General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) Project
Phase 2: Modules for Strengthening Statistics
Report of the Launch Workshop of the Module on Agricultural Statistics
Polana Serena Hotel, Maputo, Mozambique.
March 19 to 23, 2007

Background

The World Bank, together with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is implementing a three-year project to support the more effective design, implementation, and monitoring of macroeconomic policy and poverty reduction strategies by helping to strengthen the capacity of national statistical systems in participating countries. The project covers all Anglophone countries in sub-Saharan Africa and will run until September 2009. It is structured around the IMF's General Data Dissemination System (GDDS)[1] and is financed by a grant from the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID).

The goal of the project is "The more effective design, implementation, and monitoring of macroeconomic policy and poverty reduction strategies" and the objective is to enhance the capacity of national statistical systems in participating countries. The project aims to make a sustainable improvement in the quality of official data, especially those data areas covered by the different modules, to increase awareness of the value of good quality data and their dissemination, to improve regional cooperation on statistical issues and to support data dissemination standards.

Under the project, both the IMF and the World Bank are supporting seven modules each. The IMF is covering key areas of economic and financial statistics and the World Bank is supporting socio-demographic statistics. In both cases the modules will be implemented over a period of about 30 months, with a possibility of extension depending on progress and funding. A module is a coordinated set of activities deigned to help countries achieve specific improvements in the management of statistical activities and in the quality and coverage of statistical data series. Each module is focused on a defined subject area, either covering particular data sets concerned with different sectors of the economy, or particular statistical processes and instruments. Each country included in the project has selected two modules, based on their needs as well as other assistance they may be receiving. In general, each module will involve a launch workshop, a series of bilateral technical assistance missions to address particular concerns and a final, closing workshop to review and report on progress.

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[1] More information about the GDDS is available on the IMF's Data Standards Bulletin Board at http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/gdds/gddshome/

The aim of the agricultural statistics module is to assist the participating countries to improve the coverage and quality of different aspects of statistics on agriculture, food and fisheries. Each country is required to identify its own priorities and to develop a work program for data improvements that will be implemented over the life of the module.

Launch Workshop for the Agricultural Statistics Module

The launch workshop for the agricultural statistics module took place at the Polana Serena Hotel in Maputo, Mozambique, from March 19 to 23, 2007. It was attended by teams from each of the five countries taking part in this module: Ghana, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Swaziland and Uganda[2]. The workshop was hosted jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and the national statistical institute of Mozambique. It was managed by Graham Eele, Senior Statistician from the World Bank and facilitated by Mr. Ernie Boyko, a consultant from Canada.

Workshop Objectives

The purpose of the workshop was to prepare a work program for the agricultural statistics module for each participating country. In order to accomplish this, each team was asked to provide an overview of the state of agricultural statistics in their countries, identifying specific strengths and weaknesses and the main priorities for data improvement. The workshop also provided a brief overview of the topic.

The Workshop Program

The detailed program for the workshop is set out in Annex 2. The program was formally opened by Dr. João Dias Loureiro, President of Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE), the national statistical institute of Mozambique[3]. Dr. Loureiro welcomed the participants and spoke of the importance of having good information about agriculture and the people involved in production activities. He indicated that this was a busy time for his organization as Mozambique is conducting a census of population later this year.

Following an introduction to the objectives for the workshop and the overall program for each country team was then asked to make a brief presentation on the situation for agricultural statistics in their country as well as their short to medium term priorities.

The next two days consisted of presentations providing an overview of the main aspects of agricultural statistics in Africa, followed by group discussions and questions. The presentations are provided in Annex 4and covered the following areas:

- An overview of the relations between statistics producers and users and some general trends in agriculture
- Elements to consider when planning agriculture surveys and censuses
- Agriculture statistics programs for crops, livestock, agriculture inputs and prices received by farmers
- The elements of farm accounts and their relationship to the national accounts
- A brief discussion on poverty measurement

[2] A list of participants is provided in Annex 1.
[3] The opening address by Dr, Loureiro is provided in Annex 3.

- A consolidated list of topics identified as priority areas for further consideration.

Reference was also made to the concept of the agri-food system which looks at employment and economic activity beyond the farm gate including downstream food processing and distribution activities.

