

# Global Strategy

IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL STATISTICS  
IN ASIA PACIFIC



## Module 1: Sampling in the Context of the Global Minimum Set of Core Data Items

### Session 1.1: Overview of the Global Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Statistics and the Asia-Pacific Regional Action Plan

13 – 17 August 2018,  
Suva, Fiji



## 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 it and promoting sustainable agriculture is a priority of the Governments*



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# Agricultural Sector

- Three out of four poor people in developing countries live in rural areas, agricultural development is vital to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to poverty, food security, and the environment

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



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## Why a Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics?

### Countries increasingly facing:

- Declining Quantity and 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 of data 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**



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## Why do we need a Global Strategy?

### Three main reasons:

- To fulfill basic data requirements for making evidence based policy and planning
- To integrate Agricultural statistics into the National Statistical System
- To fulfill the current and emerging data needs (impact of ag. on environment; investment in ag.; biofuels; price volatility, water and land use, SDGs etc.)



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# What is the Global Strategy?

- The Global Strategy is a ground-breaking effort to strengthen agricultural and rural statistics
- An initiative of the United Nations Statistical Commission
- Developed through an extensive consultation process
- Partnership between International Agencies, developed and developing countries
- 2 intergovernmental process for its adoption:
  - UNSC and National Statistical Offices
  - FAO Governing Bodies and Ministries of Agriculture
- Provides a conceptual framework for integrated approach to data collection, which guide decision making in the twenty-first century



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# What is the Global Strategy?

- Implementing 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



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# 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



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# 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



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# The Three Pillars

The strategy is founded on 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 NSS** 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



## First Pillar

The pillar consists of

- Identifying a Minimum Set of Core Data and Determining National Priorities – the starting point
- This core set of data will provide the necessary information to national and international policy makers
- The Global Strategy provides a core set to which countries may add items of national interest to the set of core data
- Each country to determine the content of the core set and the frequency of producing different kinds of data



## Second Pillar

Integration of Agriculture into National Statistical System

Removal of duplication of efforts in producing statistics that is so common in developing countries

- development of a master sample frame for agriculture to achieve integration ,
- implementation of an integrated survey framework, and
- Implementation of a data management system – in form of an integrated database.



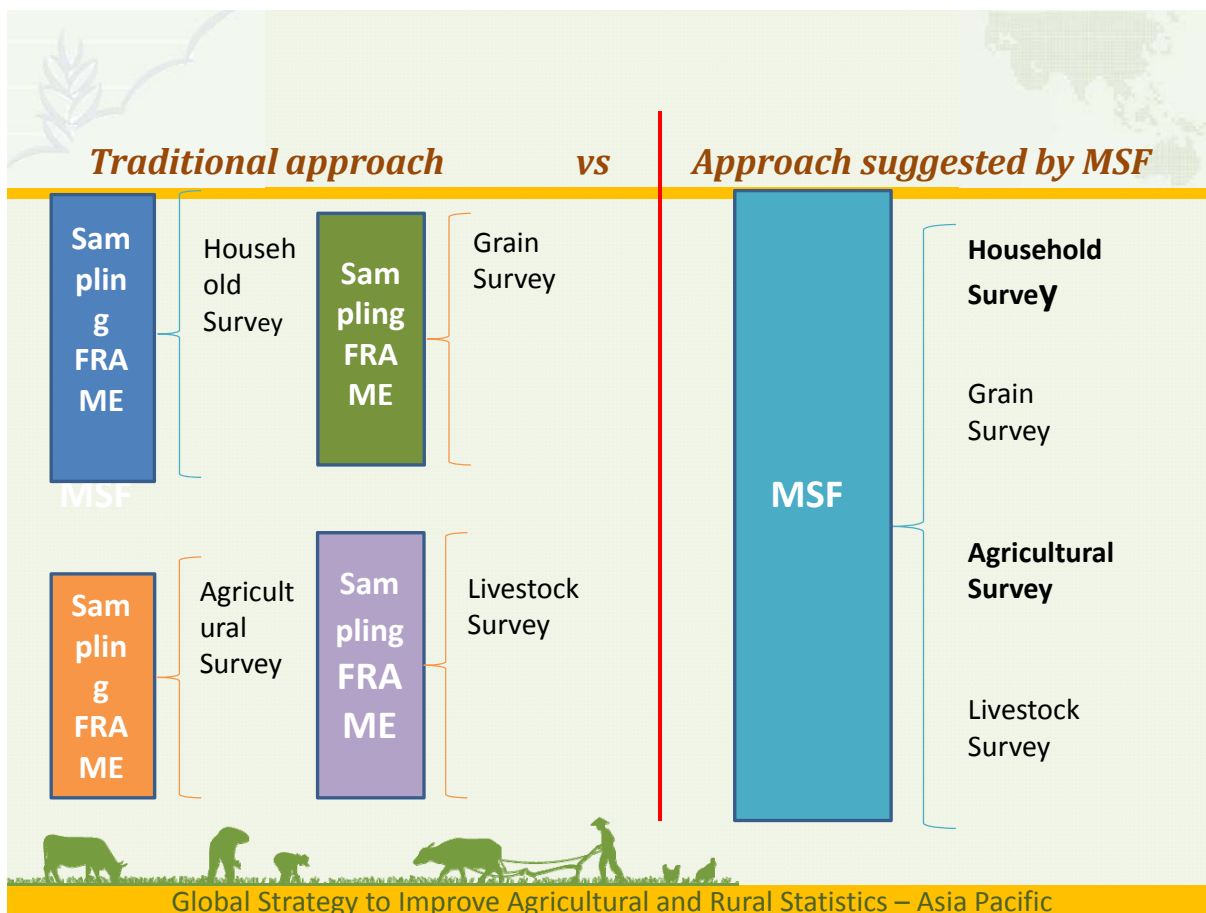
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## What is a Master Sampling Frame (MSF)?

