potential new data sources related to indicators
 - ▶ Regularly review statistical capacity building initiatives
 - ▶ Report on progress towards SDG goals and targets at global and regional levels

Recommendations on indicator framework



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- ▶ The agenda is **universal**
 - ▶ indicators must be **valid for both developed and developing countries**
 - ▶ indicators need to be **disaggregated** to monitor inequalities /minorities
- ▶ Many targets are **multidimensional**
 - ▶ more than 1 indicator per target may be needed;
- ▶ Many new themes, therefore **new indicators are needed**,
 - ▶ no established methodology, data not currently produced

Concerns and pending issues



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- ▶ Limited **statistical capacity** in several developing countries
 - ▶ Need for simplification, limiting the number of global indicators (1 per target?)
 - ▶ Need to establish rigorous technical criteria for selection of indicators
- ▶ Need for an **indicator architecture** that distinguishes between global, regional and national indicators
 - ▶ The IAEG exercise so far focuses only on global indicators

Role of International Organizations



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- ▶ Global Monitoring of development outcomes by International Organizations (IOs) mandated by member countries
- ▶ Traditional monitoring role of IOs:
 - ▶ Contribute to define metrics/indicators
 - ▶ Develop methods, standards and tools for data collection
 - ▶ Provide technical support to countries for their implementation
 - ▶ Disseminate global databases, ensuring international comparability of indicators
 - ▶ Produce annual progress reports
- ▶ When IOs cannot rely on official sources may use non-official sources to ensure data harmonization and to fill data gaps (CCSA)
- ▶ IOs may launch direct data collections to produce indicators not yet covered by official statistics (SQAF and proper governance needed)

FAO mandate on Agriculture & Food Security



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▶ Article 1 **FAO Constitution**:

“The Organization shall collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food and agriculture”

▶ Six editions of the World Food Survey from 1946 to 1996

▶ **1996 World Food Summit** set the global target to halve the number of hungry people by 2015

- ▶ Indicator selected: Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU)

- ▶ State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI) published yearly since 1999

▶ **MDGs - Target 1.C**: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

- ▶ PoU one of the 2 official MDG Indicators to monitor 1.C

- ▶ Progress at global, regional and country level reported in SOFI and in the Global MDG Report

FAO's contribution to the SDGs



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- ▶ Goals 2, 14, 15 associated with FAO vision & mandate:
 - ▶ Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
 - ▶ Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
 - ▶ Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- ▶ For Goals 5, 6, 12, 13 FAO can make important contributions
 - ▶ Goal 5: Achieve gender equality & empower all women and girls
 - ▶ Goal 6: Ensure availability & sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
 - ▶ Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption & production patterns
 - ▶ Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change & its impact

FAO's proposed list of SDG indicators



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- ▶ FAO identified **a core set of indicators** on the basis of broad technical (internal and external) consultation
 - ▶ Sound definition & Relevance for specific TARGET
 - ▶ Availability in national statistical system
 - ▶ Reliability, Coverage, International Comparability, Granularity
 - ▶ Baseline for 2015? Quantitative target for 2030?
- ▶ **29 Indicators for monitoring 22 Targets** that under FAO's mandate (Tier 1 and additional indicators)
 - ▶ 3 established indicators (MDG indicators)
 - ▶ Many newly proposed indicators: new data requirements
 - ▶ Some Indicators produced outside of the national statistical system: bring back the ownership to countries – validation mechanism (ground-truthing of remote sensing data)



Example of
new data
requirements:
Indicators to
monitor SDG 2

Target 2.1	By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people , in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.1.1	Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU)
Tier 1, (Potential)	Ind. 2.1.2	Prevalence of population with moderate or severe food insecurity, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)
Target 2.2	By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition , including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed trgets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.2.1	Prevalence of Stunting in children under 5 years of age
Tier 1	Ind. 2.2.2	Prevalence of Overweight children under 5 years of age
Additional	Ind. 2.2.3	Women Dietary Diversity Score

Target 2.3:	By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers , in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.3.1	Value of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size
Target 2.4:	By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.4.1	Percentage of agricultural area under sustainable agricultural practices
Additional	Ind. 2.4.2	Disaster damage and loss to agriculture

Target 2.5:	By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and ensure access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.5.1	Ex-situ crop collections indicator
Tier 1	Ind. 2.5.2	Percentage of local breeds classified as being at-risk, not-at-risk, & unknown risk of extinction
Target 2.a:	Increase investment , including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productivity capacity in developing countries, in particular in least developed countries.	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.a.1	Agriculture Orientation Index for Government Expenditures

Target 2.b:	Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets , including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.b.1	Evolution of potentially trade restrictive and distortive measures in agriculture
Target 2.c:	Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility	
Tier 1	Ind. 2.c.1	Indicator of (food) Price Anomalies (IPA)

FAO initiatives



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- ▶ **Global Strategy** to Improve **Agricultural and Rural Statistics**
 - ▶ Development of guidelines on new cost-effective methods to produce/disseminate
 - ▶ Strengthen Regional Training Institutions & Support training of National statisticians
 - ▶ Technical Assistance in designing sector-specific strategic plans, in improving institutional coordination, in testing new statistical tools
- ▶ **Support countries in survey data collection**
 - ▶ Inclusion of the **Food Insecurity Experience Scale** (FIES) module in national household surveys
 - ▶ Development and testing of the **Agricultural and Rural Integrated Survey** (AGRIS)
 - ▶ Establishment of a **Global Survey Hub** to support countries in the design and implementation of an **integrated agricultural survey** programme (AGRIS, LSMS-ISA)