The last part of the seminar, apart from a short field trip to an agricultural research station just outside Maputo, was devoted to the preparation of the country work plans for the agricultural statistics module. The country teams were provided with an annotated template to draw up their work plans. A crucial requirement was to ensure that the plans were consistent with the objectives of the project and could be achieved through a maximum of three separate technical assistance missions. On the final day of the seminar, each team presented their plans. This permitted all participants to be aware of activities in other countries and to make comments and suggestions.

The Country Work Plans

The detailed country work plans for the remainder of the Agricultural Statistics Module are set out in Annex 5. They are summarized in Table 1 below. The main components of the work programs are as follows:

- Ghana: Provide support to an agricultural census planned for 2008
- Mozambique: Improve livestock statistics and provide training in data analysis and dissemination
- Sierra Leone: Help to develop a strategy for agricultural statistics, and to review existing data sets and assist with their analysis and dissemination
- Swaziland: Improve the quality of the data from the two main annual agricultural surveys and support more effective data processing and dissemination
- Uganda: Help to develop a producer price index for agriculture and provide training in sampling and food balance sheets.

Closing

The workshop was formally closed on Friday March 23 at 13.00. Following the discussions about the five work plans, the remainder of the session focused on the next steps for the project. It was agreed that the participating countries would finalize their work plans by the end of April 2007. Before leaving, each country team was provided with 2 copies of a CD-ROM which contained:

- The presentations made during the seminar
- The background documents that were used to prepare the seminar material
- Two documents that relating to Mozambique
- The draft country plans
- The list of participants
- Some miscellaneous documents pertaining to data dissemination and,
- Photos taken during the week

Table 1: Summary of the Country Work Plans for Agricultural Statistics

Objective	Outputs	Activities	Inputs	Targets and Indicators
Ghana				
To support a national agricultural census to be carried out in 2008.	Set up the organization and management system for the census, Provide guidelines for field operations, data processing, data analysis, reporting and dissemination Conduct an end of census evaluation	Develop and organization and management system for the census Prepare guidelines for field operations, data processing, data analysis, reporting and dissemination Carry out a post-census evaluation	TA mission 1 in June or July 2007 TA mission 2 in October or November 2007 TA mission 3 in June or July 2009	Organization and management report produced by July 2007. Documents setting out the guidelines for field operations produced by end November 2007. Census evaluation report ready by June/July 2009
Mozambique				
To improve agricultural statistics by:				
Improving methodologies for livestock statistics	Develop improved methods for data collection for livestock especially cattle and other ruminants	Review and revise data collection procedures for livestock statistics	TA mission to be completed before the end of 2007	New methodology prepared and in use
Improving technical capacity for data analysis	Technicians trained in data analysis	Training course in data analysis and use of software	TA for training course in first half of 2008	Staff trained and training completed at provincial level
Improving the dissemination and use of agricultural statistics	New yearbook and web-based dissemination of census and survey results	New data dissemination products developed, surveys and censuses documented	TA on data dissemination and survey documentation in 2008	New yearbook published, survey data available on CD-ROM
Sierra Leone				
To establish an integrated strategy for the development of Agricultural Statistics	A program for regular agricultural data collection and dissemination.	Assessment of user needs and data sources and development of a program	TA mission in July 2007	Strategy in place and approved
To review existing data sets	Database in place and data published where relevant	Review of data sources and development of a data base for agricultural statistics	TA mission in January 2008 Final TA mission in June 2008	Database established and data disseminated

Objective	Outputs	Activities	Inputs	Targets and Indicators
Swaziland Improve agricultural statistics by : Improving the design of questionnaires used for different surveys Improving the data capture and analysis system for regular agriculture statistics	Revised questionnaires and procedures for data collection for the two main annual surveys Plan for improving data capture and analysis using modern software	Asses current questionnaires and make recommendations for improving both response and data quality Asses the present software and make recommendations for updating	TA mission on questionnaire design in 2007 TA mission on data analysis software in first half of 2008 TA for training staff in 2008	Improved response rate and data quality New processing system in place More timely dissemination of reports
Uganda Dissemination of a producer price index for agriculture. Formulation of an appropriate sampling design for the Agricultural Census. Construction of a food balance sheet	Producer price index for agriculture in place Appropriate sampling design for the Agricultural Census Staff skilled in the construction of a food balance sheet	Training workshop on the construction of a producer price index for agriculture. Develop a sampling design for agricultural census Training workshop on food balance sheets	TA mission in July 2007 TA mission in May/ June 2007 TA mission in 2008	Producer price index in place and report disseminated Sampling scheme developed and used Food balance sheet prepared and published

