IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL & RURAL STATISTICS
Global Strategy

Annual consolidated narrative report

2015

Annual consolidated progress report

Reporting Period: Jan-Dec 2015

Submission date: 16 May 2016

	Annual Budget	Annual Funds received
Africa	4,917,230	2,143,839
Asia and the Pacific	3,053,130	917,739
CIS	0	0
Global Office	5,169,038	5,169,038
Latin America and the Caribbean	0	0
Near East	0	0
Total	13,139,398	8,230,616

Signature, Global Office Coordinator


1. Executive summary

Throughout 2015, the Global Strategy (GS) made remarkable efforts to achieve its objectives both at global and regional levels. Furthermore, 2015 represented a pivotal year for the Global Strategy, as it was the mid-term point of the five-year programme.

The **Global Office (GO)** has put forth significant efforts in strengthening the coordination mechanisms with regional implementing partners in order to ensure the proper uptake of the methods, guidelines and training materials produced by the GO. The GO has mobilized additional USD 3,5 million from DFID in order to fill the existing funding gap at global level. Thanks to this additional contribution, the GO will be able to complete its priority research topics and support the development and implementation of the AGRIS methodology in one country. The delivery of cost-effective methodologies was accelerated by the completion of 9 out of 17 research topics. Furthermore, 9 expert meetings were organized, and 3 topics field tested throughout the year. The results of the efforts made under the research component were disseminated through 11 technical reports and guidelines and 3 training materials that were produced in 2015.

The GS has also implemented a new Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework, which includes revised reporting templates. In addition, the GO has supported the FAO Office of Evaluation in the preparation of the Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) of the programme. More significantly, the GO has led the preparations of the associated implementing partners' management response, which was endorsed by the 12th GSC meeting in February 2016 and will serve as a key measure for defining new corrective actions, in particular, at regional level. In addition to this, the GO has made considerable efforts in coordinating the GS's work with other statistical capacity development initiatives. The new communication plan has been rolled out and the GS website has been significantly improved. In terms of advocacy, in June 2015, the GO organized a high-level mid-term advocacy event to increase programme visibility and update stakeholders on the progress made.

In **Africa**, SPARS were completed in 5 countries (Cabo Verde, Benin, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire and Kenya), and nine other countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Niger, Rwanda and Zambia) are currently receiving the technical assistance necessary for the development of their respective SPARS. Regional training workshops were also held to train experts in all 52 countries on the use of the SPARS guidelines. A workshop to improve national coordination and legislative mechanism for the French speaking countries was organized in 2015 (following the workshop that was organized for the English speaking countries in 2014). In 2015, a series of workshops were organized to: i) enhance the capacity of 35 countries on the quantity and quality of data reported by the Minimum Set of Core Data (MCSD); ii) discuss methods for compiling food balance sheets in the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) region. With regard to training, 6 new scholarships were

awarded with a total of 33 students receiving formal training through the scholarship programme.

In **Asia and the Pacific**, in-country activities were undertaken in 15 countries in 2015. In seven countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Georgia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Samoa and Sri Lanka), both an In-depth Country Assessment (IdCA) report and a Country Proposal paper were prepared, and in most cases formally endorsed by the government. A SPARS document was drafted in 4 countries and an outline prepared in another three. Specific Technical Assistance (TA) activities identified in the Country Proposal papers commenced in five countries. In 2015, 6 additional countries (Afghanistan, Cambodia, Maldives, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Viet Nam) were selected for inclusion and work has begun in all countries. In addition to these 15 countries, a Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics (P-SPAFS) for Pacific Island Countries is also being developed. Under the training component, a programme of regional courses for training trainers was delivered in the following areas: sampling and survey methods, statistical literacy and communication and advocacy for agricultural and rural statistics. Furthermore, the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific is being strengthened through the establishment of a subgroup on agricultural and rural statistics.

In **Latin America and the Caribbean**, the final version of the regional action plan was approved and implementation partners identified (the FAO Regional Office in Santiago, the FAO Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean, the Caribbean Community, and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States). A specific meeting will be organized in 2016 to mobilize funding for this region.

In the **Commonwealth of Independent States**, the final version of the regional action plan was approved. CISSTAT is currently hosting the Regional Office and will be in charge of implementing activities in the region thanks to a funding grant received by the World Bank.

In the **Near East**, the final version of the regional action plan was circulated to potential implementation partners. The FAO Regional Office in Cairo is taking the lead on activities and, in 2016, a specific meeting will be organized to mobilize funding for the region.

Generally speaking, **countries** are taking actions and initiatives in response to the GS as demonstrated by the various country presentations given at the MTC in June 2015. Countries are increasingly requesting support in using cost-effective methodologies and are addressing detailed research needs to the GS implementing partners. The progressive availability and use of cost-effective methods and the increasing partnerships created under the umbrella of the GS contribute to achieving the overall goal of collecting better data.

On-going progress of the programme is collected, tracked and disseminated through the GS website, the e-bulletin, issued on a monthly basis by the GO, and the websites of the implementing partners.

2) Consolidated report

OUTPUT 1

Effective governing bodies set up and functioning at global level

Governance meetings

Since January 2013, a total of 7 Global Steering Committee (GSC) meetings and 8 Regional Steering Committee meetings (3 in Africa and 5 in A&P) were organized.

Global – At global level, one face-to-face GSC meeting and one virtual GSC meeting were organized. **The 10th GSC meeting**, which took place virtually in March 2015, served the purpose of approving the integrated budget (which included the regional workplan for Africa that had been conditionally endorsed by the 6th Global Executive Board (GEB) in February 2015), the GO's work plan for 2015, the allocation of funds for 2015, the Mid-term Evaluation (MTE) and the revision of the Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) framework. The GSC endorsed all items by electronic consultation.

The **11th GSC meeting** took place in June 2015 in Rome at FAO HQ. During the meeting, the GSC members were informed of the funding gap, the MTE, and the Mid-Term Conference (MTC). In addition, the GSC approved several items for endorsement. These items include: the appointment of Mr Romeo Recide as new GSC Co-Chair, Dr Albina Chuwa as new GSC member, Dr Philomena Nyarko as new GEB member and chair, and 5 new SAC members (Dr Eva Laczka, Backary Sacko, Edwin St. Catherine, Michael Steiner, Dr ZhengYuan Zhu). The most significant outcomes of the meeting were the endorsement of the new Output 5 (AGRIS), the revision of the integrated budget, the Regional Action Plans for CIS and LAC.

The **6th Global Executive Board** meeting was organized virtually in February 2015. The GEB endorsed the African workplan proposed for 2015 under the condition that the GSC would endorse the revision of the integrated budget. The endorsement took place at the 10th GSC meeting in March 2015. In 2015, the regional workplan for Asia and the Pacific was also endorsed and there were no electronic consultations of the GEB.

The minutes and documentation discussed during the GSC and GEB meetings are available on the GS website.

Africa – In January 2015, a virtual Regional Steering Committee (RSTC) meeting was organized to review and approve the regional workplan/budget for 2015. The 4th RSTC meeting on the *Action Plan for Africa* was organized in October 2015 in Zambia. The main objectives of the meeting were to: (i) inform the Committee on the progress/achievements made so far in the implementation of the GS Action Plan for Africa, including the review, discussion and endorsement of Africa's integrated work

plan/budget for 2015 (GTF and EU funds); (ii) provide an update on the status of implementation of the Global Action Plan, the important decisions of the latest Global Executive Board (GEB)/Global Steering Committee (GSC), and perspectives/next steps of the GS; (iii) discuss on how best the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) could be appropriately engaged and aligned to the GS activities in Africa; and (iv) review the frequency of RSTC meetings as well as the composition and role of the Regional Executive Board (REB).

Asia and the Pacific – The fifth RSTC meeting was held in December 2015 in Bangkok with the main purpose of endorsing the 2016 workplan and budget. Four additional countries were identified (China, Malaysia, Mongolia and Tonga) on the understanding that work would start in these countries as resources permit. Other agenda items included: (i) activity reports from the regional office, the technical assistance and training components, and other related Asian Development Bank (ADB) activities; (ii) discussion of Country Proposals to determine which short-medium term activities should be supported by GS funds; (iii) changes to membership as dictated by the Terms of Reference of the RSC; and (iv) information on the research component and communication activities.

Coordination

Great efforts have been put forth to enhance the coordination mechanisms among participating partners and other related initiatives. The 2nd Coordination Meeting with implementing partners took place in April 2015 by teleconference. The implementing partners in Africa, Asia and the GO participated in the meeting. The agenda included discussions on the following subjects: transfer of know-how to regions, coordination on the delivery of training material, Mid-Term events in June and the MTE.

The 3rd Coordination Meeting of Implementing Partners took place in October 2015 by teleconference with partners from Africa, Asia and the GO. The agenda included discussions on: ways to integrate the global and regional workplans, the evaluation of ongoing field tests for the research component, and the planning of new field tests by research topic in the appropriate countries to be carried out with partner institutions.

The GO has systematically attended all RSTC meetings in Asia and Africa and the Technical Assistance and Training Coordinator of the GO is fostering cooperation between the two implementing regions. In addition, the regional offices have participated in most of the GSC meetings.

In 2015, coordination with other initiatives has also been pursued. Details are provided in Annex 2.

Staffing: Global and Regional Offices

The GO is fully staffed. In July 2015, a new full-time Research Coordinator was appointed. The Asia and the Pacific Regional Office is operational and there are plans for recruiting additional long-term consultants to address the increased workload. In Africa, the regional office is working with a team of long-term and short-term consultants.

Regional Action Plans

Throughout 2015, the GO supported the preparation of **Regional Action Plans** in the three regions that are still lacking funds (Latin America, Near East, CIS countries).

Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) – The final version of the Regional Action Plan for LAC was presented and approved at the 11th GSC Meeting in June 2015. The FAO Regional Office in Santiago will host the GS Regional Office and manage the TA activities in the region in close collaboration with the FAO Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean. The training component will be delivered by the FAO Regional and Sub-regional Offices in joint collaboration with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). A partnership conference is planned for the first semester of 2016.

Near East – The final version of the Regional Action Plan for Near East countries was circulated to potential implementation partners, which include the FAO Regional Office, UNESCWA and SESRIC. The FAO Regional Office in Cairo is taking the lead in organizing a Partnership Conference and Regional Steering Committee Meeting, which is expected to take place in the first semester of 2016.

Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) – The final version of the Regional Action Plan for CIS countries was presented and approved at the 11th GSC Meeting in June 2015. CISSTAT hosts the Regional Office and is responsible for implementing activities in the region. The region has continued to benefit from the World Bank's contribution for activities directly connected to the objectives of the GS.