Global Strategy: New Guidelines



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- ▶ By end of 2015, **20 new technical reports/guidelines/handbooks** developed and published including:
 - ▶ Linking Agricultural and Population Censuses
 - ▶ Methods to develop and use Master Sampling Frames for Agricultural Surveys
 - ▶ Methods for estimating crop area, yield and production under mixed, repeated and continuous cropping
 - ▶ Improved methods for Crop Forecasting
 - ▶ Methods for estimating Cost of Production
 - ▶ Methods for estimating Stocks
 - ▶ Methods for measuring Post-Harvest Losses of specific crops through the entire supply chain
 - ▶ Methods for estimating Livestock production and productivity
 - ▶ Improving the quality and use of data from Administrative sources for agricultural statistics



Agricultural and Rural Integrated Survey (AGRIS)

What is AGRIS?



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- ▶ Standardized **multipurpose Farm survey**
- ▶ 10 yr programme with **rotating modules** = collection of many variables with reduced costs & burden (1-2 modules per year)
 - ▶ Core Module with production + socio-demographic variables = every year
 - ▶ Additional Modules (Type of employment, Cost of production and prices, Use of Machinery, Production methods, etc.) = each module every 3 yrs
- ▶ **Integrated approach**
 - ▶ Economic data (production, inputs, farm-gate prices, production cost, farming practices, etc.)
 - ▶ Social data (sex, age, education, type of employment, income, food security)
 - ▶ Environmental data (land use, water use, pesticides, etc.)
- ▶ Use of **new technologies**, including GPS, CAPI, RS, for data collection

Expected Results



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- ▶ Provide countries with an integrated programme of agricultural surveys
 - ▶ for collecting annual and structural agricultural data
 - ▶ for collecting data on the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the farms
- ▶ Provide a tool for testing new cost-effective methodologies for agricultural statistics developed under the Global Strategy
 - ▶ Build country capacity to collect the minimum set of core data
- ▶ Provide estimates on the productivity of small holders and other SDG indicators at national & international levels
- ▶ Make available standard modules for collecting agricultural & data in national farm surveys



Global Hub
For Rural and
Agriculture
INtegrated
Surveys
(GRAINS)*

* PROVISIONAL NAME

GRAINS: Objectives/Outputs



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- ▶ Establishment of a **Global Agricultural Survey Hub**
- ▶ Tackle relevant methodological challenges for **harmonizing LSMS-ISA and AGRIS approaches**:
 - ▶ Different sampling units and sampling frames
 - ▶ Harmonization of core content
 - ▶ Improved linkages to other data sources e.g. Big Data, Geo-spatial data, ...
- ▶ **Pilot AGRIS** in limited number of countries
- ▶ Introduce **improvements in LSMS-ISA** to better align with the MCSD of the Global Strategy
- ▶ Develop methodological and operational guidelines

GRAINS: Timeline



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- ▶ Sept-Dec, 2015: Establishment of Partnership, staffing, testing of modules, drafting of initial protocols, ...
- ▶ Jan 2016: Set up the Global Survey Hub
- ▶ 2016-18:
 - ▶ pilot testing, then full implementation in 2-3 countries
 - ▶ Drafting of guidelines
- ▶ 2018-onward
 - ▶ Scaling up

GRAINS: Longer-term ambition



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- ▶ Hub as a one-stop shop for the implementation of Integrated Agricultural Surveys
- ▶ Hub as a knowledge center for methodology documentation and micro-data archive
- ▶ Regional hubs for scaling up implementation
- ▶ Expand the use of agricultural survey data in LDCs
- ▶ Institutionalize Integrated Agricultural Surveys in the national Statistical Master Plan
- ▶ Keep pushing methodological and technological frontier

Conclusions



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- ▶ SDG indicators will drive the international statistical agenda in the next 15 years
 - ▶ IAEG-SDG leads the process for the selection of the Global Indicators
 - ▶ Monitoring the SDGs requires the development of many new indicators
 - ▶ IOs are mandated by member countries to monitor development outcomes. IOs support global monitoring in many ways (e.g. by providing internationally comparable Global Public Goods)
- ▶ Increased FAO's role: 29 proposed indicators to monitor 22 targets
- ▶ FAO's initiatives to support countries in meeting the new data requirements (GS, FIES, AGRIS, GRAINS)
 - ▶ GS: new guidelines on cost-effective methods of data collection
 - ▶ For the 1st time FAO relies on direct data collection to produce a global indicator: FIES estimates available in about 150 countries for 2014 and 2015 (SDG baseline). Long-term vision: FIES included in national HH survey in every country
 - ▶ AGRIS- Global Hub to support countries in the implementation of an integrated agricultural survey programme

Questions to the panel



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- ▶ Cual es la experiencia de en levantamiento de datos para calcular los indicadores propuestos en la nueva agenda SDG, principalmente aquellos relacionados a agricultura sostenible y seguridad alimentaria y nutricional?
- ▶ Cuales son los mayores desafíos que se enfrentan? Y cuales han sido las lecciones aprendidas de los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio?

Recommendations?



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- ▶ Actively engage with national government to ensure selection of a limited number of relevant indicators for agriculture, the environment, and for food and nutrition security, among those that have been selected and are promoted by FAO
- ▶ Commit to work towards harmonization of standards, methods and tools used in collecting the data, compiling the indicators and reporting them, to ensure consistency between national, regional and global monitoring efforts
- ▶