Workshop Evaluation

A brief evaluation form was completed by the participants and the results are set out in Table 2, below. The participants were asked to express the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with a number of statements about the workshop. To a large extent, the evaluation was positive. Most participants agreed that it had been useful, that it had met their expectation and that it had achieved its objectives. Specific concerns included:

- The size of the meeting room, which was a little small for the number of people involved;
- The fact that advance information was not distributed to the participants from Mozambique
- The fact that the material for the workshop was only distributed at the end.

The participants, on the other hand, considered that the interaction with the teams from the other countries had been very valuable and that the workshop had been both useful and informative in this respect.

Table 2: Summary of the Evaluation Responses

	Average Score[4]	Percentage of Respondents		
		Disagree	Neutral	Agree
1. Overall the workshop was useful in launching the agricultural statistics module	4.5	7%	0%	93%
2. Overall the workshop met expectations	4.1	0%	14%	86%
3. The material presented was relevant and useful	4.1	0%	21%	79%
4. The presentations and plenary discussions were clear and understandable	4.4	0%	7%	93%
5. The material provided was useful	4.1	0%	15%	85%
6. The country teams were able to prepare a relevant and feasible work plan	4.8	0%	0%	100%
7. The interaction with participants from other countries was useful	4.4	0%	21%	79%
8. The resource people were able to provide the information needed	4.5	0%	8%	92%
9. The length of the workshop was about right	3.9	7%	21%	71%
10. The workshop facilities were good and facilitated good discussions	4.2	0%	29%	71%
11. The hotel accommodation was good	4.8	0%	0%	100%
12. The payment of allowances was efficient	4.2	9%	18%	73%
13. The travel arrangements were satisfactory	4.3	0%	27%	73%
14. The information provided before the workshop was relevant and useful	3.9	23%	0%	77%

[4] The responses ranged from 1, representing a high level of disagreement with the statement to 5, representing a high level of agreement. The closer the average score is to 5.0 then the more the participants agreed with the different statements.

Annex 1 : Participants List

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Annex 2: Workshop Program

Date and Time	Topic	Notes
Monday March 19		
09.00 – 09.30	Workshop opening	INE, World Bank
09.30 – 10.30	Introduction to the workshop	
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee and tea break	
11.00 – 12.30	GDDS overview and objectives of the workshop	Ernie Boyko
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 15.30	Presentations by country teams	Country teams
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee and tea break	
16.00 – 17.30	Discussion of country presentation	Plenary
Tuesday March 20		
09.00 – 10.30	Overview of agricultural statistics programs	Ernie Boyko
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee and tea break	
11.00 – 12.30	Agricultural censuses and surveys	Ernie Boyko
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 15.30	Agriculture and the national economy	Ernie Boyko
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee and tea break	
16.00 – 17.30	General discussion	Plenary
Wednesday March 21		
09.00 – 13.00	Field trip to a local agricultural research station	
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch	
14.30 – 15.30	The GDDS agricultural statistics work program	Graham Eele
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee and tea break	
16.00 – 17.30	Briefing of country teams	Ernie Boyko and Graham Eele
Thursday March 22		
09.00 – 10.30	Development of country work programs and consultation	Country teams
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee and tea break	
11.00 – 12.30	Development of country work programs and consultation	Country teams
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 15.30	Development of country work programs and consultation	Country teams
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee and tea break	

Date and Time	**Topic**	**Notes**
16.00 – 17.30	Development of country work programs and consultation	Country teams
Friday March 23		
09.00 – 10.30	Presentation of country work programs	Country teams
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee and tea break	
11.00 – 12.30	Next steps and workshop closing	Ernie Boyko and Graham Eele
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 17.30	Free	

Annex 3: Opening Address by Dr. João Loureiro, President, INE

Welcome to Mozambique to the launch workshop for the GDDS 2 module on agricultural statistics. As you know, the World Bank, together with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is implementing this three-year project to strengthen the capacity of national statistical systems in Africa. The project covers all the Anglophone countries in sub-Saharan Africa and this also includes Mozambique. The project has been developed round the IMF's General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) and follows an earlier four-year project that included 14 countries and which ran from 2002 to last year. Both projects have been and will be financed by a grant from the United Kingdom's Department for International development (DFID). We are grateful to the United Kingdom for this support.

