Guidelines for
In-depth Country Assessment
in Asia Pacific Region

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Overview of the presentation

- Guiding Framework and Principles
- Objectives, scope, coverage and outputs of the in-depth assessment
- Logical Framework for IdCA
- IdCA Report Format
- Activities for Country Proposal and Roadmap to SPARS
- Country Proposal Format

Strategic Plan for
Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)

➢Long Term Strategy to improve ARS at the national level

➢Derives its basis from NSDS

➢SPARS Phases

  ➢Launching

  ➢Assessing (In-depth Country Assessment)

  ➢Planning

  This presentation covers the Assessing Phase

Expected Outputs of In-country work

- Output 1: Roadmap to SPARS

- Output 2: IdCA Report

- Output 3: Country proposal Paper

- Output 4: SPARS

Output	Months									
	1		2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9
Roadmap	███	Mission 1	███	███	███	███	Mission 2				Mission 3
IdCA Report	███		███	███	███	███		███	███		
Country Proposal								███	███	███	███
SPARS	███		███	███	███	███		███	███	███	

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Country Assessments

- **First Stage Assessment (self assessed)**
  - To categorize countries according to capacity
  - To prioritize countries for implementation of GS
  - To generate capacity indicators and country profile as a monitoring tool
- **In-depth Country Assessment**
  - To provide detailed understanding of Ag. Stat. System
  - To identify its strengths and weaknesses
  - To decide on the interventions needed to improve the system

Guiding Principles for IdCA

- ***Take a holistic view*** *of the agricultural statistical system* and its sub-sectors to meet the national and international requirements of 21st century on a sustainable basis

- ***Comprehensive coverage and evaluation*** *of statistical activities at all stages:* from availability and use of statistical infrastructure, to methodologies in use, to field operation, to data dissemination, to its analysis and use.

- ***Engage all the agencies/stakeholders*** involved in collection and use of data relating to agriculture sector including the National Statistics Office, Ministries of Agriculture, Livestock, Environment and Water Resources, Commodity Boards, Exporter Associations and Councils, as appropriate in the country.

- ➢ ***Evaluate the existing or potential linkages*** *between statistical activities* for possible integration with NSS, within agriculture and between agriculture and other sectors.

Objectives of the IdCA

- **document the current agricultural statistics system** in the country, including the data requirements of the agricultural sector, the organizational structure, and the data collection methodologies;

- **determine the extent of adequacy to** which the existing agricultural statistics system is capable of generating data needed by Government, development partners, research agencies and the private sector;

- **provide a diagnostic report** to be used as the basis for developing long term vision for the country, based on a set of nationally owned priorities;

- **serve as the basis for the preparation of a Country Proposal** for seeking short-term support by way of technical assistance, training, and the implementation of new methodologies and technologies.

- provide an **authentic reference document** on the development of agricultural and rural statistics for the wider national and international community.

Scope and coverage

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- Global Strategy document provides detailed description.
- It includes all agricultural statistics required for the menu of 33 indicators in GS document and in generating National Accounts
- Economic, environmental, social and geospatial aspects of agriculture,
- Statistics for agricultural policies, planning and development,
- All **related sub-sectors (fishery, aquaculture, forestry, crops, livestock)**
- **Comprehensive coverage of all these aspects** by ensuring that all statistical units such as households, land holdings, land parcel, enterprises are covered in the Frame for objective assessment.

Guidelines for In-depth Country Assessment

- These guidelines have been developed to guide ICs/NSCs/NCs during the assessment phase

- Improved through briefing and debriefing sessions with ICs

- Available on GS website for interested readers *www.**gsars**.org*

- *Guidelines provide Output-wise activities to be undertaken*

Output: IdCA Report
Activities, Focal points and Timeframe

Activity	Description	Focal Points	Timing
1.0	**Preparatory Activities**:	FAORAP FAO-R	Before Mission I
1.1	Review the information available for the country	FAORAP NSC,IC,NC	Before Mission I
1.2	Identify all stakeholders	NC	Before Mission I
1.3	Hold the first national stakeholders' workshop.	Team	During Mission I (2 Weeks)
1.4	Hold interviews with the NSO and other data producers.	IC, NC	During Mission I
1.5	Review the structure of the national statistics system.	IC, NC	During Mission I
1.6	Hold interviews with agricultural policy makers and other data users.	IC,NC	During Mission I &II

Activity	Description	Focal point	Timing
1.7	List all agricultural statistics data collections	IC, NC	Mission I
1.8	Extent to which current agrl. statistics provide the Minimum set of core data.	IC, NC	Mission I
1.9	Identify agricultural data needs and priorities.	IC, NC	Mission I&II
1.10	Evaluate technical aspects of the ag. statistics system	IC,NC	Mission I
1.11	Carry out a constraints analysis	IC,NC	During & after Mission I
1.12	Carry out a SWOT analysis	IC,NC	After Mission I

