Global Strategy

IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL STATISTICS

IN **ASIA PACIFIC**

Integrating Agriculture into the National Statistical System (NSS) and process of preparing SPARS

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Presentation Outline

- Integrating Agriculture into the National Statistical Systems (NSS)
  - Integration: Main Pillar of the Global Strategy
  - Coordination in the NSS?
- Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)
  - What is the SPARS?
  - Why do we need a SPARS?
  - NSDS Background and Process
  - NSDS and SPARS
  - Process of SPARS preparation Current
  - Status and further activities

Background

- Lack of integration of ARS into NSS contributed to their decline in quantitative and qualitative terms
- Data are produced by several line ministries and agencies: difficulties in coordinating, lack of standards, duplications of work
- Scarce awareness of data producers on users needs and policy initiatives
- On their end, policy makers make little use of available data
- Global Strategy recognizes these issues and promotes
  - integrated data collection, processing and dissemination approach
  - Coordination mechanisms to achieve a high level of cooperation and commitment by agencies
  - Adoption of newer Methods and Technologies emanating from Research
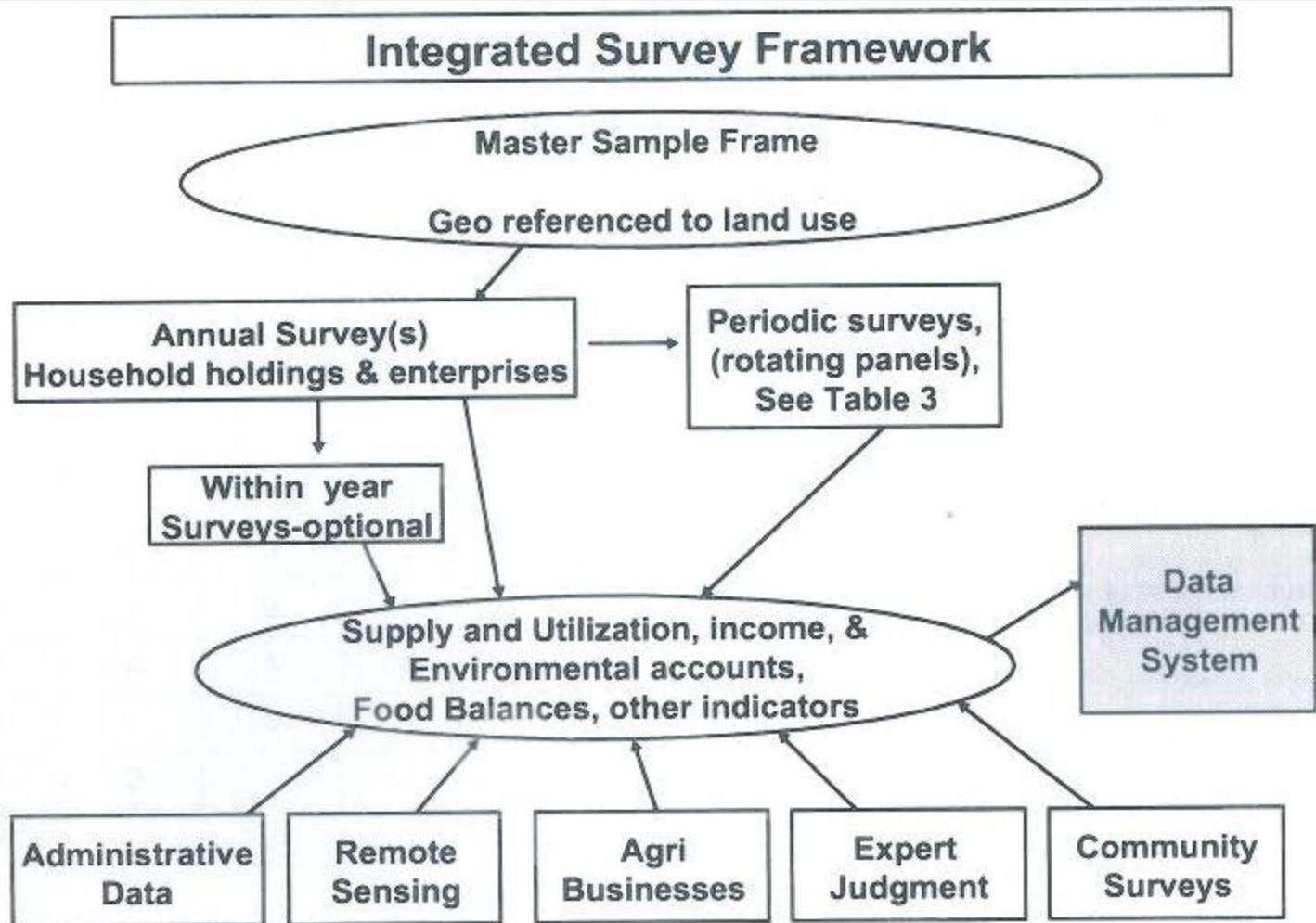
Why do we need integration?