Resource Mobilization efforts

Global Office – In December 2015, DFID provided additional funding of up to £2,300,000 (approximately USD 3,5 million) to support the implementation of the GS at global level. This additional funding will enable the GO to complete the remaining activities indicated in the 2016 and 2017 workplans. These activities include the development of cost-effective methods and the production of guidelines and training material on a number of topics that had been postponed due to the funding gap. In addition, DFID will support the development and testing of the Agricultural Integrated Survey (AGRIS) methodology in one country and roll out the AGRIS toolkit, which is currently being developed in the framework of the GO workplan.

Organization of technical meetings

The progress made in the implementation of research activities was discussed at the 4th Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting (Rome, June 2015). Several Expert Group Meetings were also organized on the following thematic areas: Cost of Production (Rome, January 2015); Administrative Data, Post-Harvest Losses, and Crops (Rome, April 2015). In addition, an Expert Group Meeting on Livestock Data (Ghana, July 2015) and another meeting on Food Consumption were organized (New York, February 2015).

The first meeting of **the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Food Security, Agricultural and Rural Statistics (IAEG-AG)** took place on the margins of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) meeting in New York in February 2015. The agenda included a clarification of the role of the IAEG-AG, which is to facilitate the development of new international statistical standards. In this capacity, the GS will forward new guidelines to the IAEG-AG for review and potential endorsement by the UNSC. Furthermore, membership was also discussed and it was suggested that the GS GO Coordinator become member *ex officio* and that membership be broadened to include other countries and institutions to ensure more balanced regional representation. Finally, presentations were given on food consumption data and activities on Food Away from Home led by Peru in collaboration with the World Bank.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

A new M&E framework and associated reporting templates were endorsed at the 10th GSC meeting in March 2015 and the GS MTE. As a result, the GO and the regional implementing partners began using the new reporting templates, including the new six months' activity report.

The MTE, started in June 2015 and finalized in November 2015, was aimed at assessing the efficiency of the GS at the mid-term point of its implementation. An independent Evaluation Team identified, selected and supervised by the FAO Office of Evaluation (OED) to ensure independence, impartiality, credibility, and transparency, conducted the evaluation. The final draft was submitted by the evaluation team to the GO in December 2015. The GO shared the evaluation with the GSC members and implementing partners and, as a result of this consultation, the implementing partners drafted a coordinated management response to the recommendations made by the team. The evaluation and management response were endorsed at the 12th GSC meeting in February 2016. The implementation and follow up actions on the recommendations will be discussed during the coordination meetings.

In addition, the GO commenced a new activity aimed at identifying all initiatives that contribute to the overall objectives of the GS related to strengthening agricultural and rural statistics in developing countries. For the first time, the analysis and maps produced from this exercise have been included in this annual narrative report (See Annex 2).

In Africa, AfDB organized a workshop to discuss and agree upon the M&E framework for the region, based on the M&E global framework in June 2015. UNECA organized a M&E meeting of the GS training component in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in November 2015. The meeting served as an opportunity to validate a short-term training curriculum in agricultural statistics and was attended by representatives of national and regional statistical training centres, as well as heads of selected National Statistics Offices (NSOs). The curriculum was further reviewed in January 2016 (in Dakar, Senegal), where, issues such as costing, quotas for students and selection methods were discussed and agreed upon. The launch of the specialization programme was planned for May 2016.

Advocacy, Communication

In 2015, the **Global Office** began implementing the Communication Plan for 2015-2017 to meet the four communication objectives of the GS (visibility, impact, advocacy, and knowledge sharing). The GO is also continuing to issue an e-Bulletin on a monthly basis with a noticeable increase in voluntary subscriptions and responses observed in 2015. With regard to the gsars.org website, a major update was carried out, including the establishment of a comprehensive repository of documents and information on GS activities. In 2015, a total of 14 publications were published. These publications include guidelines and handbooks, technical reports and literature reviews as well as an e-learning training material course.

In June 2015, the GO organized a high-level advocacy event in the form of a 2.5 day conference (MTC) at FAO HQ. The purpose of the MTC was to highlight the achievements of the GS at the programme's mid-term point. Over 150 participants representing more than 80 countries, resource partners, implementing partners, universities and research institutions attended the MTC. The outcomes of the MTC included increased visibility of the GS to potential stakeholders and continued dialogue on increasing the capacity building aspects of the GS and its related activities. Key recommendations for the continued success and sustainability of the GS were to increase coordination between users and producers of data and identify national champions at country level. There was also recommendation for engaging the private sector. On the occasion of the MTC, specific communication materials such as a new 16-page brochure and gadgets were produced and distributed.

In **Africa,** one bulletin was released in March 2015.

The Regional Office in **Asia and the Pacific** finalized a communication plan in line with the global communication plan. Promotional materials, using the newly established visual identity, were also developed and made available. These materials include a general brochure highlighting the achievements of the GS thus far, and a newsletter, issued on a regular basis, informing a broader audience of ongoing activities throughout the region. The RO also expanded its partnerships with sub-regional bodies (SAARC, ASEAN and SPC) with a view to broaden the impact of the GS beyond target countries and improve resource mobilization.

OUTPUT 2

Coordinating bodies of the NSS, legal frameworks and SPARS established to enable the integration of agriculture into the NSS

Global: Following the rollout of the Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS) guidelines in 2014, the activity levels increased at global, regional and national levels. The GO has translated the SPARS guidelines into French and is currently translating them into Russian. Furthermore, the GO participated in and contributed to the organization of regional workshops on SPARS (in 2015, 3 were held in Africa and 2 in Asia-Pacific).

Africa: The following countries completed their SPARS in 2015: Cabo Verde, Benin, Senegal and Kenya. The SPARS in Côte d'Ivoire are envisioned to be completed in early 2016. In addition, nine countries (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Niger, Rwanda and Zambia), are receiving the technical assistance required to develop their respective SPARSs. The RO has recruited national consultants to facilitate the reviews and discussions to be held during the various stages of SPARS development in these countries; these consultants will also lead the national technical working groups for relevant subsectors and organize national workshops.

The following workshops were organized to support the GS implementation in Africa:

- A regional workshop for French-speaking countries was held in Hammamet, Tunisia, on 26-29 January 2015. The workshop served to discuss and agree upon ways to continue supporting and accelerating the implementation of the Action Plan for Africa (2011-2017), and to take any corrective measures deemed necessary. In addition, decisions on countries' core TA needs were taken.

- A regional workshop on the assessment of monitoring and evaluation activities and on the Minimum Set of Core Data (MSCD) framework requirements in African countries took place on 2-5 June 2015 in Accra (Ghana). The objectives of the workshop were to improve the quantity and quality of data reported in the MSCD in Africa, and to brief countries on the GS' M&E framework in general, and on the Action Plan for Africa. Seventy participants from 35 countries, including National Strategy Coordinators and CAADP national focal points, attended the workshop.

- Two regional training workshops were organized to train 137 agricultural statistics' experts of 52 countries on using the standard guidelines for developing SPARS. The first workshop was held on 6-10 July 2015 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, and the second one on 6-10 October 2015 in Lusaka, Zambia. The purpose of these meetings was to accelerate the coverage

of the SPARS' implementation in countries and to ensure that the principles to be applied in developing the SPARS were comprehended in all countries. Countries that were yet to receive the TA necessary to develop the SPARS could thus begin to apply the principles on their own.

Asia-Pacific: In 2015, six additional countries (Afghanistan, Cambodia, Maldives, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Viet Nam) were selected and work has started in all countries. In addition to the 15 target countries, work on the development of a Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics (P-SPAFS) for the Pacific Island Countries has also commenced.

SPARS roadmaps were completed in 9 out of the 15 countries and the work envisaged is progressing well. At the end of 2015, both an IdCA report and a Country Proposal paper were prepared in 7 countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Georgia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Samoa and Sri Lanka). In most cases the reports and proposals were formally endorsed by the government. A SPARS document was drafted in four countries and an outline prepared in another 3. In this respect, specific TA activities identified in the Country Proposal papers commenced in five countries.

The GO, in close collaboration with the Regional Office in Bangkok, has also provided direct support to Pakistan in rolling out the SPARS guidelines. Overall, coordination has improved in all 15 countries in which the IdCA process has started and most countries have decided to make permanent the coordination arrangements established as part of the IdCA/SPARS process. In addition, a number of governments have already funded some of the recommended short and medium term improvement activities. The impact on the relevant indicator (National budgets for agricultural statistics) is not yet clear, although recognition of the importance of good agricultural data is increasing.

OUTPUT 3

New cost effective methods developed and disseminated

In 2015, activities related to 20 research topics were undertaken: in particular, 9 topics were completed and 11 new topics were started. In total, 14 publications and materials were completed and published, among these publications there were guidelines and handbooks, technical reports and literature reviews, and an e-learning training material course. As for previous years, also the research plan for 2015 was strategically organized, the various research topics being grouped into main research themes. An overview of the status of activities in 2015, divided by research themes, is presented below.

FRAM Framework for agricultural statistics

FRAM 1 - Conceptual framework for integrated agricultural statistics (SEEA-Agriculture)

The draft guidelines titled *Towards a System of Environmental Economic Account for Agriculture* were published in September 2015. The last field tests were completed and their findings will be integrated into the final version.

FRAM 3 - Minimum Set of Core Data

The MSCD is a pillar of the GS. Throughout 2015, preliminary work for preparing the metadata of the existing MSCD was elaborated and presented to the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting for review in January 2016.

FRAM 4 - AGRIS (Agricultural and Rural Integrated Survey)

At the 11th GSC meeting held in 2015, this research topic was approved as the new Output 5 (see details on Output 5). It originally fell under the FRAM research line.

SAMP Improved methodologies for master sampling frames

Three research topics under this theme were completed, including **SAMP1** Identifying the most appropriate sampling frame for specific landscape types. In 2015, Technical Reports were published for **SAMP2** (*Technical Report on Linking Area and List Frames in Agricultural Surveys)* and **SAMP3** (*Technical Report on Improving the Use of GPS, GIS and Remote Sensing in Setting Up Master Sampling Frames)*. These results will be used as major inputs in the preparation of one set of consolidated guidelines.

SAMP 4 - Integration of new methodologies, field tests and software packages

The *Handbook on Master Sampling Frames (MSF)* was finalized in December 2015. Field tests on MSFs are planned for 2016 (the pilot countries being: Nepal, Rwanda and Brazil). The findings of the field tests will be integrated into a revised Handbook.

COLL Improved data collection methods

COLL 1 - Improving methods for estimating cost of production

Draft guidelines were published in August 2014, together with an extensive literature review (published jointly with the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission). Field tests were completed and final guidelines with country case studies (on Tunisia, Indonesia, and Colombia) were drafted at the end of 2015. The final guidelines will be published and made available in 2016.

COLL 2 - Improving methods for estimating post-harvest losses

In 2015, a literature review entitled *A Review of Methods for Estimating Grain Post-Harvest Losses (PHL)* was published. A second report was drafted on proposed cost-effective ways to design sampling surveys for the estimation of postharvest losses and outlining the content of field tests. Two expert meetings were also held to discuss measuring PHL and food losses and waste and to organize a peer review of the methodological proposal.