A **Master Sampling Frame** is a sampling frame that provides the basis for all data collections through sample surveys and censuses in a certain sector, allowing to select samples for several different surveys or different rounds of the same survey, as opposed to building an ad-hoc sampling frame for each survey



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## What is a Master Sampling Frame (MSF) for agriculture?

“MSF is a frame or a combination of frames that covers the population of interest in its entirety, and that enables the linkage of the farm as an economic unit to the household as a social unit, and both of these to the parcel of land as an environmental unit.”





# Developing an Integrated Survey Framework

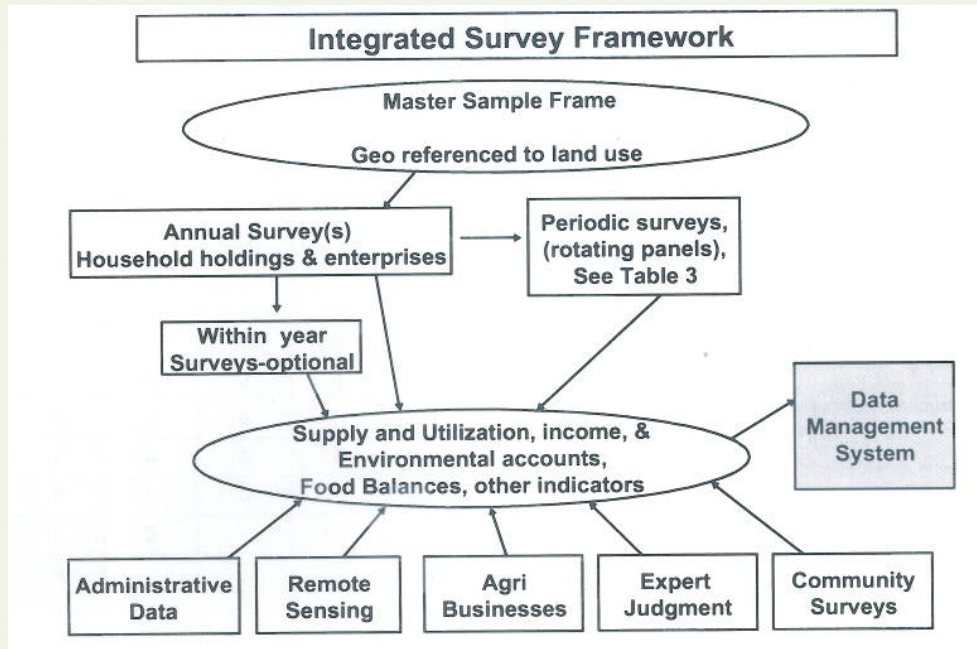
- It includes
  - Sample design, Questionnaire, Data collection methods, Analysis and estimation
  - Timing and frequency of data collection are most important for agricultural statistics
  - Different production cycles (crops, livestock, fisheries)
- Identify core data requirements
  - Production data
  - Economic data (input/output on the holding)
  - How use of fertilizers, chemicals, tillage methods etc. impact environment
  - Social well being of farms and rural households
- Decide on the census/survey instruments
- Single purpose or multi purpose



# Integrated Survey Framework

- Should be designed to
  - Provide an annual work programme that is consistent from year to year
  - Minimize the required scope of censuses
  - Recognize that some data need to be collected more often than annually because of the seasonal nature of agriculture and the crop and livestock production cycles
  - Take into account the additional data sources that need to be included in the overall framework
    - Administrative data, remotely sensed data, community surveys





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## Third Pillar

### Sustainability of Agricultural Statistics by Governance and Statistical Capacity Building:

This consists of

- Requirements for governance to coordinate the efforts of different stakeholders, especially the NSOs and M/o agriculture.
- Inclusion of the fundamentals of the Strategy in the national strategies for the development of statistics.



# 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
- *SPARS: Long Term Strategy to improve ARS at the national level has been completed in most of the countries*
- In addition, [P-SPAFS](#): Pacific – Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics has been developed and launched recently (March 2018) at APCAS 27
- Technical Assistance and Training activities have begun



## Current areas of Technical Assistance

- SPARS (Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics)
- Administrative Reporting Systems
- Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing
- Cost of Production
- Food Balance Sheets
- Master Sampling Frame
- Improving Crop Yield methodologies
- Improving methodologies for livestock surveys



Thank You