- Integration will enable
  - Production of coherent and comparable data
    - Through the use of standards
  - In-depth data analysis across sectors/collections
    - E.g. crop and livestock production are often drawn from separate collections. This provides no basis for analyzing characteristics of farms that produce both crops and livestock, or for comparing them to farms that specialize in one or the other
    - Social – economic – environment e.g. livelihood of farmers, are the small farms environmentally friendly, or the big farms?
- Integration will
  - Avoid duplication of effort
  - Prevent the release of conflicting statistics
  - Ensure the best use of resources
  - Reduce the burden of response

Global Strategy - Vision of Integration

- ARS as part of the overall data collection process in the NSS
  - Production, distribution, marketing, utilization and storage processes
  - Seamless flow of information across the processes for efficient functioning
  - Common Governance Structure for NSS
  - Use of standard concepts, definitions and classifications across NSS
- Integration of the survey processes
  - National Survey Calendar
  - Integration of the Pop. Census and Ag. Census
  - Questionnaires, methods of data collection, analysis and estimation
  - Use of a MSF for all ARS data collection
- Integrated database and dissemination
  - Data integration across censuses and surveys
  - Use of latest technology to maintain database
  - Ease of access to data for the stakeholders

Integrated Survey Framework

Master Sample Frame

Geo referenced to land use

Annual Survey(s)
Household holdings & enterprises

Periodic surveys, (rotating panels), See Table 3

Within year Surveys-optional

Supply and Utilization, income, & Environmental accounts, Food Balances, other indicators

Data Management System

Administrative Data

Remote Sensing

Agri Businesses

Expert Judgment

Community Surveys

GS Research Outputs on Data Integration

- Technical Report on the Integrated Survey Framework
- Technical Report on Identifying the Most Appropriate Sampling Frame for Specific Landscape Types
- Guidelines for Integrated Survey Framework
- Technical Report on Improving use of GPS, GIS and Remote Sensing in setting up MSF

FAO Recommendations on Integration

1. Use of common concepts, definitions and classifications
2. Sharing field material
3. PHC to provide a frame for agricultural census
4. Identifying farm households from PHC and their possible use as agricultural sample frame
5. Collecting additional agricultural data in PHC to enable development of frames or compilation of tables
6. Linking data from two censuses
7. Conducting two censuses as joint field operation

Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)

➢*Long Term Strategy to improve ARS (5-10 years)*

➢*Derives its basis from NSDS which mainly focused on the NSS and NSOs*

➢*Linked to development Planning process of the country*

10 ESSENTIALS

1 **Backed by political support, nationally led and owned**

2 **Designed through a sound methodological approach (incl. M&E mechanisms)**

3 **Mainstreamed into the NSDS national process**

4 **Covering the whole agricultural and rural sector**

5 **Policy and results based with a quality fit for purpose**

6 **Taking into account what is in place and international commitments**

7 **Drawing on international statistical standards**

8 **Setting out an integrated and realistic SCB programme**

9 **Funded as a priority by governments for its implementation**

10 **Serving as a coherence framework for external assistance**

SPARS is a tool for integration

➢ *It is needed*
- ✓ *To bring a long term vision for development of Ag. Stat. System*
- ✓ *To enhance its capacity to produce, analyze and disseminate Harmonized ARS on a sustainable basis*
- ✓ *To mainstream Agriculture in NSS/NSDS*
- ✓ *To raise the profile of ARS in the decision making process*
- ✓ *To improve coordination across NSS*