The objective of the project is to help countries to participate in the GDDS and to implement plans for improvement in different areas of statistics. Support to improve macro-economic and financial statistics is being provided by the IMF and support to improve socio-demographic statistics is being provided by the World Bank. An important innovation has been to focus assistance on a limited number of **modules**. These cover selected statistical areas for improvement, which meet national priorities and which form critically needed building blocks for capacity building in the medium term. As with this agricultural statistics module, up to five countries are participating. Following this workshop further support will be provided through a combination of short-term technical assistance and further sub-regional workshops.

Agriculture is important for all the countries of Africa and especially for the countries represented here. It accounts for up to 50 per cent of Gross Domestic Product, provides a livelihood for as much as 80 per cent of the population, produces most of the food we eat and also generates foreign exchange. And yet, in many countries agriculture is in something of a crisis. If Africa is to meet the challenge of the Millennium Development Goals, reduce poverty and improve the welfare of our population, then it is essential that there is sustained growth in agricultural output and productivity. Simply because of the numbers of people involved, we will not be able to reduce poverty unless we can increase agricultural incomes and this is true of Mozambique and all the other countries represented here.

As well as achieving agricultural growth, we are also faced with the challenge of maintaining our environment and dealing with increasing globalization and with climate change. In Mozambique we are only all too well aware of the difficult conditions that most farmers operate under and the uncertain environment they face, The floods that affected many people in the center of the country earlier this year reinforce the need to establish farming systems that are less vulnerable to the climate and which are able to provide people with a livelihood that is sustainable.

The challenges facing the Government of Mozambique and other African countries in promoting rural development, agricultural growth and food security are immense and we

cannot begin to address then unless and until we are able to collect, compile and disseminate reliable, up to date and comprehensive statistics. Agricultural statistics in many African countries are in something of a crisis. Data collection systems are expensive and difficult to sustain and in recent years there has been little or no investment in the infrastructure and the institutions needed to establish an effective agricultural statistics system. That is why this project and this particular workshop are so important. If we are to provide users with the data needed to plan development, define appropriate policies and monitor progress then we must develop our statistical capacity. We must plan and carry out well designed surveys and censuses, we must make as much use of possible of data coming from different administrative processes and we must put together well designed and easily accessible databases.

Not all of this, of course, will be supported directly by this project. Its contribution is largely limited to advice and technical assistance. But it is an important start in helping to stop the decline in agricultural statistics and in designing and developing systems that are suited to our conditions and which we can manage and sustain.

I hope, therefore, that you have an interesting and successful workshop and that you are able to develop well designed national work programs that will help you deal with your most pressing and urgent problems in this area. I would like to thank the World Bank for inviting Mozambique to host this workshop and hope that those of you who have not been to our country before will enjoy your stay here so much that you will want to return. I would like to wish you a productive and useful workshop and I have much pleasure in formally declaring the workshop open.

Thank you

Annex 4: Country Work Plans

Ghana

Background

Ghana's agricultural sector is dominated by smallholders with a mean holding size of fewer than two hectares. The main sub-sectors are crops, livestock, and fisheries. Crop production is basically rain-fed and purchased input use is very low. For instance, less than 5% of farmers use improved seeds and breeds and only 8kg of fertilizer is applied per acre as against 60kg as the mean for developing countries. Agricultural statistics are available for these sectors, but the livestock and inland fisheries statistics are very weak.

