

Global Strategy

IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL STATISTICS
IN ASIA PACIFIC



Global Strategy: An Overview

Regional Office for the Asia-Pacific
Regional Action Plan to Improve
Agricultural and Rural Statistics



Presentation Outline

- Why are agricultural and rural statistics important?
- Why do we need a Global Strategy?
- What is the Global Strategy?
- Impact, Outcome and Outputs
- Three pillars of the Global Strategy
- Governance Mechanisms
- Implementation Process and Outputs
- Progress in Asia Pacific
- Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)



Agricultural Sector

Is important for :

- Eliminating hunger and reducing poverty
- Providing food security and livelihoods
- Better appreciation of environment and climate change issues

Governments recognize promoting sustainable agriculture is a priority.

Good relevant statistics are needed to inform governments and assist with policy decisions.



Why a Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics?

Developing countries increasingly face:

- Declining Quality of Agricultural and Rural Statistics over time
- Declining capacity of Statistical Systems to meet growing data demands
- Inadequate integration of Agriculture into NSS
- Limited use in planning and policy formulation
- Duplicated efforts in data collection and dissemination
- Resource crunch for data collection => Low priority

Existing data collections do not permit cross cutting analysis across sectors



What is the Global Strategy?

- An initiative of the United Nations Statistical Commission
- Developed through an extensive consultation process
- Provides a conceptual framework for integrated approach to data collection
- To be implemented in 90 countries in the world and
- 20 countries in Asia Pacific region over 5 years
- Focus on Strategic Planning and Capacity Building
- Basis for a renewed initiative of capacity building in agricultural statistics: mobilization of resources



Impact and Outcome

- **IMPACT**
 - Improve evidence-based decision making for poverty reduction, increased food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development
- **OUTCOME**
 - Enable target countries to develop sustainable statistical systems for production and dissemination of accurate and timely agricultural and rural statistics, comparable over time and across countries.



Global Outputs

- Effective governing bodies set up and functioning at global and regional levels
- Coordinating bodies of the NSS, legal frameworks and strategic plans established (by the countries) in target countries to enable the integration of agriculture into the NSS
- New cost effective methods for data collection, analysis and dissemination developed and made available to countries
- Increased capacity of agricultural statistics staff in regional training centres and target countries



The Three Pillars

- 1. Establish a minimum set of core data** that countries will disseminate on a regular basis to meet current and emerging demands
- 2. Integrate agriculture into NSSs** to meet the emerging requirements that statistical information be linked across the economic, social and environmental domains
- 3. Foster the sustainability of agricultural statistical systems** through governance and statistical capacity building



Governance Mechanisms

- Effective governing bodies set up and functioning
- At global level
 - Global Steering Committee
 - Global Office to support GSC at FAO Rome
- At Regional level
 - Regional Steering Committee in each region
 - Regional Office to support RSC
 - Asia Pacific Regional Office at FAORAP Bangkok
- At National level
 - Selected Country identifies a Lead agency and nominates a senior official as National Strategy Coordinator
 - Task Force to be constituted to oversee process



Implementation Process and Outputs

Process	Outputs
Country Assessment Questionnaire to obtain basic capacity information	Capacity Indicator Report
Classify Countries by capacity and other key criteria	
Select implementing countries	
Conduct in-depth assessments and identify priority areas needing improvement	IdCA Report
Develop Roadmap for Long Term Strategic Plans	Roadmap for SPARS
Identify Areas for Priority Assistance	Country Proposal
Implementation of endorsed activities	
-Developing Institutional Infrastructure	
-Technical assistance on methodological issues	
-Training assistance on human resource development	
Develop a long-term strategic plan	SPARS
Synergy of efforts with Resource Partners in implementing projects	Resource Use Efficiency





Global Strategy: Asia-Pacific Region

- Regional Action Plan (RAP) has been developed and approved
- Regional Steering Committee (RSC) is established
 - RSC guides implementation of the RAP
- Country assessment questionnaire completed for most countries
- Each year 4-6 countries are selected
- Training activities have begun
- In addition, in 2015 a trial of a simplified Global Strategy implementation process will be conducted in a cluster of Pacific Island Countries (yet to be determined)



Global Strategy: Asia-Pacific Region

Year	Country	Status
2013	Bangladesh (anchor country BMGF)	IdCA and Country Proposal completed
2013	Indonesia	IdCA completed, Country Proposal being prepared, SPARS Roadmap being prepared
2013	Sri Lanka	IdCA and Country Proposal completed
2013	Samoa	IdCA and Country Proposal completed
2013	Bhutan	IdCA and Country Proposal completed
2014	Fiji	IdCA nearing completion
2014	Georgia	Not yet started
2014	Lao PDR	IdCA and Country Proposal nearing completion
2014	Myanmar	Not yet started
2015	Afghanistan	Not yet started
	Cambodia	
	Maldives	
	Pakistan	
	Papua New Guinea	
	Viet Nam	



Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)

- *Long Term Strategy to improve ARS at the national level*
- *Derives its basis from NSDS which mainly focused on the NSS and NSOs*
- *Building block of NSDS*
- *Linked to development Planning process of the country*



Why do we need a SPARS?



- *To bring a long term vision for development of Agricultural statistics system*
- *To mainstream Agriculture in NSS/NSDS*
- *To raise the profile of agriculture statistics in the decision making process*
- *Capacity development to produce and analyse agriculture statistics on a sustainable basis*
- *To improve coordination (within sub-sectors) and between agriculture and NSO*
- *Harmonized data on agriculture for policy / decision makers*



Thank You