

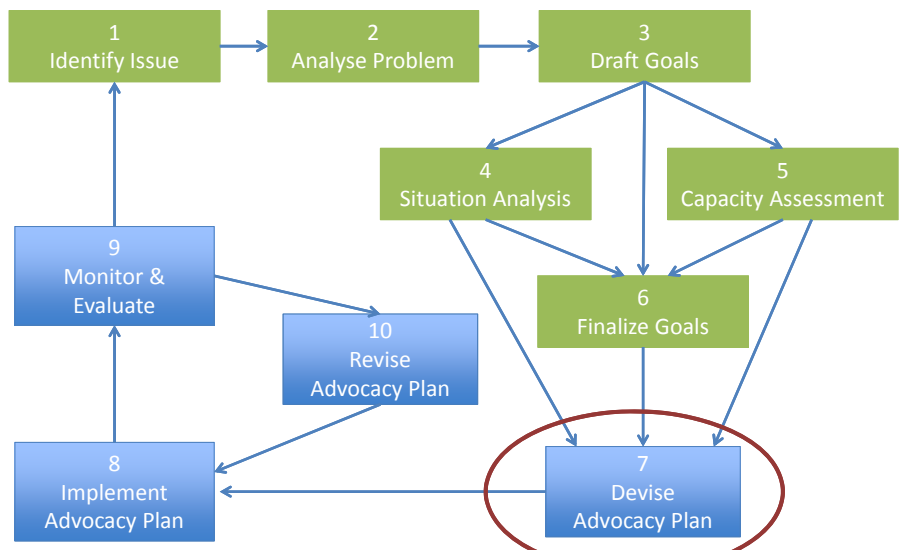
Regional Course on Communication and Advocacy for Agricultural and Rural Statistics

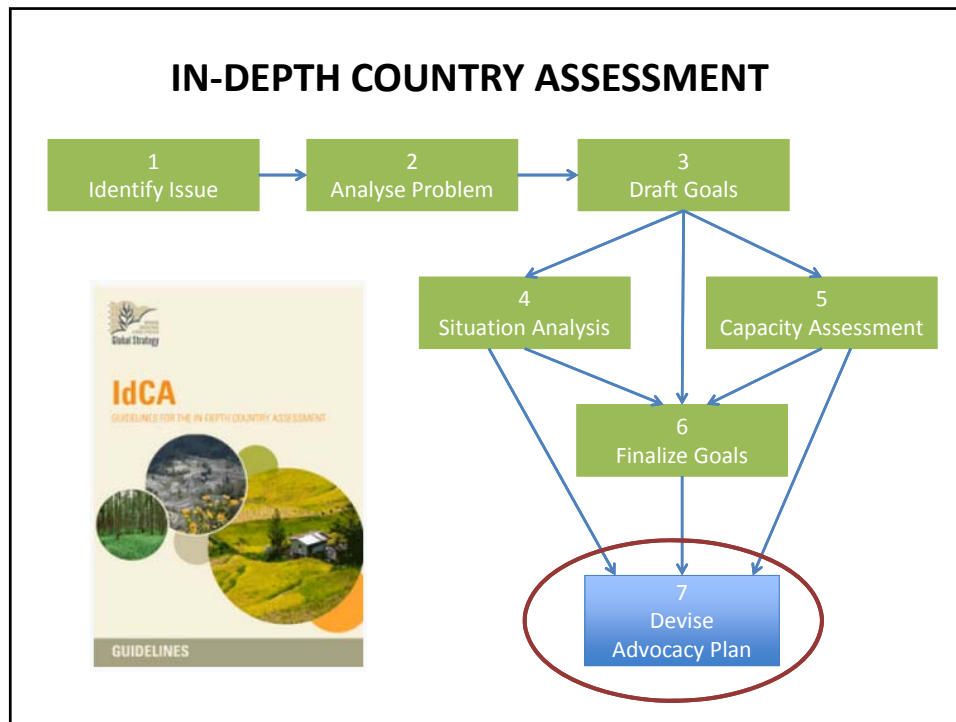
20 – 24 April 2015
Beijing, China

Basis for Advocacy for Improving ARS: In-depth Country Assessments & Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)