Strengths and Weaknesses

Substantial data exist for the major food crops and marine fisheries thanks to methodological and material support from FAO.
There is a minimum core of well trained staff with the requisite equipment for backing the system.
There is a paucity of structural information on agriculture due to the fact that last census was conducted in 1985.
Livestock statistics are very weak due to the non-conduct of a census for 22 years.
Aquaculture statistics are in a similar state.
High staff turnover has created shortages of staff.
Low government funding has constrained staff morale and undermined performance.

Objectives of Ghana's Agriculture Statistics System

It is to make available to users, timely and accurate statistics on the main crops, livestock and fisheries for effective policy formulation and decision making at both the public and private sector levels.

The GDDS2 Work Program Objectives

The broad objective is to conduct an agricultural census in 2008. Our GDDS-relevant objectives are to:
Set up the organization and management system for the census,
Provide guidelines for field operations, data processing, data analysis, reporting and dissemination,
Conduct an end of census evaluation.

Outputs

The organization and management for the census is set up and documented.
Documents setting out guidelines for field operations (including survey instruments) data processing, analysis, reporting and dissemination.
Staff trained in data collection and other field operations and data analysis and reporting.
Census evaluation report produced.

Activities

Setting up the organizational and management structure and systems for the census.
Development of guidelines for field operations, data processing, analysis, reporting and dissemination and training of staff.
Evaluation of conduct and documentation on census.

Inputs

Three visits of experts for activities for activities 1 to 3 above. See attached Work Plan.

Indicators

Organization and management structure report produced by the end of July 2007.
Documents setting out the guidelines for field operations produced by the end of November 2007.
Census evaluation report ready by June/July 2009.

	Activities	2007							2008												2009							
		J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A
1	Setting up organizational and institutional structure																											
2	Developing guidelines for field operations, training, and data processing																											
3	Evaluation report																											

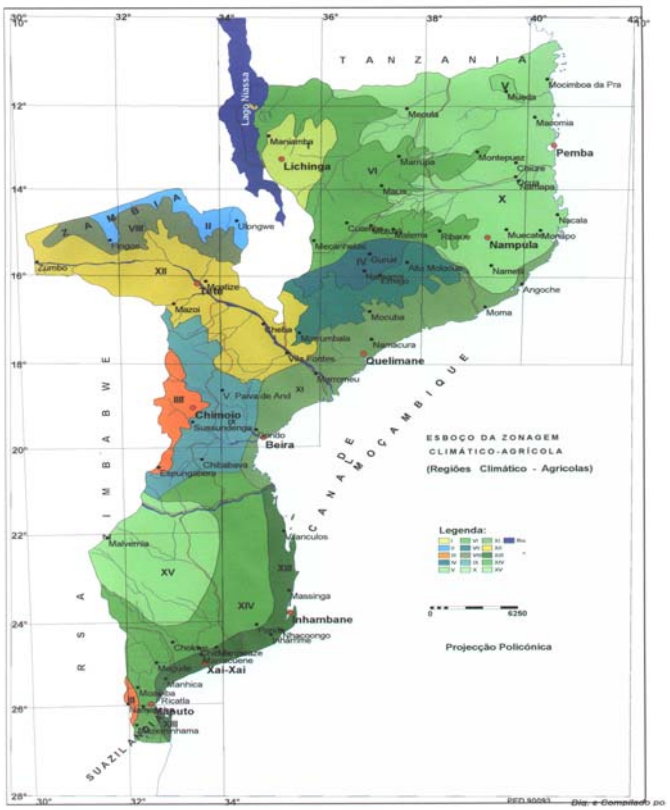
Mozambique

Background

Agriculture in Mozambique constitutes an important sector that comprises 80% of the active population and supplies the main basis for food security in the country. The main food crops are: Maize, cassava, sorghum, rice, cowpea, peanut. Part of the crops produced is oriented to exports. Highlighted among them are cotton, tobacco, sugar-cane, tea and cashew nut, etc. Agriculture represented 23% of the GDP in 2005.

Agricultural statistics are produced by the Ministry of Agriculture, under delegation of competencies from INE, the State organ responsible for the production and dissemination of all country's official statistics. Since the implementation of the agricultural and livestock census in 2000, Mozambique has been regularly undertaking annual agricultural surveys. Efforts should still be developed to improve technical coordination and the dissemination of the results of the surveys.

