Review of data availability and quality in the countries of the region

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Presentation overview

- The FAO strives to create the evidence base for policy decisions through a large number of datasets and indicators.

- The quality of the data is strongly dependent on the completeness, accuracy and comparability of national data.

- Nine (9) questionnaires were sent to countries in 2012:
  - Trends in response rates, impact of capacity development activities
  - New questionnaires, datasets and FAOSTAT domains
  - Data issues and activities to improve data quality
  - Invitation to the Conference and Points for discussion
Production questionnaires

Responses globally and in APCAS member countries
Production questionnaires

- Production, area and yield, livestock
- APCAS response rate is 66% (doubled since 2005)
- The increase in responses is a tangible success in all regions of the regional workshops on FAO data collection. Momentum seems to weaken already in 2012
- FAOSTAT data: 2/3 official, 1/3 semi-official (websites and publications) or imputed for the computation of Supply Utilization Accounts / Food Balance Sheets
- Livestock official data coverage is lower: 45% of total production
Trade questionnaires

Total number of reporting countries on international merchandise trade

- 2000: 142
- 2001: 152
- 2002: 154
- 2003: 155
- 2004: 152
- 2005: 155
- 2006: 150
- 2007: 149
- 2008: 143
- 2009: 144
- 2010: 132
Trade questionnaires

- 64% response rate globally in 2010, 60% in RAP and 82% in APCAS. Positive impact of the regional workshops in 2010 is visible.

- No questionnaire but country trade data files based on the International Merchandise Trade Methodology (IMTS) and the HS classification.

- Data exchange agreement with the UNSD and the EU, successful in improving trade data availability.

- Missing data are estimated based on mirror statistics, using trading partners declarations.

- FAO Statistics Division works closely with the few RAP countries who have difficulties in providing data.
Trade questionnaires

Number of responses, RAP and APCAS countries
Response rates in Asia and Oceania
Land use, pesticides and fertilizers questionnaires

- Declining response rate on all questionnaires versus an increased relevance for monitoring the environmental impact of agriculture.

- **Land use (60% resp rate in APCAS):**
  - The questionnaire was revised in 2012: new annex on Land Use Change for the estimation of GHG emissions from agriculture.
  - 4 countries in the Asia and the Pacific provided the data.

- **Fertilizers (68% resp rate in APCAS):**
  - Data on production more difficult to obtain.

- **Pesticides (36% resp rate in APCAS):**
  - Irregular data collection and consistently low response rate.

- Would regional workshops on agri-environmental indicators and their underlying basic datasets help?
Agriculture producer prices

Response rates in Asia and Oceania
Producer price questionnaires and price statistics

- Response rate of 70% in APCAS countries, slightly improvement after the regional workshops on data collection

- Increased attention to the price domain after the food price crisis of 2008, lead to the following expansions of FAO’s price statistics:
  - Questionnaire revision. Data collection of monthly prices (36% response rate)
  - Introduction of monthly and annual CPI’s for food and total expenditure (agreement with the ILO, no additional questionnaire)
  - Design of price indicators on trends, volatility and transmission

- Monthly producer prices are collected on an annual basis: are APCAS countries available to provide data on a monthly basis?
Machinery questionnaires and investment statistics

- FAO Statistics Division is developing an investment domain with the aim to provide a full picture of investment in agriculture.

- Private investment is particularly difficult to measure and FAO compiles estimates of agricultural capital stock at constant prices based on physical assets in use, of which machinery are a major component (http://faostat.fao.org/site/660/default.aspx#ancor).

- The machinery questionnaire was revised in 2012:
  - the list of items has been aligned with HS2012 to facilitate completion.
  - Information from latest Census and on average number of years in use is requested to improve value estimates.

- APCAS members are encouraged to
  - review and provide comments on the capital stock estimates,
  - to provide any price available on physical assets to help FAO revise the benchmark prices.
Machinery and equipment

Response rates in Asia and Oceania

- Asia
- Oceania

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Questions and invitations to the Conference

FAO Statistics Division invites APCAS member countries to:

- timely respond to FAO’s questionnaires, with complete and quality data and metadata
- share good practices and experiences between countries
- assist FAO in validating the data using country and regional statistical expertise.
- provide FAO with up-dated country contacts for all datasets
- propose concrete modalities to improve communication and cooperation between FAO Statistics Division and the national agencies
Points for discussion

- Should FAO collect producer prices monthly? Would APCAS members provide them in a timely manner using an agreed template?

- Country views on data harvesting: can it be done unilaterally or should countries validate?

- Countries availability to provide estimates for missing data and missing data techniques.
Thank you