Minimum Core Data Set

Regional Office for the Asia-Pacific

Regional Action Plan to Improve

Agricultural and Rural Statistics

Background

- The Global Strategy describes three pillars on which the strategy is built

- A minimum set of core data is the first pillar

  - **Establish a minimum set of core data** that countries will disseminate on a regular basis to meet current and emerging demands

Why do we need a core set?

- Required by the global statistical system to monitor issues that go beyond national boundaries

- Core set defines the framework for the agricultural and rural components of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS).

- A building block to integrate agriculture and rural statistics into the national system.

Overview of the minimum set of core data

- Variable Types:

Economic	Social	Environmental	Geographic Location
• Output • Trade • Stocks • Resources • Inputs • Agro Processing • Prices • Final Expenditure • Rural Infrastructure	• Demographics • Labor Status • Household Income • Housing condition	• Land use • Water pollution • Air pollution	• GIS coordinates • Degree of Urbanization

Minimum set of core data

- It is not possible to meet every data requirement every year
    - Eg FAOSTAT, the FAO database includes over 150 crop items
- Global Strategy defines a minimum set
    - 15 commodities – 95% of world production
        - Wheat, maize, barley, sorghum, rice, sugar cane, soybeans, cotton
        - Cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and poultry
        - Core forestry, aquaculture and fisheries commodity (country specific)
    - Key economic, environmental, social indicators

A Commodity is 'important' if:

- At the Global level it
  - contributes to agricultural production globally
  - contributes to any indicator needed to monitor and evaluate development policies, food security and progress towards meeting MDGs and now SDGs
  - is an input to the global balances of supply and demand for food and other agricultural products
- At the Country level it
  - accounts for a major proportion of land use
  - is a key input to the national accounts and national food balance sheets
  - contributes significantly to farm and rural household well-being
  - has a significant effect on the environment and climate
  - is a staple food item in the country
  - is a key export commodity for the country

Crops

- Core crop items are: wheat, maize, barley, sorghum, rice, sugar cane, soybeans and cotton
- Should all core crop items be included in the country minimum core data set?
  - YES, unless
    - they are not grown in the country, or
    - they are not an 'important' crop
- Other crop items should be added to the country minimum core data set if they are an 'important' crop in the country

Data required for crop items

- Area planted and harvested, yield and production
- Amounts in storage at beginning of harvest
- Area of cropland that is irrigated
- Producer and consumer prices
- Amounts utilized for own consumption, food, feed, seed, fiber, oil for food, bioenergy
- net trade or imports and exports
- Early warning indicators such as precipitation, wind-shield surveys of crop conditions, and vegetative indices provided by satellite observations

Livestock

- Core livestock items are: cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and poultry

- Should all core livestock items be included in the country minimum core data set?
  - YES, unless
    - they are not relevant in the country, or
    - they are not an 'important' livestock commodity

- Other livestock items should be added to the country minimum core data set if they are 'important' to the country

Data required for livestock items

- Inventory and annual births

- Production of products such as meat, milk, eggs and wool

- net trade or imports and exports

- Producer and consumer prices

Aquaculture and fisheries products

- Main products to be determined at country level

- Data required
  - For aquaculture: Area cultured, production, prices and net trade or imports and exports
  - For fisheries: quantity landed and discarded, number of days fished, amounts processed for food and non-food uses, prices, and imports and exports

Core Forestry production

- Main products to be determined at country level

- Data required
  - Area in woodlands and forests, quantities removed, and their prices, split by whether
    - From land associated with agricultural holdings
    - From non-agricultural holdings

Core agricultural inputs

- Contribute to measures of productivity which are important to monitoring and evaluating steps to reduce poverty and hunger
    - Quantities of fertiliser and pesticides used
    - Water and energy consumed (including fuel)
    - Capital stocks such as machinery by purpose
    - Number of people of working age by sex
    - Number of workers hired by agricultural holders
    - Employment of household members on the agricultural holding

Core economic data

- Producer and consumer prices
- Public expenditures on subsidies
- Public expenditures on agriculture and rural development
- Rural infrastructure

Core socioeconomic data

- Assist the measurement of economic well-being of rural households to guide policy decisions about development efforts to reduce poverty
  - Household income by source
  - Number of households and household composition
  - Population by age and sex
  - Labour force and employment status
  - Education levels
  - Housing conditions

Core environmental data

- If available, measures of the impact of agriculture would be desirable
  - Eg. soil degradation, water pollution and emissions due to agriculture
- In practice, the following are likely to be used as proxies
  - Land cover and use
  - Water use
  - Fertiliser and pesticide use

Core geographic location data

- Location of the statistical unit
- Degree of urbanization

Frequency of collection / reporting

- Not all items in the minimum core data set will be needed annually
- Basic production data items are required annually
- Annual data will also be required for
  - Items which can change significantly from year to year
- For other items, frequency, and geographic coverage, will be determined based on
  - Cost of producing the data
  - Available resources
  - Expected degree of change for the item over time

Determining National priorities

- Each country will need to
  - Select which of the Global core items should not be included in its national core set
  - Add other items relevant to the country
    - Eg there are no fruit or vegetables in the global core set
  - Decide how frequently each item should be provided

Country Commitment

- When you define a minimum core dataset you make a commitment to
  - Provide good quality data
  - At the required frequency (usually annual)
  - Using internationally accepted classifications, definitions and methodologies
  - Disseminate widely (don't keep for own use only!)

Sustainability

- Once the minimum core data set is agreed it needs to be collected and disseminated at the frequency and geographic detail specified

- Initially donor support may be needed to enable this

- Ultimately funding needs to be provided from within the country

Thank You