Map of Mozambique



Strengths and Weaknesses

Considerable skillfulness and experience of national staff at both central and provincial level in data collection, processing and supervision.
The existence of a considerable number of experienced enumerators to conduct the field work all over the country (people that have been used in previous operations).
The use of advanced technology in data collection and processing.
Skills developed in data processing including field based data entry.
Strong coordination with INE.
The regular and scheduled accomplishment of surveys in the post-census period.

The existence of more than one data source either for agricultural production or for livestock production.
Weak understanding of statistical activity in some decision makers and key technicians.
Limited analytical skills and capacity from the producers of statistics.
Weak dissemination and publishing of the statistical data and information.
Difficulties in the application of recommended “objective methods” for yield estimation for certain crops (for instance cassava, maize).
Lack of undertaking of specific surveys for covering specific topics not sufficiently covered in the general surveys (Cattle, vegetable and fruits products, etc).

Objectives of Mozambique's Agriculture Statistics System

To continue the production of reliable statistics in the most important aspects of Agricultural and livestock production:
To improve the estimation of the areas and production of the main crops;
To improve the estimation of the livestock, mainly cattle.
To improve the technical capacity for data analysis.
To undertake the second agricultural and livestock census.
To develop methodologies and mobilize resources for reliable data production at level lower than the province.

The GDDS2 Work Program Objectives

1- To improve methodologies for livestock statistics.
2- Continue to improve technical capacity for data analysis.
3- To improve the dissemination, publication and use of the results of the surveys.

Outputs and indicators

For Livestock Statistics:

Output	Indicator
A methodological document produced, containing a sample for the data collection in livestock with particular emphasis in cattle and other ruminants.	A study report on Livestock statistics.

For data analysis:

Output	Indicator
Capacity building developed for 15 technicians at central level and 20 at provincial level in data analysis using statistic packages.	15 technicians at central level and 20 at provincial level capacitated.

For Dissemination and publishing:

Output	Indicator
Capacity building developed for 10 technicians at central level in dissemination and publishing;	10 technicians at central level capacitated.
Elaborated and released publications of recent surveys (2007 and 2008);	An agricultural and livestock statistics yearbook and booklets.

Launched in the WEB the data from the Agricultural and Livestock census and of the Post-Census surveys;	Results of the Agricultural and Livestock Census and the surveys published in the web.
CD's produced with data from the last surveys.	300 CD's produced.

Activities

For Livestock Statistics:
To undertake a consultancy study in the production of a methodological document for livestock statistics;
Training of statisticians and livestock technicians in the methodology concerned;
To undertake a workshop with the main stakeholders for introduction and dissemination of the methodology;
A study visit to a country with a good livestock statistical system.

For Data Analysis:
To undertake two training courses for data analysis: One at central level (15 people) and another at provincial level (20 people).

For Dissemination and publishing:

To undertake a training course on dissemination and publishing at central level (10 technicians);
To publish in 2007 and 2008, 1500 brochures on the recent survey results.
To publish in the web the results of the Agricultural and Livestock Census and the post-census surveys.
To produce 300 CD's with data from the outputs of the last surveys.

Inputs

For Livestock Statistics:
A three-week consultancy in methodology of livestock statistics in
2007, 21 man/days including training (to be given by one consultant). Another three week consultancy should follow for the training at provincial level, given by local consultants after participating in the training with the international consultant.

For Data Analysis:
Project funds to be timely estimated to pay for the two courses in data analysis, mentioned in the activities:
One International Training consultant and three local training consultants to be recruited and financed by the project;
Daily allowance (per diem) for the participants of the two courses;
Payment for transport, accommodation expenses;
Payment for Consumables (stationary, etc.);
Payment for other expenses.

Dissemination and publishing:
An international consultant hired to provide training for two weeks, 14 man/days;
Publications to be funded by the project.

Sierra Leone

Background

Agriculture is the largest single employer in Sierra Leone accounting for 89 % of the country's Household population (729,440) with GDP close to 50 % and a 70 % poverty level. 5.4 million Ha cultivable land representing 74 % total land area, of which 35.6 % was cultivated and 38.4 % not cultivated (2004 Population and Housing Census). Out of a population of 4,976,871, thirty-four point seven percent- 34.7(1,724,844) are economically active of which 1,144,439 (66.4 %) gain their livelihood through agricultural practices and 94.6 % are crop farmers.

