

Regional Action Plan for Asia-Pacific - Progress

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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
- 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 (cont'd)

- 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

1. Governance

1a. 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

1. Governance (cont'd)

1b. 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

- A. Regional governance structure in place (RSC and RO)
- B. Country specific minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics identified by each country using the minimum set of core data contained in the Global Strategy as the basis
- C. Sector Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SSPARS) as a component of the NSDS provide the stages for the implementation
- D. Improved political support by decision makers for agricultural and rural statistics in terms of provision of budget and resources
- E. Strengthened legal and coordination mechanisms and frameworks for agricultural and rural statistics
- F. Enhanced capacity of NSS to advocate for adequate resources for developing and compiling country-specific minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics

Expected results: Outputs (cont'd)

- G. Increased ability of NSS to access and use ICT for production and dissemination of minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics
- H. Improved competencies of NSS to produce and disseminate minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics in accordance with international standards and good practices through training and technical assistance
- I. Strengthened capacity of national and regional training institutions to develop and deliver relevant, efficient, and effective training in agricultural and rural statistics
- J. Improved capacity of countries to adopt cost effective and reliable methods for producing minimum set of agricultural and rural statistics
- K. Increased capacity of countries in the use of agri-stats to meet priority needs for policy making, operation of efficient markets and foster sound investment.

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

Budget

Outputs	Integrated Asia-Pacific	RAP
1. Regional Governance structure	3.07	3.14
2. Technical Assistance	9.41	12.01
3. Training	2.72	6.58
4. Research	--	*
TOTAL	15.20	21.73

* \$3m to be funded by ADB for research

Steering Group Members

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Afghanistan | 13. Samoa |
| 2. Australia | 14. Sri Lanka |
| 3. Bangladesh | 15. Thailand |
| 4. Bhutan (Vice-Chair) | 16. Viet Nam |
| 5. India | 17. Asian Development Bank (ADB) |
| 6. Indonesia | 18. DFID |
| 7. Iran | 19. IFAD |
| 8. Japan | 20. Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) |
| 9. Maldives | 21. Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) |
| 10. Myanmar | 22. Chairman, APCAS |
| 11. Philippines (Chair) | 23. FAO |
| 12. Russian Federation | |

FAO-ESCAP Joint Secretariat housed in FAO Bangkok

Milestones

Milestone	Date
ESCAP Committee on Statistics (CST) endorsed FAO proposal to develop a regional plan of GS	Dec 2010
1 st meeting of Steering Group – ADB joins	Nov 2011
Compilation of country questionnaires	Dec 2011
Draft versions of training, research and technical assistance components	Jun 2012
Draft version of the Regional Action Plan 2012-17	Jul 2012
2 nd meeting of the Steering Group	Jul 2012
New draft version of the Regional Action Plan	Aug 2012
Regional Action Plan submitted to the GO/GSC	Sep 2012

Milestones (cont'd)

Milestone	Date
Consideration by legislative bodies:	
AP Commission on Agric. Statistics (APCAS)	Oct 2012
ESCAP Committee on Statistics	Dec 2012

Thank you