

**Global Strategy: Implementation Plan for Africa
Meeting on Country Needs Assessment
Kigali, Rwanda
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Background to Country Assessment Process

by

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Scope

- 1. Rational for the Assessment**
- 2. Approach Country Assessment**
- 3. Scope of Assessment**
- 4. Frameworks & Tools**
- 5. Use of Assessment Results**

1. Rationale for the assessment

- ❑ last 40 years or so African countries received substantial **donor assistance** for statistics
 - ✓ funds
 - ✓ technical assistance (TA)
- ❑ assistance led to **substantial improvement** in agricultural statistics
- ❑ however, improvement has been:
 - ✓ uneven
 - ✓ not commensurate with quantum of assistance
 - ✓ unsustainable/limited impact
- ❑ why is this so?

Rationale for the assessment (ctd)

- ❑ assistance been in **response to urgent, short-term data needs** rather than for building sustainable capacity (fire fighting)
- ❑ **lack of a framework** in which assistance could be given in coordinated & consistent manner
- ❑ lack of **coordination & prioritization** of assistance (piecemeal)
- ❑ usually **supply-driven** and not **demand-driven**
- ❑ demand-driven programmes should be based on **comprehensive assessment of country's statistical capacity and needs**

Rationale for the assessment (ctd)

Main challenge in design of the Action Plan was lack of comprehensive and up-to-date **baseline information** on countries' **statistical capacity and needs** to:

- ❑ establish **baselines** for setting targets & performance measurement
- ❑ effectively **group and rank countries**
- ❑ draw up **technical assistance program for Africa**
- ❑ establish a **Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)** system to
 - ✓ monitor progress
 - ✓ guide implementation of AP
- ❑ AP provided for undertaking **country assessments** ⁵

2. Approach to country assessment

- ❑ literature review to contextualize the work
(development policies, plans, programmes and projects)
Link statistics to policy/planning processes
- ❑ stakeholders identification (National Statistical System)
 - data users (government, others)
 - data producers (Ministries, Departments & Agencies – MDAs)
 - data suppliers (farming households, some agencies e.g. marketing boards)
 - policy research and training centres
- ❑ engage stakeholders
 - ✓ own the process
 - ✓ own the product

- Assessment of State of National Agricultural Statistical System – 3 steps
 - ✓ Step 1: **ranking of countries** based on initial assessment done by AfDB based on secondary data including:
 - FAO assessments (AFCAS 2007 & 2009)
 - FAOSTAT
 - PARIS21 (information on NSDS)
 - World Bank (information on statistical capacity indicator) (**next slide**)
 - ✓ Step 2: **questionnaire** to be discussed in workshop
 - ✓ Step 2: **in-depth assessment** in priority countries identified using data from this questionnaire

Preliminary country grouping

Group A: Group of fragile countries that scored less than 40 percent (12)

Group B: Group of remaining fragile countries with a score greater than 40 percent, and non-fragile countries that scored less than 30 percent (12)

Group C: Group of non-fragile countries that scored between 31-54 percent (12)

Group D: Remaining 17 countries that scored at least 55 percent.

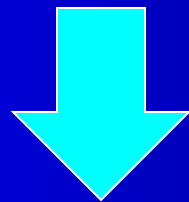
3. Scope of country assessment

- ❑ who are data producers, users, suppliers, analysts
- ❑ what are current and future demand for data (**nationally, regionally and internationally**)
- ❑ organization of agricultural statistical system
 - ✓ legal framework
 - ✓ governance
 - ✓ integration into the National Statistical System
- ❑ current data produced, their quality and data gaps (**wrt minimum set of core data**)

Scope of country assessment (ctd)

- ❑ national capacity to produce the required minimum set of core data
 - ✓ infrastructure and equipment
 - ✓ human resources
 - ✓ financial resources, etc

- ❑ evaluation of auxiliary data from administrative records



Strengths, Weakness , Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) analysis

4. Frameworks and tools

- Some frameworks and guidelines

- ✓ Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF) of IMF
 - 2003

identifies quality-related features of governance of statistical systems, statistical processes, and statistical products

- ✓ Statistical Capacity Building Indicator (by World Bank)
covers: responsibility and organization, legal framework, strategic framework, funding, human resources, infrastructure/ equipment, dissemination practice, statistical methodology and data sources

- ✓ Guide on Integrating Sectoral Statistics in the Design of NSDS (AfDB, PARIS21 and Intersect) - 2007
Guidelines on how to assess statistical capacity and needs in sectors in context of NSDS design

- country assessment questionnaire

5. Use of assessment results

- ❑ elaborate country profiles and identify countries needing special assistance
- ❑ elaboration of national action plans
- ❑ prioritize development and decide on areas of intervention
- ❑ M&E baseline information
- ❑ group and rank countries in terms of data quality & statistical development

Thank you

Merci