Only 22 % of the farming households (729,440) have access to production and post harvesting facilities. Agricultural productivity has declined for the past 2-3 decades. Agriculture is characterized by fragmented small holdings, especially for food crops often grown at subsistence level. The main sub-sectors are crops, livestock, poultry, forestry, fisheries and hunting activities.

The ten-year civil conflict also affected the domestic revenue generating machinery, leading the country to be more dependent on donor funds (over 85 % source for budgetary support). The consequences of the war and the lack of funds to improve the data generating and management systems in the Agriculture sector has incapacitated the timely and reliable collation of vital Agricultural Statistics in the country.

Strengths

Qualified staff
District offices in all the 14 administrative districts.
Complementary donor support for research activities.
Some form of autonomy (Statistics Act 2002).
Adequate infrastructure
Good management structure in place.
Cordial intra-institutional relationships.

Weaknesses

Inadequate training facilities for staff at all levels.
Underutilization of district staff.
Poor distribution of material resources between HQ and district offices.
Logistical constrains in the offices.
Census Advisory Committee and Statistical Coordinating Committee not functioning.
Need for improvement of customer delivery service.
There is need for increase in staff motivation.
Absence of succession plan for staff.
Inadequate government financial support.

Poor working environment both at HQ and districts offices.
Lack of commitment on the part of stakeholders.
Poor analytical and report writing skills.

Map of Sierra Leone

Opportunities

High public demand for quality statistical information and products.
Donor preparedness to support statistical activities and programs
South-south cooperation and study tours.

Threats

Frequent staff turn-over
Keen competition for international financial support for statistical activities
Competitive claims on government financial resources
The annual drop in allocation for research activities.
Poor maintenance culture
Extensive parallel structure coming up all over the country.
Unwillingness of some organizations to cooperate with the legal or authorized bodies (Agricultural statistics data producers)
Respondent fatigue
Lack of inter-agency coordination of statistical activities.
Refusal of MDA's to provide data and the falsification of information.

Objectives of Sierra Leone's Agriculture Statistics System

The main aim is to improve the Agricultural Statistics data management system in Sierra Leone guided by the GDDS Framework.

Specific Objectives
To make available to users timely and accurate agriculture statistics in all aspects.
To set up a functional and efficient data management system.
To build the capacity of staff in the statistical units through training in data collection (project proposal writing, sampling designs and questionnaire development), analysis, report writing and dissemination of results.
Enhancing effective partnership with stakeholders and other data users.

The GDDS II Work Program Objectives

To establish an integrated strategy for the development of Agricultural Statistics.
To review existing data set that can be usable.

Outputs

A developed program for regular agricultural data collection and dissemination.
An established database and data publishing system where relevant.

Activities

Assessment of data sources in terms of quality, relevance and usefulness
Assessment of needs and development of feasible data collection programs
To establish a data base for agricultural statistics

Inputs

Input	What is required	Time Frame
Technical Assistance	Establishment of an integrated strategy for the development of Agricultural statistics	July 2007
Technical Assistance	Analysis of existing data set and setting up of data base and website updating	January 2008
Technical Assistance	Assessment of progress and consolidation of achievements	June 2008

Indicators

An integrated strategy for the development of Agricultural Statistics established.
An existing data set analyzed and disseminated for public consumption

Swaziland

Background

Two main agricultural sectors;
Swazi Nation Land (SNL)
Individual Tenure Farms (ITF)

Strengths and weaknesses

Swazi Nation Land (SNL)
Annual surveys
Censuses
Input costs data is collected
Farm gate prices not taken
Winter crops not covered
Pre-harvest and Post harvest losses not covered
Delay in data dissemination

Individual Tenure Farms (ITF)
Annual Census by Mailing
We collect data on all large estates.
There is a high none-response rate
Our farm register is outdated
Data analysis and dissemination has the same problems as with SNL
Data in the urban areas is not yet collected

Livestock statistics
Rely on the Ministry of Agric. (MOA)
Five years interval of livestock stock taking
Data capture and analysis done by MOA
Processing problems at MOA

Objectives of Swaziland's Agriculture Statistics System

Full coverage of the agriculture sector including urban areas
Revise SNL questionnaires to accommodate questions on farm-gate prices
To improve ITF questionnaire to lesson the burden on respondents
To develop a data capture and analysis system that will enable dissemination of agricultural data in time

The GDDS2 Work Program Objectives

Provide TA in designing questionnaires,
Provide TA in developing a data capture and analysis system for agriculture statistics.

