Global Strategy: Implementation Plan for Africa
Meeting of Experts
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Country Assessment Process
Initial Grouping of Countries in Africa

by

Prof. Ben Kiregyera
Consultant, African Development Bank

Scope

1.   **Why group countries**

2.   **Experience in grouping countries in Africa Action Plan**

3.   **Limitations**

1. Introduction

Main challenge in design of the Action Plan for Africa was lack of comprehensive and up-to-date baseline information on countries' statistical capacity and needs to:

❑   establish baselines for setting targets & performance measurement

❑   effectively group and rank countries

❑   draw up technical assistance program for Africa

❑   establish a Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) system to
- ✓ monitor progress
- ✓ guide implementation of Action Plan

❑   AP provided for undertaking country assessments

2. Initial grouping and ranking countries

❑ countries are at different stages of statistical development

❑ country requirements and needs for assistance are

different

❑ organization of agricultural statistical system different:
- ✓ legal framework
- ✓ governance
- ✓ integration into the National Statistical System

❑ differences in current data produced, their quality and

data gaps (wrt minimum set of core data)

☐ Assessment of State of National Agricultural Statistical System – 3 steps

   ✓ Step 1: ranking of countries based on initial assessment done by AfDB based on secondary data including:

- FAO assessments (AFCAS 2007 & 2009)
- FAOSTAT
- PARIS21 (information on NSDS)
- World Bank (information on statistical capacity indicator)

   ✓ Step 2: Capacity Assessment Questionnaire (CAQ)

   ✓ Step 2: in-depth assessment in priority countries identified using data from CAQ

❑   manageable sub-set of PARIS21 SCB indicators

❑   coverage of indicators:

✓   Input

✓   process (throughput)

✓   output

(see table)

❑   for preliminary grouping of countries used secondary data on:

✓   some inputs/processes

✓   some outputs

❏   Input aspects of statistical capacity:

Institutional and organizational issues :
- ✓ existence of a **legal framework** for agricultural statistical activities,
- ✓ existence of an active agricultural statistics advisory or coordination committee,
- ✓ existence of NSDS and if it is operational or not,
- ✓ existence of an Agricultural Statistics Work Programme and if it is operational or not,
- ✓ existence of a regular training program for staff
- ✓ if a country has technical assistance projects.

❑　Output aspects of statistical capacity:

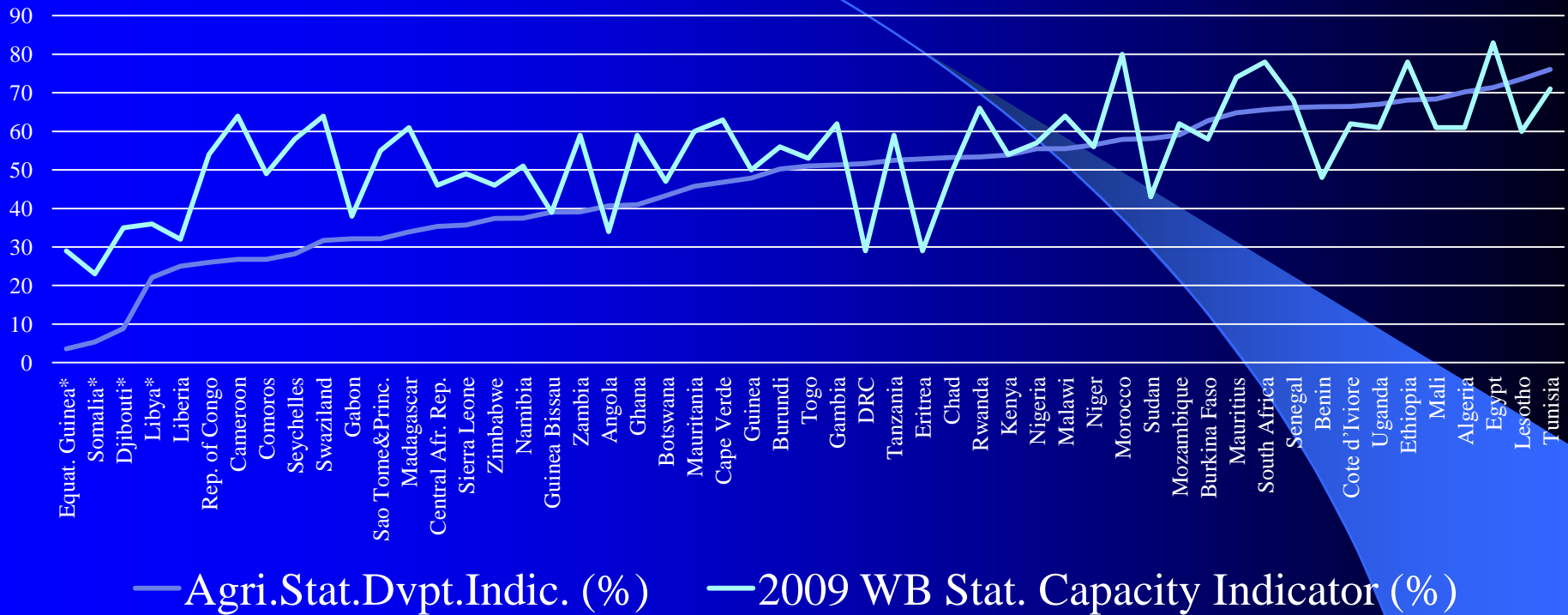Under this perspective, the following were examined:

✓　existence of agricultural database,

✓　existence of website for data dissemination,

✓　periodicity/frequency of agricultural censuses,

✓　periodicity/frequency of agricultural surveys, and

✓　volume of available agricultural data (primary crop and life animal numbers) in terms of official data (as reported by countries to FAO).

Each of the indicators was scoring a maximum of 2, except for the volume of available agricultural data which was expressed in % (major weakness) . E.g. agricultural census: Never = 0; irregular = 1; periodic =2

❑ give equal weight for all indicators except for the volume of available agricultural data

❑ aggregated scores and then expressed as a sub-total of scores (in value and percentage).

❑ That sub-total of scores (in %) and the proportion (in %) of available agricultural data resulted in an overall average (in % called "Total Score".

❑ Composite indicators used rank countries.

❑ fragile states (10 countries or about 20%)

Level of development

Preliminary country grouping

Group A: Group of fragile countries that scored less than 40 percent (12) - WB indicator is at its lowest level and seems to reflect the reality.

Group B: Group of remaining fragile countries with a score greater than 40 percent, and non-fragile countries that scored less than 30 percent (12)

Group C: Group of non-fragile countries that scored between 31-54 percent (12)

Group D: Remaining 17 countries that scored at least 55 percent - countries where the agricultural statistics system is relatively developed.

Grouping countries

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Liberia, Congo Rep., Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe, Central African Republic, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Guinea Bissau, Somalia, Djibouti, Eq. Guinea and Libya	Angola, Guinea, Burundi, Togo, Gambia, DRC, Eritrea, Chad, Sudan, Cote d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Seychelles	Swaziland, Gabon, Madagascar, Namibia, Zambia, Ghana, Botswana, Mauritania, Cape Verde, Tanzania, Rwanda and Kenya	Nigeria, Malawi, Niger, Morocco, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, Mauritius, South Africa, Senegal, Benin, Uganda, Ethiopia, Mali, Algeria, Egypt, Lesotho and Tunisia

3. Limitations

❑   Additional variables need to be considered:

    ✓   budget,

    ✓   HR,

    ✓   equipment,

    ✓   country commitment and political will, etc.

❑   Weighting the variables

❑   The made grouping does not provide information on

    the nature of difficulties and needs that countries have.

❑   Existence of "Fragile states"

Thank you

Merci