

Country Assessment of Agricultural Statistical System

Ghana: Country Experience in Testing
the Use of Instrument

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Outline

- ❑ Overview of the National Statistical System
 - ✓ Institutional environment
 - ✓ Core data availability
- ❑ Ongoing Statistical Activities and Constraints
 - ✓ Main statistical activities
 - ✓ Critical constraints in agriculture statistics system
- ❑ Information on Sub-sectors of Agriculture

Outline cont'd

- ✓ Main statistical activities of the sub-sectors
- ✓ Critical constraints in agriculture statistics system
- Experience with the use of Instrument
- Conclusions

Institutional Environment

- Operates a decentralized type of National Statistical System
- Has a legal framework provided by the Legislative Instrument - PNDC Law 135 of 1985 revised in 1992

Core Data Availability

- Data available on all aspects of agricultural activities – crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry and also related information eg water and land use
- Data disaggregated by regions and districts – second and third administrative levels respectively

Main Statistical Activities

- Conduct Multi-round Annual Survey to collect data on General Agricultural Productions , Cost of Production and Prices since 1986 – SRID-MoFA
- Trade data collection – Customs, MoTland GSS
- Data collection on agriculture household characteristics in household surveys: GLSS, CWIQ, MICS (3-5 years) – GSS
- Forestry data annually – Forestry Commission
- Preparation for the next Agricultural Census by GSS and SRID-MoFA as lead institutions

Critical Constraints in Agriculture Statistics System

- Lack of funds to carry out data collection activities
 - The last census was held in 1984/85
 - Present preparation started in 2006 with the hope to conduct the census in 2007
- Ineffective/weak inter institutional co-ordination between the NSO and other partner institutions

Main Statistical Activities of the Sub-sectors

- Annual data collection on all sub-sectors – production, cost of production, prices, imports and exports
- Analysis of food annual food availability
- Data dissemination through reports – Agriculture in Ghana – Facts and Figures, Survey reports
- Data dissemination through CountrySTAT web site

Critical Constraints in Agriculture Statistics Sub-sectors

- Declining data collection activities on crops especially
- Some data gaps especially on Forestry and some agriculture related information – water and land use
- Weak capacity of the Institutions producing agric stats
 - Lack of human resources ie under staff
- Insufficient budgetary allocation Agric Stats activities
- Little use of new technologies eg. GIS, GPS, PDA, Remote sensing etc

Country Experience in the Use of the Instrument

- Straight forward questions on all three modules but was not given enough time to complete the questionnaire
- Questions on resources: financial and transport infrastructure especially and also on investment very difficult to answer within the short period

Conclusions

- There is the need to strengthen the capacity of staff at both at the statistics unit of the MoFA and the NSO by recruiting and training additional hands and retraining of staff
- Should work towards improving the co-ordination between the NSO and other agric data producing institutions
- Government should show commitment to funding agricultural statistics production activities

Thank you for your attention