COLL 3 - Adoption of new technology for field data capture, compilation

The World Bank/Living Standards Measurement Study (WB/LSMS) team, supported by the Global Strategy, developed a Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) software. This software is currently available and fully functional. In 2015, it was tested in Tanzania and Indonesia in agricultural surveys. In addition, a technical report on the experience of the Tanzania's Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development with the software was also accepted for the annual conference of the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR).

LIVE Improving methods for estimating livestock and livestock products

A literature review, a gaps analysis and field test protocols were elaborated in the first half of 2015 and discussed at an expert meeting in July. Field tests targeting major livestock species - including large and small ruminants, poultry and eggs- and focusing on improved methods for data collection were also conducted in 2015 (the pilot countries being: Botswana, Indonesia and Tanzania).

FOOD Improving methods for food security statistics

FOOD 1 - Improving methodology of food balance sheets

Research on this topic was carried out by the FAO Statistics Division in 2014, serving as the basis for the revised guidelines drafted in 2015. Guidelines adapted and targeted to developing countries will be prepared in 2016.

FOOD 2 - Improving methodology of food consumption

This line of research was commissioned to the WB/LSMS team. In 2015, an initial set of papers on priority areas for measuring food consumption was prepared; these will be published in a special edition of *Food Policy* in 2016. An update on key research findings will be presented at the SAC meeting in January 2016.

CROP Improving methods for crops estimates

CROP 1 - Improving estimation of crop area, yield and production

CROP 2 - Estimations for mixed, repeated and continuous cropping

The Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI) is developing methods for estimating crop areas, yields and production under different cropping conditions (pure stand, mix and continuous cropping). In 2015, one technical report (*Gap Analysis on Improving Methods for estimating Crop Area, Yield and Production under Mixed, Repeated and Continuous Cropping)* was published and a *Synthesis of Literature and Framework* was finalized which will be published in early 2016. Finally, a field test protocol was finalized and field tests were initiated in Rwanda, Jamaica, and Indonesia.

CROP 3 - Methods for estimating yields of root crops

The WB/LSMS team is collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources of Zanzibar, to validate methods for measuring cassava production using daily cassava diaries, recall surveys, and crop-cutting. In 2015, a technical report on this experiment was prepared. The WB/LSMS team is also collaborating with Malawi's National Statistical Office to implement an experiment for measuring cassava area and production. This experiment is scheduled to be completed in 2016.

CROP 4 - Horticultural crops

This activity is being undertaken by the FAO-RAF Regional Office in Ghana. In 2015, a concept note was finalized and an initial literature review and gaps analysis was drafted.

REMO Improving the methodology for using remote sensing

REMO 2 - Cost-efficiency of RS in developing countries

Activities were finalized in 2015, including an initial literature review (*Cost-Effectiveness of Remote Sensing for Agricultural Statistics in Developing and Emerging Economies).*

REMO 3 - Improving methods for using existing land cover/use data bases

In 2014, two draft reports were produced on *The preliminary analysis for data preparation and collection* and on the literature review scheduled for publication in March 2016. In 2015, the draft of the third technical report (*The land information for Agricultural Statistics)* was developed and included the results of the field tests carried out in Pakistan, Cambodia, and Sudan.

REMO 4 - Integration of methodologies

A report and a handbook integrating the main findings of the three above mentioned methodologies were produced. The *Handbook on Remote Sensing for Agricultural Statistics* is expected to be published by end of 2016.

ADMI Improving quality/ use of administrative data to produce agricultural statistics

In 2015, Iowa State University (USA) and Makerere University (Uganda) jointly produced two technical reports. In relation to the use of administrative data in developing countries, a methodological proposal for improving administrative data and a report on Field Test Protocols were produced. The documents include the following titles: *Reviewing the Relevant Literature and Studies on the Quality and Use of Administrative Sources for Agricultural Data* and *Administrative Data and the Statistical Programmes of Developed Countries*. The work in progress was discussed at a side event of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC), while the methodological proposal was discussed at the expert meeting in April 2015 and at the SAC meeting in June 2015. Technical reports were published in 2015 and field tests started in November 2015 in Tanzania, Côte d'Ivoire, and Namibia.

FISH Improving methodology for small-scale fisheries

FISH 1 - Module for fishery and aquaculture for censuses and surveys

The draft G*uidelines to Enhance Fisheries and Aquaculture Statistics through a Census Framework* were published in the first quarter of 2015. Preliminary feedback on this draft was requested from national statistical contact points and experts worldwide, by means of an online survey questionnaire. Following the expert meeting held in January 2016, an improved version of the guidelines was finalized and the title revised to *Guidelines to Enhance Small-scale Fisheries and Aquaculture Statistics*. This last version will be finalized through a workshop in Indonesia and a peer review.

FISH 2 - Master sampling frame for fishery

In February 2015, a concept note with a special focus on inland water small-scale operations was made available (*Integrated Data Collection for Small Scale Fishery and Aquaculture)*. It is envisaged that the results of the activities described therein will complement the Handbook on Master Sampling Frames (MSF) for agriculture. In addition, in 2015, a concept note on the use of remote sensing data (satellite imagery) in fisheries was proposed. However, this theme will now be included in the topic on Integration of methodologies under the research domain **REMO** - *Improving the methodology for using remote sensing.* Research activities for drafting a Handbook on Master Sampling Frames for Fisheries and Aquaculture Statistics are planned for 2016.

FORE Forestry statistics

FORE 1 - Guidelines on data collection of national forest products statistics

In 2015, a concept note was finalized and consultants were recruited. The deliverables include: a document with an updated correspondence between the forestry classification currently used and international classifications; a literature review on forest product statistics; a methodological proposal; and guidelines.

FORE 2 - Methodology on incorporating a wood fuel module into existing national surveys/census

In 2015, a concept note was finalized and consultants were recruited. The deliverables include: a literature review on wood fuel production and consumption in developing countries and survey-based wood fuel studies; a literature review on potential sources that can incorporate a module on wood fuel production and consumption; and a methodological proposal of the items/questions to be integrated in the surveys and censuses.

GEOG Better integration of geographic information and statistics

GEOG 1 - Developing robust/statistically based methods for spatial disaggregation and for integration of geographical information and geo-referenced survey data

The technical report titled *Spatial Disaggregation and Small-Area Estimation Methods for Agricultural Surveys: Solutions and Perspectives* was finalized and published in 2015.

DATA Improving the methodology for data analysis

DATA 1 - Farms Typology

This theme is carried out in close collaboration with the World Agriculture Watch (WAW). Activities commenced with the preparation of a concept note and a literature review. This was followed by an expert consultation to develop the draft structure of the guidelines and a synthesis document on the way forward was drafted for presentation at the SAC meeting held in January 2016.

DATA 2 - Reconciliation Census and Surveys data

Guidelines will provide users with methodologies to resolve the inconsistencies between census and survey data and best practices for the data reconciliation process. Activities started in July 2015 with the preparation of a concept note and a literature review, guided by the FAO Regional Office for Africa.

GEND Indicators, collection methods for gender/youth-related data

GEND 1 - Indicators, collection methods for gender related data

(Note: renamed SUST1 in 2016)

These activities were undertaken by three consultants from Göttingen University, Germany, in close collaboration with FAO's Statistics Division. The Literature Review was finalized in 2015 and scheduled for publication in April 2016. The draft guidelines will be produced by the end of 2016.

RURA Improving rural statistics

In 2015, a concept note was developed and a consultant identified for this topic, which focuses on the social and environmental dimensions of rural statistics. The social dimension has the objective of supporting poverty reduction strategies where rural areas offer fewer opportunities, whereas the environmental one will delve in particular into the use of land and other natural resources.

OUTPUT 4

Increased capacity of agricultural statistics staff in training centres and target countries

Global Office

A total of 14 publications (5 guidelines/handbooks, 8 technical reports/literature review, and 1 training material e-learning course) were produced by the Global Office. All publications are available at: http://www.gsars.org/category/publications/.

Guidelines:

In 2015, the 2 following guidelines were made available: 1) **FRAM** *Guidelines on Integrated Survey Framework* based on the technical report produced under Output 3 and following the GS standards; and 2) **FRAM** *Guidelines on agricultural classifications,* developed by the FAO Statistics Division in collaboration with the UNSD.

Training Material:

In 2015, the following training material was made available: **FRAM** Training *material on Linking Agriculture and Population Censuses*. This is an e-learning course based on the existing *Guidelines on Linking Agriculture and Population Censuses* developed in collaboration with UNFPA. The course was produced using FAO's e-learning services and published in May 2015.

In addition, progress was made on **COLL** *Module for short training on Cost of Production,* a short training course based on the Cost of Production Handbook and that will serve to transfer knowledge on the cost-effective methods developed by the GS. The course was developed during the last quarter of 2015 and has been used as the basis for training seminars held in Africa in March and April 2016. The presentations and training material is scheduled for publication in 2016.

The development of three additional sets of training material also began at the end of 2015 and will be completed in the first half of 2016. These are: 1) **FRAM** *Module for short training in basic agriculture statistics* – a concept note was developed in mid-2015 and activities started in November; 2) **SAMP** *Training module on Master Sampling Frames* (training workshops - building and using MSF) – The concept note was drafted in December 2015 and the course will be developed in the first half of 2016; and 3) **COLL** CAPI – e-learning course and workshop – the concept note was drafted during the summer of 2015, work started in November 2015 and the course will be finalized in fall 2016.

Translation of guidelines and training material:

In 2015, the **COLL** *Module for short training on Cost of Production* was translated into French. The translation of the following material began in 2015 and will be completed in 2016: 1) **COLL** *Handbook on Cost of Production statistics* (French and Spanish); 2) **SAMP** *Handbook on Master Sampling Frame* (into French, Spanish and Russian); 3)

SPAR *Guidelines on SPARS* (Russian); and 4) **FRAM** *Guidelines on agricultural classifications* (French translation currently underway).

Technical assistance on cost-effective methodologies at country level

Africa: A regional technical meeting was organized by AfDB in collaboration with the COMESA Secretariat in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 8 -12 June 2015. The meeting targeted relevant experts from COMESA Member States. Its purpose was to discuss and agree upon how Supply and Utilization Accounts/Food Balance Sheets (SUA/FBS) should be compiled in the region. Each of the 19 Member States of the COMESA region were represented by two experts, who were responsible for the compilation and analysis of agriculture statistics and, particularly, food balance sheets.

Asia: Following the assessment phase, countries engaged in the SPARS process have now identified their main TA needs. Such TA needs will be provided at country level in 2016 and 2017.

Regional training activities

Africa: To enhance the skills and competencies of the staff working in agencies that produce agricultural statistics in Africa, six training workshops on cost-effective methodologies for agricultural and rural statistics were organized. The workshops were conducted as follows: (i) Yaoundé, Cameroun, in July 2015; (ii) Maputo, Mozambique, in August 2015; (iii) Rabat, Morocco, in December 2015; (iv) Lusaka, Zambia in December 2015; (v) Kigali, Rwanda in December 2015; and (vi) Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in December 2015.

