Assessment of Country Capacity to produce Agriculture 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**
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
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 and *ex-post* concepts; 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!