Activity	Description	Focal point	Timing
1.13	Determine the national minimum set of core data and key data gaps.	IC,NC	During Mission I
1.14	Identify advocacy activities.	NSC,IC,NC	During Mission II
1.15	Revise country capacity indicators.	FAORAP	After Mission I
1.16	Prepare the draft IdCA report.	IC,NC	First Draft after Mission I
1.17	Hold the second national stakeholders' workshop	Team	During Mission II
1.18	Finalize the IdCA report.	IC,NC,FAO	After Mission II

Organization of IdCA work – Mission I

- – Organize First stakeholders workshop to initiate GS implementation
- – Consult stakeholders for preparation of Roadmap to SPARS
- – Organize meetings with senior officers to assess strength and weaknesses of the system
- – Meeting other middle level officers for further insights on the issues and collect factual information on country capacity as per CAQ
- – Meetings with data users for data gaps and needs assessment
- – Collect other relevant materials, reports, methodology papers etc. for report writing
- – Prepare draft Roadmap for SPARS
- – First Draft of IdCA Report

Organization of IdCA work- Mission II

- Organize Second stakeholders workshop to
  - Finalize Roadmap
  - Finalize National Minimum Core Data set
  - Seek endorsement of Draft IdCA till date
  - Identify and prioritise areas for immediate Technical Assistance
- Organize further interaction/interviews with senior officers for advocacy activities and to fine-tune project proposals
- Collect further information to complete IdCA gaps
- Collect other relevant materials, reports, methodology papers etc. for preparing country proposal and roadmap.
- Prepare First Draft of Country proposal
- Prepare first draft of SPARS

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Organization of IdCA work- Mission III

- Organize Third stakeholders workshop to
  - finalize IdCA Report
  - Finalize Country proposal
  - Present Draft SPARS to the stakeholders
  - Seek donor support on country proposal
- Organize Advocacy Activities with senior officers in Ministry of Finance, NSO, Line Ministries, Planning bodies and other organizations
- IdCA Report, country proposal and SPARS submitted for Government endorsement

IdCA Report Format

- **FOREWORD**
- **ACRONYMS**
- **CONTENTS**
- **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**
- **COUNTRY CAPACITY INDICATORS**

- **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. Overview of the Global Strategy

- 1.2. Importance of Agriculture in the country

- 1.3. In-depth Country Assessment (IdCA)

- **2. INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT**

- 2.1. Administrative structure of the country

- 2.2. Legal and institutional framework for collection of statistics

- 2.3. Structure of the National Statistical System

- 2.4. Coordination mechanisms in the National Statistical System

- 2.5. Review of NSDS/SPARS

- 2.6. Stakeholder analysis

IdCA Report Format

- **3. INTEGRATION OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS INTO NSS**
- 3.1. Extent of integration in Agricultural data collections
- 3.2. Duplication in data collection (if taking place)
- 3.3. Scope for building synergies and partnerships
- 3.4. Other activities
- **4. ASSESSMENT OF STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES**
- Censuses/ Crop and Livestock / Forestry, Fisheries and aquaculture / Agricultural markets and prices/ Water and environment/ Rural development statistics/other important domains in the country
- **5. CORE DATA AVAILABILITY**
- 5.1. Accepted national minimum set of core data
- 5.2. Data gaps and future requirements
- 5.3. Timeliness and Reliability

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IdCA Report Format

- **6. ASSESSMENT OF CAPACITY TO PRODUCE CORE DATA**
- Financial resources / Human resources (Staffing/Training)/ Use of ICT in data processes
- **7. STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS**
- Overall agricultural statistical system/ Major sub-sectors
- **8. PROPOSED AREAS FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING NEEDS**
- Technical Assistance/ Training

- ANNEX I   - Details of major data collections activities
- ANNEX II   - Accepted minimum set of core data
- ANNEX III - SWOT Matrices
- ANNEX IV – Matrix of stakeholders analysis
- ANNEX V – Summary Record of discussions in Workshops, Meetings and Interviews held

Draft Country Proposal Format

- **SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION**
- 1.1 Background to the Global Strategy and IdCA.
- 1.2 Purpose of the Country Proposal.
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- **SECTION 2: MAIN AREAS OF NEED FOR STATISTICAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**
- (as identified by the IdCA report)
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- **SECTION 3: PROPOSED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES**
- (project proposal for short term assistance)

Draft Country Proposal Format

- **SECTION 3: PROPOSED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES**
- 1. Title of project
- 2. Executive summary
- 3. Background
- 4. Rationale and priority
- 5. Project framework
   - 5.1 Impact
- 5.2 Outcome and outputs
- 5.3 Sustainability
- 5.4 Risks and assumptions
- 6. Implementation and management arrangements
- 6.1 Institutional framework and coordination
- 6.2 Strategy/methodology
- 6.3 Technical support and project staff
- 6.4 Operational modalities (procurement, contracts, training, etc.)
- 6.5 Work plan
- 6.6 Budget (Government inputs, Donor contribution/inputs)
- 7. Oversight, monitoring, management, information, and reporting mechanism

Feedback and Suggestions?

- Suggestions welcome to further improve the guidelines at

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