The main objectives of the training workshops were to provide participants with the skills and competencies necessary for producing and using as a team a master sample plan for agricultural censuses and surveys. The plan enables straightforward integration of data from various areas of statistics, including demographic statistics and other economic statistics. The meetings covered the following topics: (i) Master sample plan for agricultural statistics; (ii) Indirect sampling; (iii) Organization of agricultural censuses and surveys; (iv) Use of new technologies in agricultural statistics; and (v) Integrating agricultural surveys with other economic surveys.

The workshops also provided an opportunity to exchange information on the experiences of various African countries in conducting agricultural censuses and surveys. Over 100 national officials from the NSSs (Ministries of Agriculture and NSOs) of 40 African countries received training.

Only 6 additional scholarships were awarded in 2015. The 33 students that received their scholarships in 2013 continued their studies in 2015, however, they have yet to receive 20% of their remaining scholarships due to ECA internal administrative issues.

Asia and the Pacific : Three training courses/workshops were conducted as part of the programme on "Building Training Resources for Improving Agricultural and Rural Statistics" in 2015: (i) the Regional Course on Communication and Advocacy for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (April 2015); (ii) the Regional Workshop on Statistical Literacy: Increasing Effective Use of Agricultural and Rural Statistics (July 2015); and (iii) the Second Regional Training Course on Sampling Methods for Producing Core Data Items for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (November 2015).

RAP implementing partners (including the ADB) jointly designed and conducted the regional workshops which served to identify potential training institutes and experts to be included in the network of national training institute partners for agricultural and rural statistics.

A regional training workshop on survey sampling for agricultural and rural statistics was conducted in collaboration with BPS-Indonesia in Jakarta, Indonesia. Representatives of the following countries participated in the workshop: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Georgia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam. Furthermore, a national accounts regional workshop was conducted in collaboration with the Republic of Korea and with the participation of Bangladesh, Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam. In addition, a management seminar for heads of statistics was held in Japan in collaboration with the Government of Japan and UNSD. The participants were from the following RAP priority countries: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Fiji, Georgia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam.

In Lao PDR, the Government organized a High Level Round Table Meeting (HLRTM) with development partners to mobilize support for the implementation of its 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP). The HLRTM is supported by 10 thematic Sectoral Working Groups (SWG), which include one on Agricultural and Rural Development (SWG-ARD). The Ministry of Agriculture and Forests hosts the secretariat of the SWG-ARD. To mobilize support for SPARS implementation, GS activities in the country were presented at the SWG meeting in September 2015.

OUTPUT 5

AGRIS (Agricultural and Rural Integrated Survey)

In 2015, this research topic was approved as the new Output 5 at the 11th GSC meeting. AGRIS' overall objectives are to implement an integrated approach that may be applied to regular surveys, to enable collection of MSCD and implementation of the multipurpose surveys in the priority countries targeted by the GS. The initial work on the AGRIS methodology started in 2015. The activities were funded by the GS and will continue in 2016, in line with the prioritized AGRIS Toolkit development plan. Funds were made available for activities aimed at fully testing the core and rotation modules of AGRIS that were added to the GO's work programme.

3. Progress towards the programme's logical framework.

3.1 Progress towards the programme indicators

	Programme level				Annual achievements	Cummulative achievements	Programme level
	Programme indicator	Baseline	Target	MoV			Risk and mitigations
Output 1	Number of governance meetings organized at global and regional level	2	43 meetings (6 GSC + 12 GEB + 18 RSC + 7 coordination meetings)	Minutes of meetings	2 in Africa, 2 in A&P, 2 GSC, 1 GEB and 2 coordination meetings	7 GSC meetings and 5 GEB meetings; 3 RSC in Africa and 5 RSC in A&P and 3 coordination meetings	**Risks:** 1. Global and Regional governing bodies are not effective 2. Lack of consistency between Regional Action Plans and Global Action Plan. **Mitigation measures:** 1. Facilitate the decision making process for the governing bodies. 2. Global Office supports the development of the regional action plans
	Number of Regional action plans developed	1	5	Regional Plans	2 (CIS and LAC)	4 (Africa, A&P, CIS and LAC)	
	Number of annual consolidated narrative reports and annual and midyear financial reports submitted	0	12 annual consolidated progress report, 6 annual financial reports and 5 midyear financial reports	Annual reports	3: 1 annual narrative report, 1 financial report and 1 midyear financial report	7: 3 Narratives, 3 Financial report and 1 midyear financial report	
	Number of annual workplans endorsed by the governance of the programme	0	(6 Africa, 6 A&P, 6 LAC, 6 RNE, 6 CIS)	Annual workplans	3: 1 Africa and 1 A&P and 1 Global Office	12: 4 Africa, 4 A&P and 4 Global Office	
Output 2	Number of target countries that have improved national coordination mechanisms and statistical legislation	0	90 (40 in Africa; 20 in Asia; 20 in LAC; 5 CIS; 5 NE)	Regional and consolidated progress reports	20: 15 in Africa and 5 in A&P	26: 15 in Africa and 11 in A&P	**Risks:** 1. Lack of national political interests in setting up the institutional and organisational structures. 2. Non-functional national coordination structures. **Mitigation measures:** 1. Commitment of the countries to support the implementation. 2.Inclusion of the coordinating structures in the development plans. 3. Advocacy campaign.
	Number of target countries that have integrated agricultural and rural statistics into their NSDSs.	0	90 (40 in Africa; 20 in Asia; 20 in LAC; 5 CIS; 5 NE)	Regional and consolidated progress reports	13: 5 in Africa and 8 in A&P	14: 6 in Africa and 8 in A&P	
	Number of target countries where additional government funding is provided to support agricultural statistics.	0	90 (40 in Africa; 20 in Asia; 20 in LAC; 5 CIS; 5 NE)	CA questionnaire	3 in A&P	3 in A&P	

output 3	Number of research topics completed by the Global Office	0	30	Technical reports and minutes of SAC meeting	9	17	**Risks:** 1. Research does not respond to the priority needs of the regions. 2. delays in finalising technical guidelines **Mitigation measures:** 1. Consultation with countries to ensure relevance of research efforts 2. Build strategic partnership with specialised institutions on research activities
Output 4	Number of technical reports, guidelines and training materials developed and disseminated	0	80	progress report	17: 1 in Africa, 2 in A&P and 14 Global Office	46: 8 in Africa and 7 in A&P, 31 at Global Level (28 technical standards and guidelines and 3 training material)	**Risks:** 1. Technical difficulties at country level to apply new methods. 2. Countries and trainees are not selected on the basis of needs. 3. High turnover of trained staff. **Mitigation measures:** 1.More concerted efforts in adopting new methodologies. 2. Ensure appropriate selection and deployment of trainees. 3. Request recipients of training grant to sign an agreement for serving in the government for a minimum number of years
	Number of target countries that have adopted a minimum of 5 cost effective methods	0	90 (40 in Africa; 20 in Asia; 20 in LAC; 5 CIS; 5 NE)	CA	0 in Africa and 0 in A&P	0 in Africa and 0 in A&P	
	Number of countries producing agreed minimum set of core data of adequate quality	0	90 (40 in Africa; 20 in Asia; 20 in LAC; 5 CIS; 5 NE)	progress report	4 in Africa and 0 in A&P	4 in Africa and 2 in A&P	
	Number of target countries who have received appropriate training on the use of cost effective methods	0	90 (40 in Africa; 20 in Asia; 20 in LAC; 5 CIS; 5 NE)	progress report	21 in Africa and 0 in A&P	34 in Africa and 0 in A&P	

Output 5	AGRIS methodology developed and tested in full scale in 1 country	0	1	progress report	0	0	**Risk:** 1. Selected pilot country has technical and administrative difficulties for applying AGRIS. **Mitigation Measure** 1. Deep assessment of the selected contry prior starting the implementation

3.2 Annual consolidated activity report

	Programme level	Global Office level	Regional level	Country level	Annual achievements	Cumulative achievements
	Programme indicator	**Global Office indicators**	**Regional Level indicators**	**Country level indicators**		
Output 1	Number of governance meetings organized at global and regional level	Number of GSC meetings, GEB meetings, coordination meetings organized	Number of RSC REB meetings (or alternative governance group) organized	-	2 GSC, 1 GEB, 2 RSC in Africa, 2 RSC in A&P and 2 coordination meetings	7 GSC meetings and 5 GEB meetings; 3 RSC in Africa and 5 RSC in A&P and 3 coordination
	Number of annual Consolidated financial, narrative and activity reports submitted	Annual narrative and financial reports submitted to the GSC	Annual regional narrative and financial regional reports submitted to the Global Office	-	2: 1 annual narrative report and 1 financial report t	6: 3 Narratives, 3 Financial report
Output 2	Number of target countries that have improved national coordination mechanisms and statistical legislation	-	Number of missions to target countries to support the identification of core data	-	47 in Africa and 9 in A&P	47 in Africa and 22 in A&P
		-	Number of target countries that have improved national coordination mechanisms	←	15 in Africa and 5 in A&P	15 in Africa and 11 In Asia
		-	Number of target countries that have improved statistical legislation	←	14 in Africa	15 in Africa
	Number of target countries that have integrated agricultural and rural statistics into their NSDSs.	-	Number of workshops on SPARs organised	-	8 in Africa and 11 in A&P	9 in Africa and 23 in A&P
		-	Number of missions in countries to support the SPARS	-	17 in Africa and 14 in A&P	18 in Africa and 26 in A&P
		-	Number of target countries which have completed the SPARS	←	5 in Africa and 8 in A&P	6 in Africa and 8 in A&P
	Number of target countries where additional government funding is provided to support agricultural statistics.	-	Number of advocacy workshops organized	-	1 in Africa and 1 in A&P	1 in Africa and 4 in A&P
		-	Number of target countries where additional government funding is provided to support agricultural statistics	←	3 in A&P	3 in A&P

Output 3	Number of research topics completed by the Global Office	Number of research topics with a methodological basis prepared	-	-	7	23
		Number of expert meetings organized to discuss the research topics			9	20
		Number of research topics peer reviewed			7	21
		Number of research topics field tested.			3	19
Output 4	Number of technical reports guidelines and training materials developed and disseminated	Number of guidelines and training materials developed and disseminated	Number of syllabus, curricula and teaching materials produced	-	14 Global Office, 1 in Africa, 2 in A&P	8 in Africa and 7 in A&P, 28 technical standards and guidelines and 3 training material
	Number of target countries that have adopted a minimum of 5 cost effective methods	-	Number of backstopping missions per country on the adoption of New methodologies & data harmonization	-	8 in A&P	8 in A&P
		-	Number of workshops on cost effective methods	-	1 in Africa & 1 A &P	1 in Africa & 1 A &P
		-	Number of target countries that have adopted a minimum of 5 main cost effective methods	←	0	0
	Number of countries producing agreed minimum set of core data of adequate quality	-	Number of countries producing agreed minimum set of core data of adequate quality	←	4 in Africa	4 in Africa and 2 in A&P (that was the baseline in A&P)
	Number of target countries who have received appropriate training on the use of cost effective methods	-	Number of missions to support training development	-	15 in Africa and 1 in A&P	42 in Africa and 1 in A&P
		-	Number of scholarships provided	-	6 in Africa	39 in Africa
		-	Number of training workshops organized at regional and country level	-	7 in Africa and 6 in A&P	10 in Africa and 6 in A&P
		-	Number of target countries who have received appropriate training on the use of cost effective methods	←	21 in Africa	34 in Africa
Output 5	AGRIS methodology developed and tested in full scale in 1 country	Agris toolkit developed	-	-	0	0
		AGRIS toolkit tested at full scale in one country	-	-	0	0

4. Comments on the implementation of the Global Strategy

Progress towards the consolidated logical framework:

Output 1: The GO and the Regional Offices in Africa and Asia and the Pacific are on track for meeting the targets for number of governance meetings organized at global level and regional level, number of annual consolidated narrative and financial reports submitted and number of annual workplans endorsed by the GSC. It is noted that in 2015, the Regional Action Plans for CIS and LAC were developed and formally approved by the GSC. The Regional Action Plan for RNE is expected to be finalized and approved in 2016.