Outputs

Revised questionnaires and procedure for data collection,
Plan for improving software data capture and analysis.

Activities

Asses the present questionnaires and make recommendations for user friendly ones
Asses the present software and make recommendations for suitable software

Inputs

Provide technical assistance in questionnaire design
Provide technical assistance for data capture and analysis
In-house training of staff

Indicators

Monitoring response rate
Improved data quality
New software in-place
Timely dissemination of agricultural data

Uganda

Background

Agriculture is the dominant sector of Uganda's economy. This sector contributes about 32.0% to total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and over 90% to total export earnings. It provides 80% of employment and most industries and services in the country are based on this sector. About 80% of the population lives in rural areas of the country where they derive their livelihood from agriculture.

Much of the agricultural production in Uganda takes place at household level essentially using household labor. It has been estimated that women contribute about 75% of the labor force. Agricultural production in the country is based on smallholder production.

There are now about 4.2 million such holders who carry out rain fed agriculture and who, on average, cultivate less than 2 acres mainly using a hand hoe.

The collection and dissemination of agricultural statistics is the responsibility of Uganda Bureau of statistics (UBOS) in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF).

The Agricultural Statistics System in Uganda is characterized by the following strengths and weaknesses:

Strengths

There is strong collaboration between UBOS and MAAIF.
There is a standing committee called National Agricultural Statistics Technical Committee (NASTC) is responsible for overseeing the planning and implementation of agricultural statistics programs.
Issues of agricultural statistics are addressed under pillar 2 of the National Poverty Reduction Strategy, the PEAP (Poverty Eradication Action Plan). This indicates that there is political commitment to agricultural statistics.
Within UBOS, there is a fully fledged section responsible for agricultural statistics.
In the absence of funding for the agricultural censuses, UBOS has been able to provide agricultural statistics through household surveys. This was done in 1995/1996, 1999/2000 and 2005/2006.
UBOS has endeavored to carry out preparatory activities in anticipation of an agricultural census.
These include the piggy backing of an agricultural module in the 2002 Population and Housing census.
A Pilot Census of Agriculture in 2003 in 10 districts
Under the Permanent Agricultural Statistics System (PASS) which was designed to meet the data needs of district local governments in their planning, a Pilot PASS was carried out in 2004 covering 5 districts. Subsequent surveys were conducted in 2005 and 2006/2007 in additional 10 and 8 districts respectively.

Weaknesses

Many institutions are involved in collection of agricultural statistics with no proper coordination.
Lack of bench-mark data.
Lack of clearly agreed methodology to measure production.
The available data is of poor quality with many gaps, and thus are unable to meet the requirements/demands of users.
Lack of technical personnel to collect data at local government level.
Insufficient funding for the sector

Overall Objective Agricultural Statistics System

To generate and disseminate comprehensive and up to date good quality data to guide planning and policy making.

The GDDS2 Work Program Objectives

To build capacity in the construction of Producer Price Indices.
To establish an appropriate sampling design for the Agricultural Census..
To build capacity in the construction of a Food Balance Sheet

Outputs

A Producer Price Index in place
An appropriate sampling design for the Agricultural Census in place
Staff skilled in the construction of a Food Balance Sheet.

Activities

Train UBOS staff in the construction of Producer Price Index for Agriculture. July 2007.
Derive an appropriate sampling design for agricultural census taking in Uganda. May/ June 2007.

Indicators

A report on Producer Price Index for Agriculture
Appropriate sampling design for agricultural census
Number of UBOS and MAAIF staff trained and construction of Food Balance Sheet.
Training reports.

Inputs

Technical Assistance.
Training Venue and Materials
Facilitation to participants