

Assessment of Country Capacity to produce Agriculture Statistics



Global Strategy
IMPROVING AG-STATISTICS

**Asia and Pacific Commission
on Agricultural Statistics**

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Outline

- **Work done so far**
 - The normative work
 - Concepts of Quality and Capacity
 - The Indicators for measuring country Capacity
- **Road ahead**

Country Assessment: Inception

- **AFCAS/APCAS**
 - Country reports (later standard questionnaire) for monitoring progress in agriculture statistics
- **ICAS-V: Kampala, October 2010**
 - Resource partners and key stake holders of the Global Strategy felt the need for a **global standard tool** for
 - Monitoring of progress in building country capacity
 - Baseline information
 - A core group of experts from FAO, USDA, ABS (expanded to include AfDB, UNECA, ADB, Brazil, Russia)
- **Selection of Pilot Countries** (ranking/grouping)

Initial thoughts

- **We needed a framework**
 - Take into account the work already done
 - Be in line with Global wave of thoughts
- **DQAFs from IMF, WB and UNESCO; EUROSTAT and country frameworks were studied**
 - They differed only by shades
 - Similar dimensions and elements of the statistical system were being addressed
 - Focused different aspects of the same issue
 - **BUT none addresses issues related to Agriculture Statistics System specifically**

Quality in Official Statistics

- A review reveals that the quality does not have the “same” meaning across the Globe, though there is broad consensus on its importance and key characteristics.
- Distinguish between:
 - Quality of Data
 - Quality of Survey
 - Quality of Statistical system of a Country (Country Assessments of Global Strategy)
 - Quality of Data base
- National Quality Assessment Frameworks
 - <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/QualityNQAF/nqaf.aspx>

Scope of quality: Concepts

- **Product**
 - Characteristics
- **Process** (computerized eye testing)
- **Inputs**
 - Mozzarella di Buffala
 - “Champagne” of specific region of France
- **Total Quality Management:**
 - **INPUT- THROUGHPUT- OUTPUT**
- **Formal statements of quality need a framework**
 - an agreed set of characteristics/variables on which information is to be provided for comparison

Capacity vs. Quality

- Quality is more of an *ex-post* concept; relates more to something tangible
- Capacity:
 - Ex-ante
 - Inherent to the system (institution, people, capability...)
 - The focus of CAQ is to gauge the Country Capacity to produce Agriculture Statistics, covering a wide range of dimensions and elements.

Country Assessment Questionnaire

- **Wide definition of Agriculture Statistics:**
 - Crop, Livestock, Fish, Forests, Rural Development, Agro-processing Industry
 - Scope of assessment has to cover NSO, MOA and other relevant line ministries.
- **Initial Assessment for building generic Indicators on Country Capacity**
- **Diagnostics**
 - Grouping, ranking, prioritizing countries
 - General panorama of situation in the regions
- **In-depth Country Assessments**

FAO proposal on Measuring Country Capacity

- *Capacity Indicator I:*

PREREQUISITES: Institutional Infrastructure

- *Capacity Indicator II:*

INPUT: Resources

- *Capacity Indicator III:*

THROUGHPUT: Methods and Practices (activities)

- *Capacity Indicator IV:*

OUTPUT: Availability of Statistical Information

- Correspondence with global standards

PREREQUISITES:

Institutional Infrastructure

- Legal framework
- Coordination in Statistical System
- Strategic Vision and Planning
- Integration of Agriculture in the National Statistical System
- Relevance (user interface)

INPUT: Resources/Commitment

● Financial Resources

- Total budget for statistical activities, as percentage of GDP_ broken down by different ministries, departments, NSO
- Share of agriculture statistics in NSO Budget
- Share of Statistics in the budget of Ministry of Agriculture
- Budget of Ministry of Agriculture as percentage of GDP from Agriculture
- ❖ Additional Data needed: GDP, GDP from Agriculture

● Human Resources

- Share of agriculture statistics in NSO person years
- **There are issues relating to availability of data and comparability of indicators**
- **Perhaps, these indicators can be captured better in In-depth assessments, to capture specificity of countries**

THROUGHPUT: Statistical Methods and Practices

- Statistical software capability
- Data capture technology
- IT infrastructure
- International Classifications
- General Statistical Activities
- Agricultural Market and Price Information
- Agricultural surveys
- Analysis and use of data

OUTPUT:

Availability of Statistical Information

- Core data availability
- Timeliness
- Quality, reliability and consistency of data
- Data Accessibility
- Quality Consciousness

Road Ahead

- Global Technical Review of Methodology
- Standardization of methodology
- Validation of country profiles based upon available data
- Establish a portal for dissemination of information



Thank you very much for your attention!