Output 2: At regional level, both Africa and Asia and the Pacific are making good progress towards the targets for the number of countries with improved national coordination mechanisms and statistical legislation. Regarding, the number of countries that have integrated SPARS into their National Strategies to Develop Statistics (NSDS), Asia has made good progress with 8 countries out of the target of 20 countries. In Africa, there have been delays owing to the recruitment of experts to assist on the SPARS development process. Currently, 6 out of 40 countries have integrated SPARS into NSDSs. In general, there is low level of additional government funding provided to support agricultural statistics in both regions. In Africa, this indicator will be estimated more accurately in the 2nd quarter of 2016 when the Light Country Assessment is conducted.

Output 3: The Global Office completed 9 research topics in 2015 and a cumulative of 17 towards the target total of 30 research topics. Delays were due to a gap in research funding and various constraints to executing pilot tests of new methodologies. With the new funds available for research and the hiring of additional experts and consultants, the GO will be able to expedite the remaining research topics for completion in 2016-2017.

Output 4: The GO published 14 technical reports, guidelines and training materials for dissemination in 2015 and a cumulative of 31. The delivery of this output will increase in 2016-2017 given the expected increase in the results of the research component (Output 3). At regional level, several training workshops were organised in Africa and Asia but no activities of technical assistance on cost-effective methodologies were conducted in 2015, therefore no target countries in either Africa or Asia have adopted a minimum of five cost-effective methods. This is regarded as a potential risk for achieving the initial implementation objectives of the GS.

Output 5: The GO expects to meet the target of developing the AGRIS methodology and testing it in 1 country in 2016-2017.

5. Key challenges and mitigation measures

5.1. Challenges

The Global Strategy's key challenges at global and regional levels can be broken down into 6 broad themes:

1) **Human Resources** – Challenges include: a) finding technical experts on niche subject areas at regional and national level; b) timely recruitment and retention of suitable staff. Furthermore, AfDB, UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) have not filled the positions initially assigned; c) limited strategic human resources planning in many African national statistical systems;

2) **Financial Resources & Resource Mobilization** – Challenges include: a) funding gaps for the under-funded regions (LAC, CIS, RNE); and b) difficulty in the transfer of funds to certain countries for completion of SPARS, e.g. countries under sanctions;

3) **Administrative Constraints** – Challenges include: a) difficult arrangements with service providers that delay field tests for the research programme; b) ECA mechanism for transfer of funds to schools for the scholarship programme in Africa being subject to delays; and c) FAO institutional constraint at global level for publishing GS documents;

4) **Transfer of Cost-Effective Methods at Regional level –** Challenges include: a) low capacities of absorption of new cost-effective methods by the regional offices; b) lack of coordination in the delivery of training (organization of activities on topics where the research has not yet been achieved) c) lack of coordination among the calendar of materials produced by the GO and the delivery of TA and Training at regional level;

5) **Excessive focus on strategic planning (SPARS)** - Regional implementing partners have put forth great efforts towards assisting countries in developing SPARS with the objective of covering all target countries by the end of the implementation period. It was also expected that countries would receive –as a priority - technical assistance on the cost-effective methodologies developed by the GO.

5.2 Mitigation measures identified by the challenges

The following measures have been taken to respond to the above mentioned challenges:

1) **Human Resources** – Mitigation measures include: a) maintaining a list of consultants that could be shared among regions; b) conducting timely recruitment of staff and urging UNECA and SIAP to fill the positions that were planned.

2) **Financial Resources & Resource Mobilization** – Mitigation measures include: a) direct support from the GO to underfunded regions for preparing regional resource mobilization meetings and conferences; b) advocacy needed to provide additional external support for SPARS and alternative means of fund transfers to countries.

3) **Administrative Constraints** – Mitigation measures include: a) limiting the set of countries for conducting field tests to reduce the operation costs; b) facilitating the registration of regional schools in the UNECA system and improving the budgetary follow-up with the schools; c) following the MTE's recommendation, requesting the GSC to take a decision concerning the GS branding. In this respect, FAO management should take into account the initial agreements related to the facilitation of administrative processes, which had been discussed by FAO and the resource partners at the inception of the programme.

4) **Transfer of Cost-Effective Methods at Regional level** – Mitigation measures include: a) better programming of regional workshops through the organisation of technical coordination meetings twice a year and support to the regional offices in the preparation/organisation of regional workshops; b) improvement of coordination in the preparation of annual workplans.

5) **Excessive focus on strategic planning (SPARS)**. – Mitigation measures include: a) updating the SPARS guidelines so as to allow countries to be more autonomous in the design phase b) preparing regional annual workplans that address technical assistance for cost-effective methods at country level as a priority.

6. Risk analysis

Risks for the programme according to the consolidated logical framework.

Output 1

Risk 1: Lack of consistency between Regional Action Plans and Global Action Plan
The current global logical framework supports consistency between the Regional Action Plans and the Global Action Plan. The GO has been actively supporting the development of regional workplans; in addition, it has also been involved in providing support to the development of Regional Action Plans in underfunded regions.

Output 2

Risk 1: Low national political interest in setting up the necessary institutional and organizational structures
Both implementing regions have organized advocacy workshops at both regional and national levels on the relevance of the GS Action Plan.

Risk 2: Non-functional national coordination structures
In Africa and in Asia, all stakeholders including the NSOs and MoAs have been involved in the relevant activities. In many countries the development of SPARS is an opportunity to get coordination structures functioning.

Output 3

Risk 1: Research does not respond to the regions' priority needs
The GO and the Regional Offices maintain regular contact with each other and hold at least two coordination meetings during the year, to ensure that the regions' priority needs are being addressed

in the research programme. The research component has been progressively adapted to the demands emerging from time to time, to include new topics such as horticultural crops, youth employment and the research lines related to the new SDG framework. Furthermore, the GO and ROs work together to translate the highest priority research publications into other languages.

Risk 2: Delays in finalizing technical guidelines
There is a medium risk with regard to the finalization of technical guidelines, due to delays in the pilot testing of new methodologies, the difficulties encountered in identifying experts, and the existence of a funding gap that affected the research programme until the end of 2015. However, the GO has established protocols: one for limiting the set of test countries to reduce the operation costs, and another for developing processes to expedite consultant processes. Now that the funding gap has been filled, the GO has hired additional consultants and experts to fast-track the completion of the research programme.

Output 4

Risk 1: A limited number of countries will receive support on cost-effective methodologies
There is a high risk of this occurring. In the first three years of implementation, excessive emphasis was placed on the SPARS process. This may be due to the fact that, the very first guidelines produced concerned precisely this topic and that several countries had noted the development of SPARS as a top priority area, particularly in Africa, (where 63 % made such a request). As a result, however, scarce progress was made on the adoption of other cost-effective methodologies at country level. With regard to Asia, priorities have been identified priorities in its target countries and should be addressed in 2016-2017. As for Africa, a specific plan on TA at country level will be developed on a case-by-case basis; the plan for delivering TA on Agricultural Cost of Production Statistics is currently being developed.

Risk 2: Countries and trainees are not selected on the basis of countries' needs
This eventuality has a low risk of materializing as countries are regularly asked to report on their needs, both through the SPARS process and the organisation of regional workshops.

Risk 3: High turnover of trained staff
There is a medium potential for this risk to occur in Africa and in Asia and the Pacific. The mitigation strategy is to train the greatest possible number of staff. For the scholarship programme, students are required to serve within their national governments for a minimum number of years after they have completed their training.

Risk 4: Lack of coordination in the provision of TA & Training
This is a low-risk factor, calendars for the release of guidelines and training material are distributed among partners and coordination meetings are regularly organized.

Output 5

Risk 1: Selected pilot country has technical and administrative difficulties in applying AGRIS
The risk of this occurring is low: the stakeholders involved are rigorous in identifying pilot countries that are available and committed to testing the AGRIS tool.

7. Next steps

1) **Implementing recommendations of Mid-Term Evaluation (Global Office)**

The MTE was conducted in 2015, at the mid-point of the Global Strategy's first phase. As the recommendations and management response have been approved by the GSC, the GO will begin to implement the recommendations.

2) **Designing Phase II of the Global Strategy (Global Office - lead; other stakeholders as required)**

As the first phase of the GS ends in 2017, the GO will assemble a task team of stakeholders at global, regional, and country levels to begin the design of Phase II.

3) **Resource Mobilization for Underfunded Regions and Countries (Global Office, Regional Offices for CIS, LAC, RNE, Countries)**

The GO will continue to provide resource mobilization support to underfunded regions through the organization of donor conferences. At country level, the partners will continue to assist countries in increasing advocacy efforts at national level to obtain additional funding that will be used to support agricultural statistics, and sustainable funding for SPARS.

4) **Technical Assistance (TA) in Asia & Pacific (FAORAP)**

In 2016, the major areas of technical assistance will be: a) finalizing and obtaining the endorsement of SPARS documents in 9 countries and drafting SPARS in another six countries; b) starting in-country work in China, Malaysia, Mongolia and Tonga; c) finalizing and obtaining endorsement for a Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics (P-SPAFS); and d) undertaking technical assistance work in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, Georgia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Samoa and Sri Lanka, as indicated in Country Proposal papers and approved by the RSC.