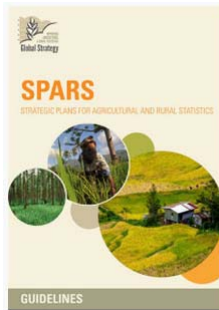
THE POLICY ADVOCACY PROCESS CYCLE





Common Findings from IdCA

- * Lack of integration of agricultural and rural statistics 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
- * Policy makers make little use of available data



Strategic Plan for Agricultural & Rural Statistics

- Long term strategy to improve ARS at the national level
- Based on the NSDS approach
- Building block of NSDS

Objectives of the SPARS

To provide countries with a basis for:

- * Establishing policy strengths and priorities
- * Identifying data needs, gaps, deficiencies, duplications and inconsistencies;
- * Defining future short- and long-term statistical programs and interventions;

Why do we need a SPARS?

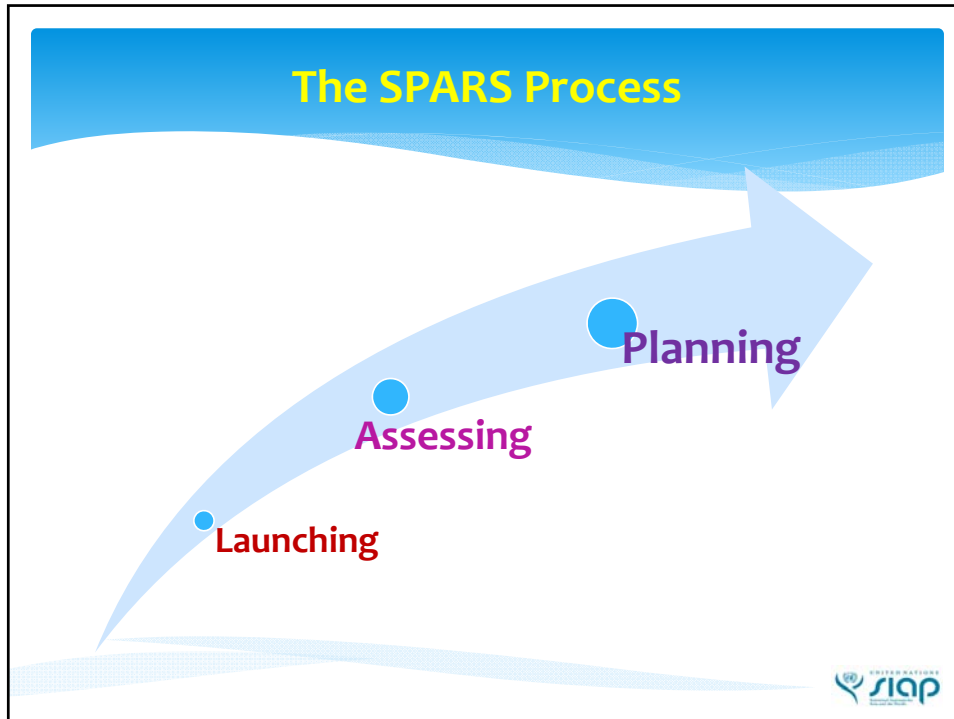
- * To bring a long term vision for development of ARS
- * To mainstream agriculture in NSS/NSDS
- * To raise the profile of agriculture statistics in the decision-making process
- * To provide a framework for developing capacity to produce and analyse agriculture statistics on a sustainable basis
- * To improve coordination among data producers
- * To harmonize data on agriculture for policy/ decision makers.



SPARS Essentials

- * Backed by political support, nationally led and owned
- * Designed through a sound methodological approach (incl. M&E mechanisms)
- * Mainstreamed into the NSDS national process
- * Covering the whole agricultural and rural sector
- * Policy and results based with a quality fit for purpose
- * Taking into account what is in place and international commitments
- * Drawing on international statistical standards
- * Setting out an integrated and realistic SCB programme
- * Funded as a priority by governments for its implementation
- * Serving as a coherence framework for external assistance





Advocacy for and through SPARS Process ^{*56}


The SPARS is an opportunity for **advocacy**

- Particularly important in the design phase to support discussion on ownership, users/producers dialogue, funding and governance

The advocacy **plan**

- must reinforce confidence of the public, raise awareness and inform stakeholders of the challenges ahead
- must identify target audiences and adapt the messages

The communication and advocacy plan **requires** technical, human and financial resources to **be successfully implemented.**

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Top 3 Learnings?

