

Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (RAP)

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Background

- FAO brought the **Global Strategy** to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics to attention of **ESCAP Committee on Statistics (CST)** in December 2010.
- CST strongly endorsed proposal of FAO to develop implementation plan for Global Strategy for Asia-Pacific region.
- CST and APCAS established **Steering Group for Agricultural Statistics (SGAS)** to guide development of regional plan

Background

- Under guidance of, and substantive input from SGAS, the three “implementing partners” (ADB, ESCAP, and FAO) prepared the plan entitled “**Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (RAP)**”.
- RAP has been submitted to APCAS, and ESCAP Committee on Statistics for consideration and endorsement.

Outline: The RAP

- Governance
 - Regional
 - National
- Current Situation in the Asia Pacific Region
- Expected results (Impact, Outcome, Output)
- The Implementation Strategy
 - Integrating Agriculture into National Statistical System
 - Sustainability of Agricultural Statistics through Governance and Statistical Capacity Building
 - Overview of Technical Assistance, Training and Research

Outline: The RAP

- Implementation Steps
 - In-depth Country Assessments
 - Sector Strategic Plan
- Advocacy
- Three Components: Technical Assistance, Training and Research
- Regional Centers of Excellence
- Work Plan and Budget
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Governance

- **Regional**

- **Regional Steering Committee (RSC):**

- ultimate decision-making body at regional level
- provide guidance and oversight for implementation
- ensure coordination with GS
- approve Regional Action Plan and annual work plans
- decide on allocation of funds, etc.

- **Regional Office:**

- Secretariat of RSC
- one-stop access point for countries and dev't partners
- coordinate with Global Office
- prepare M&E

Governance

- **National**

- Will be decided by each country, availing of existing or enhanced mechanisms
- National coordination mechanism must involve all relevant subsectors

Expected results

- **Impact**

Evidence-based policies for poverty reduction, increased food security and sustainable natural resources management

Expected results

- **Outcome**

Significant increase in the availability and quality of agricultural and rural statistics, produced by a sustainable agricultural statistical system with appropriate institutional, human and financial capacity

Expected results

- **Outputs**

- Regional governance in place
- Country-specific minimum set
- Sector Strategic Plans
- Improved political support
- Strengthened legal and coordination mechanisms and frameworks
- Enhanced capacity of NSS to advocate for adequate resources

Expected results

- **Outputs (cont)**

- Increased ability of NSS to access and use ICT
- Improved competencies of NSS to produce and disseminate minimum set
- Strengthened capacity of national and regional training institutions
- Improved capacity of countries to adopt cost effective and reliable methods
- Increased capacity of countries in the use of agricultural statistics

Implementation strategy

- Implementation strategy will be centered on the three pillars of the Global Strategy
- National coordination mechanism will be set up as a first step
- Country-specific minimum set will be developed in consultation with all stakeholders
- Integration will be achieved in the long-term by development of a master sample frame, an integrated survey framework, and a data management system
- Sustainability will be achieved by implementing the Sector Strategic Plan

Advocacy

- Identified as essential for successful implementation
- Advocacy will be led by countries with support from the Regional Office and development partners
- Advocacy will be achieved by
 - Establishing trust in statistical system
 - Developing communication strategy within gov't system
 - Developing communication strategy with external stakeholders
 - Being pro-active in explaining value of statistics
 - Learning from other countries' experiences

Three components of RAP

- Three implementing partners, under the guidance of SGAS, were responsible for development of the three components of the RAP
 - Technical Assistance component → FAO RAP
 - Training components → ESCAP/SIAP
 - Research component → ADB

- The three components are inter-linked, and thus they will be delivered in a coordinated way and seek to achieve shared results (outputs of the RAP)

Monitoring & Evaluation

- M&E will be made against agreed expected results of the RAP
- Regional Office will coordinate the M&E
- The RSC will approve regional M&E and forward to Global Steering Committee (GSC)
- The RSC will report to
 - ESCAP Committee on Statistics
 - APCAS
 - Governing Board of ADB
 - GSC

Steering Group Members

1. Afghanistan
2. Australia
3. Bangladesh
4. Bhutan (Vice-Chair)
5. India
6. Indonesia
7. Iran (Islamic Republic of)
8. Japan
9. Maldives
10. Myanmar
11. Philippines (Chair)
12. Russian Federation

Steering Group Members

13. Samoa
14. Sri Lanka
15. Thailand
16. Viet Nam
17. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
18. Department for International Development (DFID)
19. Internat'l Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
20. Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
21. Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI)
22. Chairman, APCAS
23. FAO

Action Requested from APCAS

Endorsement of the RAP to the
Committee on Statistics of ESCAP.

Thank you.