5) **Training in Asia & Pacific (FAORAP, UNESCAP/SIAP)**

In 2016, countries in the region will also participate in field tests of new methodologies, as well as training workshops on new methodologies and guidelines. The training activities planned for 2016 will address the IdCA outcomes related to capacity development and provide support to country proposals for training prioritized by the Regional Steering Committee. In coordination with the technical assistance component, on-demand country training will be supported with the following objectives: a) to conduct in-depth training needs assessments; b) to improve basic skills and knowledge of statistical staff engaged in agricultural and rural statistics data collection and analysis; c) to assist priority countries in assessing the applicability of the research component results and initiating their adoption; d) to train trainers to deliver courses at country level; e) to strengthen capacities to use data for policy analysis, food security and sustainable agriculture; f) to build training resources (training needs assessment tools, curricula and syllabuses, training materials, expert trainers) for strengthening the capacities of national and regional training institutions in using the tools provided and delivering training; g) to strengthen training coordination and collaboration through networking activities through regional/sub regional assessments and curriculum development, expert meetings and networking forums; h) to strengthen training coordination with counterparts in the Africa region and with the GO; (i) to conduct training related to the SDG components of agriculture; and (j) to strengthen the capacity of countries to communicate and advocate for agricultural and rural statistics through training.

6) Technical Assistance (TA) in Africa (AfDB)

TA on cost-effective methodologies at country level should be organized and considered as a priority for the continent. The SPARS process will continue in countries that have already launched the process such as Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Niger and Zambia. The remaining countries have been prioritized based on their request to implement SPARS. In addition, the light country assessment needs to be carried out to measure the performance of the project since the last or baseline country assessment, which took place in 2013. There is also the need to establish the baseline of the minimum set of core data uploaded on the website by obtaining the required data, completed and validated, from the countries. TA is also required on the use of cost-effective methods as well as the organization of workshops with countries that need technical support in specific areas. These areas could be the following: Integrated survey framework – Agricultural and Rural Integrated Survey (AGRIS); How to identify and apply appropriate sampling frames (Area sampling frame/Master sampling frame, etc.); Remote sensing; Survey Solutions – Case of Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) system; Collection and compilation of agricultural Cost of Production (CoP) data; Agriculture Census/survey analysis data; Supply Utilization Accounts and Food Balance Sheets (SUA/FBS); and Time series data reconciliation.

7) Training in Africa (UNECA, Regional Statistical Training Centres)

Training will focus on transforming the outputs of the research component into training materials and delivering training on these subjects in statistical training centres. Countries will also be encouraged to transition to more strategic human resources management when it comes to staffing the statistical systems. Both staff working in agencies that produce agricultural statistics and young statisticians will be trained to become specialists in agricultural statistics. A specialization programme will be implemented in at least 5 statistical training centres. Finally, syllabi will be developed on the same topics covered by the technical assistance and/or other topics agreed on within the research component. Training courses will also be made available for online or blended courses.

ANNEX 1

Collaboration with partners

The GS has continued to collaborate with ongoing initiatives in statistical capacity building. These projects include the following:

FAO
FAO is the lead United Nations agency responsible for setting standards and methodologies for agricultural and rural statistics, all of which contribute to the pillars of the GS. To this end, FAO has finalized the development of the guidelines of the 2020 World Programme for the Census of Agriculture, which will cover the period 2016-2025 and act as a major source of input for the MSCD (first pillar of GS) and for the integration (second pillar) of agriculture into the National Statistical System (NSS) through a master sample frame and a system of integrated agricultural censuses and surveys promoted by the GS. FAO is providing extensive technical assistance at country level through Technical Cooperation Projects that may serve to implement technical support on areas identified through the SPARS process.

For example, FAO is active in complementary activities to the GS in Asia and the Pacific. The FAO Regional Office in Bangkok (FAORAP) currently serves as the Regional Office of the GS and facilitates implementation of the GS by coordinating both formal and informal interactions with implementing partners, resource partners and key national stakeholders in the region. FAORAP has also played a catalytic role in expediting technical assistance in the region. Thus far, 15 countries in the region (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Georgia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Maldives, Myanmar, Pakistan, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam) have received TA, including the development of SPARS. FAORAP is also ensuring that sub-regional bodies, including the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Secretariat (SAARC) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), are actively engaged and updated on GS activities.

The Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)
The Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) was established at the request of the agriculture ministers of the Group of Twenty (G-20) in 2011. It serves as an inter-agency platform to enhance food market transparency and encourage coordination of policy action in response to market uncertainty. A key objective of AMIS is to build statistical capacity in participating countries. These statistical capacity building activities, including methodological development, have been mainly funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Government of Japan, and implemented by FAO in close connection with the GS research agenda. AMIS contributes to the research component of the GS by developing knowledge and methodologies in 3 areas: 1) food grain stocks (measurement framework, documentation of good practice, on-farm stocks); 2) market price information systems (data crowdsourcing, mobile app for data collection); and 3) yield forecasting (documentation of good practices). AMIS also complements GS activities through country support and technical assistance, for example, through the implementation of selected parts of the in-depth country assessments (IdCA) and SPARS. In addition, innovative methodologies of interest to the GS are being piloted in countries. These initiatives include: CAPI in Thailand, crop cutting survey in the Philippines, and price data crowdsourcing in Indonesia. The project is expected to be completed in 2016.

Japan
Japan funds the FAO project “Strengthening agricultural statistics and food security information in CARD (Coalition for African Rice Development) countries through South-South Cooperation 2013-2018”, which aims at implementing and further developing the national rice development strategies prepared or being prepared by countries, by improving agricultural statistics, particularly rice production data. The project will identify appropriate statistical methods implemented in the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, test the suitability for selected CARD countries and conduct capacity development of local institutions through in-country training and regional workshops in the design, implementation and supervision of field surveys using the selected methods. Nine countries (Benin, Cote d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal, and Uganda) are part of the project and implementation is underway. A pre-test of selected statistical methods has been conducted in Uganda and training materials have been developed based on the pre-test. Capacity building is planned for 2-3 countries per year. Thus far, pilot field surveys have been implemented in

Uganda (with training from Indonesia) and Benin (with training from Philippines). The Global Office is working closely with CARD management to ensure that methodological developments can be disseminated through the GS and made available to a large number of countries, possibly through joint publications.

USA

The U.S. continues to play an active role in technical assistance that is aligned with the activities of the GS. The U.S. Department of Agriculture/National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA-NASS) has been delivering technical assistance in agricultural and rural statistics through capacity development, data collection, and information system building and management in 5 countries: Armenia, Georgia, Haiti, Rwanda, and Tanzania. Joint missions have been organized with the GO in some of these countries. In addition, the Agency for International Development (USAID) will be a significant contributor to the implementation of the Agricultural Integrated Survey (AGRIS) in four pilot countries, project starting in 2016.

European Commission (EC)

The EC is funding USD10 million for the Africa Action Plan, which is included in the framework of the GS activities. The Action Plan is currently being implemented by the African Development Bank (AfDB) for Technical Assistance and UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) for Training. These activities are aligned with the main pillars and complement the objectives of the GS in the Africa region. Furthermore, the EC contribution completes the total budget of funding for GS activities for 2012-2017 in Africa. The GO supports the Regional Office in Africa by ensuring that activities are implemented in a harmonized manner through the two different sources of funding (Global Trust Fund and EU).

World Bank (WB)

The WB has supported and collaborated with the GS at regional level and on the research component. At regional level, the World Bank has provided a USD 500,000 grant to the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CISSTAT) for the project "Development of Agricultural and Rural Statistics in the CIS Region." The project has been designed in the framework of the GS and will therefore contribute to its overall objectives. In 2015, CISSTAT finalized and presented the Regional Action Plan for the CIS region, which was approved at the 11th GSC Meeting of the GS. The WB is also actively contributing to the research component of the GS, including the development of Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) for data collection, which has been piloted in Tanzania. In addition, the LSMS team of the World Bank is carrying out research on improving methodologies for food consumption measurement. Finally, research is being conducted on methods for estimating yield of root crops and a technical report was produced in 2015.

Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)

The IADB continues to play an important role in statistical capacity building in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region. IADB has provided a grant for a total of USD 1,150,000 over three years to implement activities of the project "Development of a methodology for the implementation of agricultural statistical systems in Latin America and the Caribbean". This project also falls under the GS umbrella.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

The ADB has implemented activities in support of the GS through two major projects: 1) Regional Policy and Advisory Technical Assistance (R-PATA) 8029; and 2) Regional Capacity Development Technical Assistance (R-CDTA) 8369. R-PATA was completed in 2015 and provided five countries (Bhutan, Lao PDR, Philippines, Maldives, and Viet Nam) with technical assistance (country action plans and methodological studies), training, and advocacy. Methodological studies and pilots were undertaken in Bhutan (comparative analysis of rural and urban households, sampling design), Lao PDR (examining existing agricultural data sources, administrative reporting system), Philippines (satellite imagery for land use statistics), and Viet Nam (probability sample survey including livestock). Six methodological papers were completed and were published as a compendium:

- Examining the Available Data Sources for Agriculture Statistics in Bhutan
- Comparative Analysis of the Socioeconomic and Demographic Characteristics of Rural and Urban Households, Bhutan Living Standards Survey, 2003, 2007, and 2012
- Examining the Existing Agriculture Data Sources in Lao PDR
- Improving Administrative Reporting System for Agriculture in Lao PDR
- Adoption of Agricultural Land Information System in the Philippines (ALIS) for Agricultural Area Estimation

- Designing a Livestock Production Probability Survey in Viet Nam

R-CDATA has been supporting four countries (Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam) to pilot emerging technologies and tools such as remote sensing for the estimation of rice area and production. This work has been carried out in conjunction with Japan (Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) and will be completed in 2016. Four training programmes have been conducted under the TA for counterpart staff in the four pilot countries.

- Training on Basic Remote Sensing Concepts and Use of the International Asian Harvest Monitoring System for Rice (INAHOR) Software
- Training on QGIS and the Modified INAHOR Software
- Training on Crop Cutting survey for rice utilizing area sampling frame approach
- Training on Farmer Recall survey for rice

Annex 2: Support to agricultural statistics in 2015: an overview

This work is a first attempt to capture support provided to agricultural and rural statistics to the best of the Global Office knowledge. The data provided in this report was taken from reliable sources (Annex A) and assumed to be valid.

Introduction

The Global Office (GO) of the Global Strategy to improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (GS) conducted a comprehensive exercise to capture all projects related to agricultural and rural statistics that took place during 2015. The results of this exercise should enable stakeholders to better understand the current state of statistical capacity in agriculture, rural development and food security at global, regional, and country levels. In addition, it is envisaged that resource partners and implementers will be able to improve coordination, reduce duplication, align activities with institutional strategies and, ultimately, enhance country level activities.