To provide countries with a basis for
- ✓ *Establishing policy strengths and priorities*
- ✓ *Identify data needs, gaps, deficiencies, duplications and inconsistencies*
- ✓ *Define future short- and long-term statistical programs and interventions*

SPARS Guidelines

➢ Objectives

To support country staff

- ✓ *with a coherent and logical structure to design and implement SPARS,*
- ✓ *With specific guidance as they implement the logical plans,*
- ✓ *With a reference document that provides recommendations in line with NSDS guidelines developed by Paris21*

➢ Rationale

SPARS guidelines were developed to address several issues:

- ✓ *Evidence that the ag sector was not sufficiently mainstreamed into the first round of the NSDS*
- ✓ *They are the second pillar of the global strategy*
- ✓ *ARS systems are complex and specific issues deserve specific solutions*
- ✓ *Need to simplify the NSDS approach*

SPARS: Salient Features

➢ *SPARS Ownership*
  - ✓ *SPARS to be country owned.*
  - ✓ *NSO/Ministries/Coordinating body.(Roles to be identified)*

➢ *Governance structure*
  - ✓ *Approval of SPARS (at what level, overall and sub sector plans)*
  - ✓ *Its Implementation (who will coordinate and monitor the progress)*

➢ *Integration of Agriculture into NSS*
  - ✓ *Adopting broader definition of Agriculture*
  - ✓ *Improving National Accounts on Agriculture*
  - ✓ *Integrating through Master Sample Frame/integrated surveys*
  - ✓ *Plans specific for sub-sectors*
  - ✓ *Issues across sectors (improving HR, data Collection Technology etc)*

➢ *Need for Technical committees/Specialists for*
  - ✓ *Crops and livestock*
  - ✓ *Forestry and environment*
  - ✓ *Fisheries and aquaculture*

Overview: design process

1. **Launch Phase**
   - ➢ Understanding, acknowledging, committing
   - ➢ **Preparing**
   - ➢ Integrating the SPARS in the NSDS
   - ✓ **How to do it in practice?**

2. **Assessment Phase**

3. **Planning Phase**
   - ➢ Vision and Mission
   - ➢ Strategic Goals and Outputs: building a logframe
   - ➢ Action Planning
   - ✓ **How to do it in practice?**

Linking NSDS and SPARS

➢ *If no existing NSDS, SPARS to be prepared independently*

➢ *If NSDS exists but agriculture not adequately covered, develop SPARS as a building block of NSDS*

➢ *If NSDS under design, process design and consultation activities of NSDS and SPARS together if possible.*

Lessons learnt in developing NSDS

– Only major statistical activities (survey, census) are included

– Issues are raised regarding data quality, availability, capacity, gaps but often no specific strategy to address them on a sector level

– Funding for agriculture statistics is limited to Census of Agriculture, livestock census, national agricultural survey, and major crop surveys

– Administrative data sources rarely addressed

– Coordination and data sharing arrangements among data producing agencies still weak

– Standardization, harmonization of data rarely addressed

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NSDS

SPARS

Priorities and Expectations for GS work

- Involve all stakeholders (data producers, data users, development partners, NGOs) in achieving the GS objectives

- Make available comprehensive documentation of agricultural statistical system in the country

- Prepare SPARS and promote improvement of ARS in all sub-sectors as per plan

- Promote partnerships for implementing SPARS

- Expect an active AFSIS role in implementing GS activities in ASEAN countries

Thank You