Methodology

The GO compiled the list of projects from recognized sources of information on agriculture, food security, rural development, and statistical capacity-building. These sources include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Field Project Management Information System (FPMIS), the Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS) produced by PARIS21, multilateral agencies, regional development banks, and bilateral government agencies.[1]

Projects include activities related to agriculture, food security, and rural statistics in the form of methodological research, technical assistance, training, census/survey and data collection, monitoring and information systems, etc. For each project, the following data was captured: recipient country (or countries), resource partner(s), implementation partner(s), project title, budget, project start and end dates, project type, and whether the activities took place at the global, regional and/or national level. All projects that took place during 2015 were included.

Measuring financial support entails various methodological challenges and financial figures must be interpreted with these challenges in mind. For multi-year projects, the budget for the entire lifecycle of a project was included into the grand budget total for all projects. For multi-country projects, where possible, specific amounts were identified for a specific country (e.g. LSMS-ISA). In some cases, it was not possible to identify the exact amount of money allocated to a specific country; an average was therefore computed based on the number of countries served within a project (e.g. CountrySTAT).

In addition, it should be noted that many of the projects were designed specifically for agricultural statistics, especially those implemented by FAO for preparing and supporting an agricultural census. However, some of the projects in the dataset fall under projects with much broader scopes, for example the projects in the field of food security information systems. These may be, for example, comprehensive agricultural projects (not limited to statistics) or statistical capacity building projects (not limited to agriculture) that contain agricultural statistics activities. Where possible, relevant agricultural statistics activities within these larger projects and their associated 2015 budgets were identified, but the GO acknowledges that there may be an upward bias in financial figures due to the broad scope of these projects (e.g. EU food security projects in Sudan and Yemen).[2]

To the GO's knowledge, marginal amounts of agricultural statistics activities may not have been included in this dataset.[3] Furthermore, in five cases, countries were self-financed but the projects were implemented by

[1] See Annex A for a full list.
[2] This potential upward bias is acknowledged in the sources referenced in Annex A.
[3] These include the World Bank's Statistics for Results Facility (SRF) and STATCAP; and, one Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) project in Lao PDR.

FAO. These five projects and budgets were excluded from the results tables because there was no flow of external funding; however, they are included on the map of projects implemented by FAO.[4]

Concepts used

Projects were classified according to **three geographic levels:**

- Global – a project covering multiple regions, and in which the designation of funds to a specific region or country is not clear; this category also includes projects that contain activities at global level, e.g. global public goods (cost-effective methods, research, and standards, etc.).

- Regional – a project covering multiple countries within a region and in which the designation of funds to a specific country is not clear; this also includes projects that contain activities at a regional level, e.g. cost-effective methods, research, and standards. The designated regions are: Africa (AF), Asia and the Pacific (A&P), Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and the Near East (NE).

- National – a project that is designated for a specific country

Projects were identified by **three types:**

- Capacity Development – projects that include methodological standards, research, cost-effective methods, technical assistance, and training

- Data Collection – projects that include activities such as support to and preparation, and collection of agricultural censuses and surveys in a country

- Information System– projects that include the building, support, and maintenance of an information system or information technology in a country; also, a platform that enables monitoring, evaluation, surveillance, knowledge sharing; and/or measuring food insecurity

[4] See Figure 2. Country-level funding from the 4 main implementing partners (estimated flow in 2015)

Results

Total support to agricultural statistics[5]

In 2015, **106 active agricultural statistics projects were** identified for a total amount of **USD 311,208,826**. As mentioned in the methodology, the total amount reflects the amount of the entire lifecycle of a project, as long as it was active during any period in 2015. Table 1 below breaks down these projects by type and amount.

Table 1.Total projects by project type and amount

Project Type	No. of Projects	% of Projects	Amount (USD)	% of Total Amount
Capacity Development	46	43.4	137,695,953	44.2
Data Collection	35	33.0	89,076,101	28.6
Information System	25	23.6	84,436,772	27.2
Total	**106**	**100.0**	**311,208,826**	**100.0**

Support by geography

In 2015, more than 40% of the number of projects and total amount was allocated to the Africa region. The lowest amounts were allocated to the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Near East regions.

Table 2. Total projects, by geography and amount

Region	No. of Projects	% of Projects	Amount (USD)	% of Total Amount
Africa (AF)	47	44.3	131,847,200	42,4
Asia and Pacific (A&P)	25	23.5	53,767,609	17.3
Comm. of Indep. States (CIS)	6	7.7	4,882,046	1.6
Latin America/ Caribbean (LAC)	15	14.2	25,040,814	8.0
Near East (NE)	2	1.9	12,766,134	4.1
Global*	11	10.4	82,905,023	26.6
Total	**106**	**100.0**	**311,208,826**	**100.0**

*Includes projects allocated to multiple regions containing global level activities (e.g. AMIS, Global Strategy).

[5] These conclusions are based on the information obtained from the sources listed in Annex A

Support by resource partner

Table 3 below lists the resource partners that have provided support in agricultural statistics projects active in 2015.

Table 3. Support by resource partners for projects active in 2015[6]

	Resource Partner	Amount (USD)
1	European Union (EU)	92,960,630
2	Gates Foundation	67,768,279
3	UK	40,132,513
4	USA	29,630,078
5	FAO	19,268,169
6	Inter-American Dev. Bank (IADB)	16,150,000
7	Japan	9,725,869
8	World Bank	7,701,823
9	Germany	5,235,598
10	Norway	4,992,274
11	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	2,500,000
12	World Food Programme (WFP)	2,272,606
13	Italy	2,211,577
14	Belgium	1,800,000
15	Sweden	1,425,000
16	African Development Bank (AfDB)	1,199,733
17	Australia	900,000
18	Romania	669,344
19	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	527,314
20	Ireland	457,016
21	Netherlands	445,994
22	France	400,000
23	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)	316,388
24	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)	260,000
25	Turkey	247,500
26	United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)	246,080
27	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)	207,340
28	Denmark	122,237
29	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	79,094
30	Stanford	35,154
31	World Agroforestry Center	35,154
32	United Nations Development Fund (UNDP)	19,000

[6] These conclusions are based on the information obtained from the sources listed in Annex A

Support to countries[7]

In 2015, 87 countries received support on agricultural statistics activities for a total amount of USD 199,101,877. [8] . Table 4 below lists the countries receiving more than 1 million USD and the number of resource partners contributing to each country. Furthermore, the table shows the percentage of the country allocation amounts assigned to each country.[9] As noted in the Methodology, the total amount for multi-year projects are included.

Table 4. The 31 countries receiving over USD 1million and number of resource partners

	Country	Region	No. of Resource Partners	Amount(USD)	% of Country Allocation Amount
1	Peru	LAC	3	15,554,867	7.8
2	South Sudan	AF	2	12,993,127	6.5
3	Tanzania	AF	10	12,766,939	6.4
4	Yemen	A&P	1	11,805,805	5.9
5	Sudan	AF	2	10,853,088	5.5
6	Afghanistan	A&P	3	8,789,887	4.4
7	Malawi	AF	5	8,748,477	4.4
8	Nigeria	AF	5	8,675,060	4.4
9	Cote d'Ivoire	AF	4	7,993,735	4.0
10	Bangladesh	A&P	4	7,973,022	4.0
11	Papua New Guinea	A&P	2	7,029,778	3.5
12	Chile	LAC	2	6,584,551	3.3
13	Ethiopia	AF	3	6,102,439	3.1
14	Somalia	AF	2	6,060,674	3.0
15	Chad	AF	3	5,860,796	2.9
16	Nepal	A&P	2	5,497,692	2.8
17	Mali	AF	4	4,516,682	2.3
18	Cambodia	A&P	4	3,956,250	2.0
19	Georgia	A&P	2	3,884,750	2.0
20	Burundi	AF	3	3,566,865	1.8
21	Tajikistan	CIS	4	2,991,218	1.5
22	Pakistan	A&P	3	2,608,932	1.3
23	Niger	AF	4	2,317,041	1.2
24	Cabo Verde	AF	2	2,142,938	1.1
25	Philippines	A&P	4	1,834,466	0.9
26	Rwanda	AF	4	1,378,287	0.7
27	Ghana	AF	4	1,374,489	0.7
28	Thailand	A&P	3	1,293,466	0.7
29	Lao PDR	A&P	4	1,130,867	0.6
30	Senegal	AF	3	1,023,122	0.5
31	Armenia	CIS	3	1,019,000	0.5

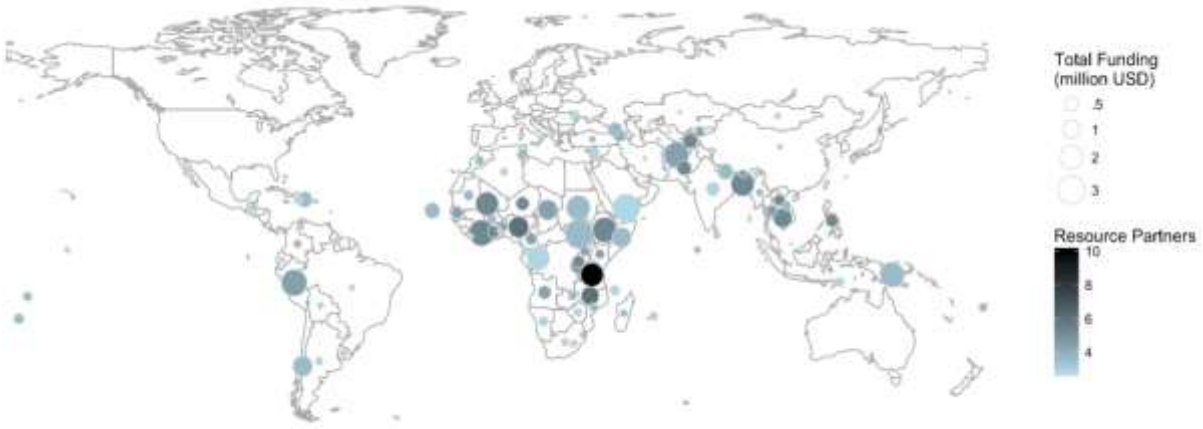
[7] These conclusions are based on the information obtained from the sources listed in Annex A

[8] This does not include overall statistical projects for which it was not possible to measure the exact amounts allocated to agricultural statistics: Bolivia (World Bank), Indonesia (World Bank), Kazakhstan (World Bank), Lao PDR (KOICA), and Rwanda (World Bank).

[9] See Annex B for a full list of countries, amounts, and number of resource partners.

The map in Figure 1 below shows the support received by each country in 2015 and the related number of resource partners. It should be noted, that for projects with multi-year life cycles, only the estimated amount spent in 2015 was taken into account. Support was highly concentrated towards countries within or bordering the Sahel region of Africa. In addition, large amounts were also received by Yemen, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Peru. The country with the highest number of resource partners in 2015 was the United Republic of Tanzania, which had 10 resource partners - twice as many as the next highest number of resource partners in other countries.

Figure 1. Support at country level and number of resource partners (estimated flow in 2015).



Country-level implementation by implementing partners in 2015

Table 4 below shows the 10 implementing partners in the field of agricultural statistics at country level and the number of countries in which they operate. It may be seen that FAO is the major implementing partner in agricultural statistics at country level (64% of the total of country-based projects) and is present in 87 countries while other implementing partners directly cover between 1 and 6 countries.

Table 4. Implementation partners at country level, amounts and number of countries covered in 2015[10]

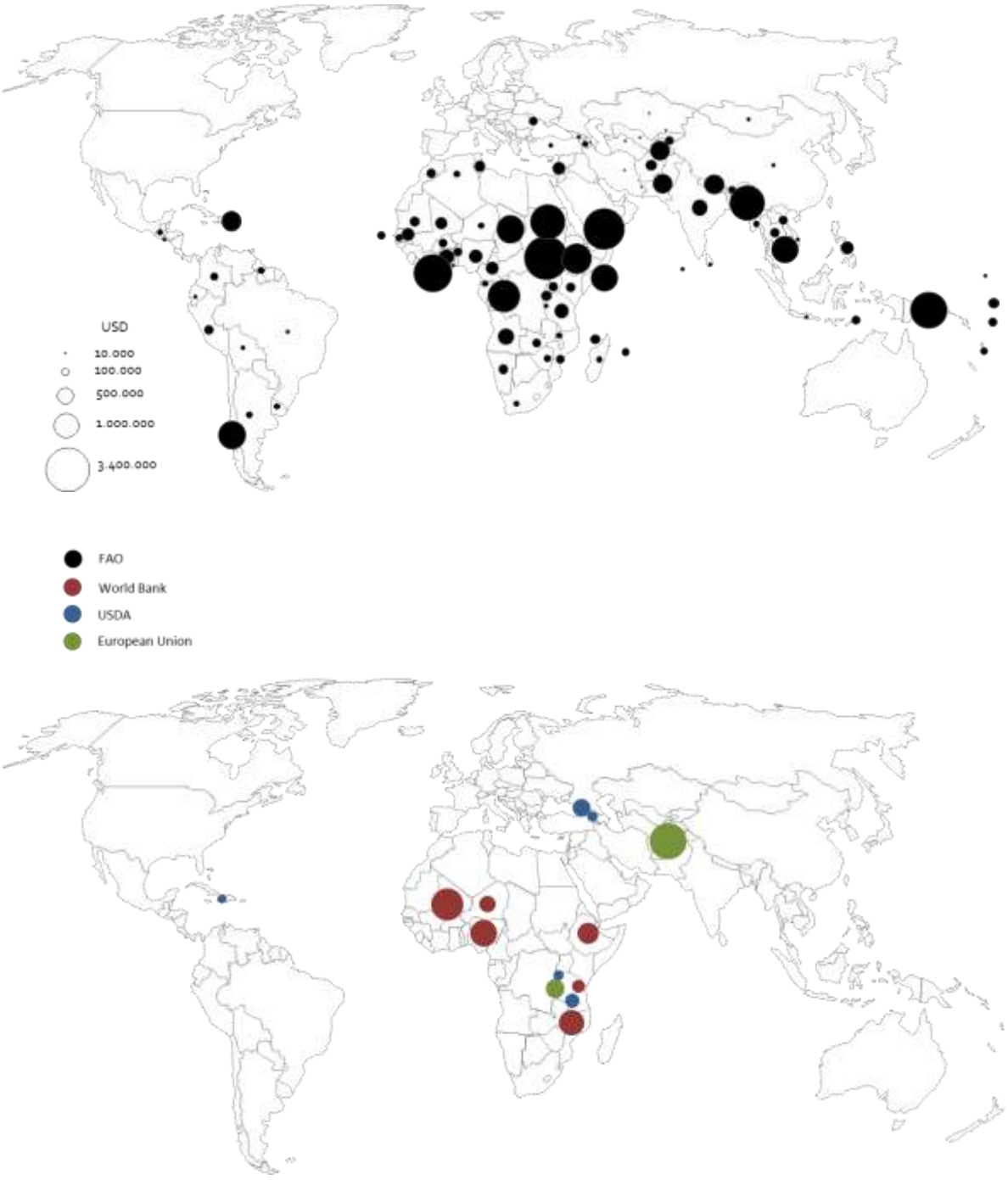
	Implementer	Total Amount (USD)	Number of countries
1	FAO	137,586,984	87
2	World Bank	28,232,913	6
3	Inter-American development	15,000,000	1
4	EU	10,984,608	2
5	USA	10,082,264	5
6	Japan	5,000,000	1
7	WFP	2,711,346	1
8	ADB	2,500,000	6
9	AfDB	1,670,938	1
10	Netherlands	445,994	1

The two maps in Figure 2 below illustrate the implementation of projects by the top four implementation partners: FAO (first map), the WB, the EU, and USDA. The circles represent the amounts allocated to each

[10] These conclusions are based on the information obtained from the sources included in Annex A.

country in 2015 (same scale used for the two maps). In 2015, **FAO** implemented projects in 87 countries in all five major regions with investment amounts ranging from USD11,000 to USD3.4 million in South Sudan. The **WB** implemented projects in six countries with investment amounts ranging from USD300,000 to USD1.8 million, all in Sub-Saharan Africa; **the European Union** implemented projects in two countries with investment amounts of approximately USD600,000 in Burundi and USD2.25 million in Afghanistan; and **USDA** implemented projects in five countries in four regions with investment amounts ranging from approximately USD136,000 in Haiti to approximately USD560,000 in Georgia.

Figure 2. Country-level funding from the 4 main implementing partners (estimated flow in 2015).

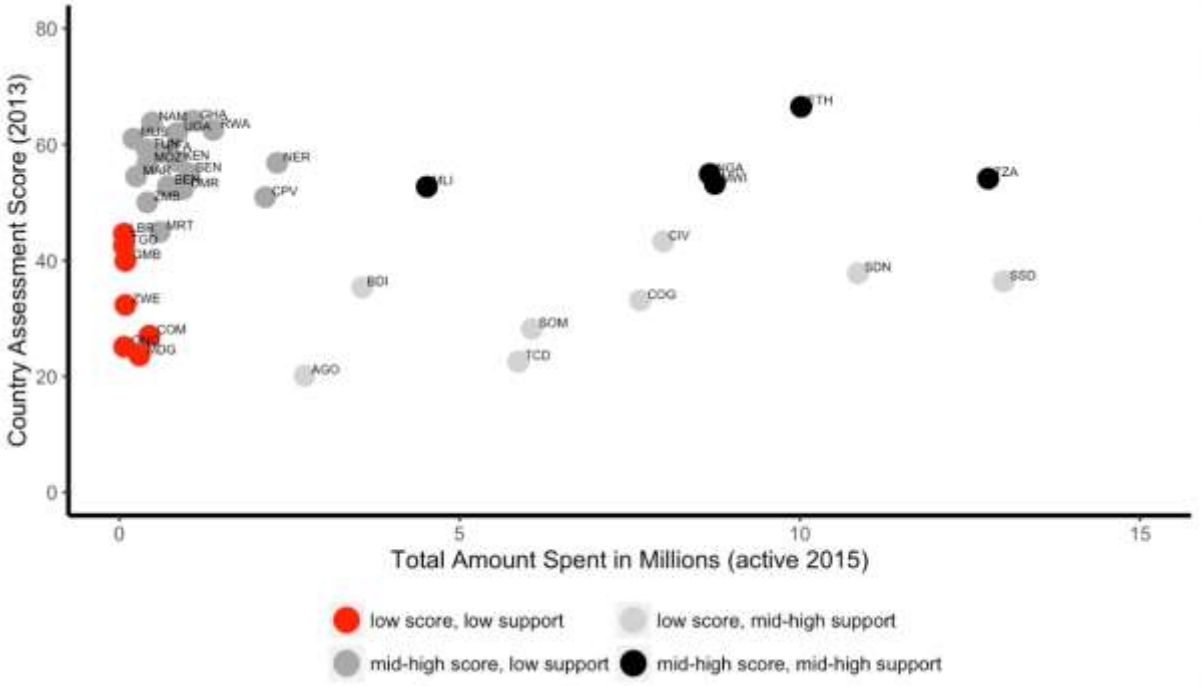


Measuring country capacity vs. country-level investment (example of Africa)

In 2013, the African Development Bank (AfDB) conducted a comprehensive exercise in 52 African countries to measure the needs of each country by compiling an Agricultural Statistics Capacity Indicator (ASCI). Each country received an ASCI or "country assessment" score. A higher ASCI score signals a higher level of statistical capacity, and vice versa. The GO compared the country assessment score of each country (identified by ISO country code in Figure 3 below) to the total amounts received.

Figure 3 indicates that there is no relationship between the amount of foreign spending and ASCI score. This signals that foreign funds are not channeled where they are needed most.

Figure 3. Country assessment score (Need) vs. Total amount spent (Investment).



ANNEX A: Information Sources

- PARIS21 PRESS Report and Contacts
- FAO Field Project Management Information System (FPMIS) and Contacts
- European Union/European Commission Websites and Contacts
- World Bank Websites and Contacts
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Contacts
- African Development Bank (AfDB) Contacts
- Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Contacts
- Global Strategy Reports (Governance Reports and Mid-Term Evaluation)
- Websites of other Resource Partners: Asian Development Bank (ADB), Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

ANNEX B
List of countries receiving support and number of resource partners

1	Peru	15,554,867	3
2	South Sudan	12,993,127	2
3	Tanzania, United Republic of	12,766,939	10
4	Yemen	11,805,805	1
5	Sudan	10,853,088	2
6	Afghanistan	8,789,887	3
7	Malawi	8,748,477	5
8	Nigeria	8,675,060	5
9	Cote d'Ivoire	7,993,735	4
10	Bangladesh	7,973,022	4
11	Papua New Guinea	7,029,778	2
12	Chile	6,584,551	2
13	Ethiopia	6,102,439	3
14	Somalia	6,060,674	2
15	Chad	5,860,796	3
16	Nepal	5,497,692	2
17	Mali	4,516,682	4
18	Cambodia	3,956,250	4
19	Georgia	3,884,750	2
20	Burundi	3,566,865	3
21	Tajikistan	2,991,218	4
22	Pakistan	2,608,932	3
23	Niger	2,317,041	4
24	Cabo Verde	2,142,938	2
25	Philippines	1,834,466	4
26	Rwanda	1,378,287	4
27	Ghana	1,374,489	4
28	Thailand	1,293,466	3
29	Lao PDR	1,130,867	4
30	Senegal	1,023,122	3
31	Armenia	1,019,000	3
32	Cameroon	937,273	3
33	India	884,374	1
34	Lebanon	870,329	1
35	Kenya	846,122	3
36	Uganda	846,122	3
37	Haiti	819,264	1
38	Angola	802,436	2
39	Viet Nam	765,000	2
40	Benin	711,622	3
41	Dominican Republic	700,324	2
42	Mozambique	698,473	2
43	Zambia	698,473	2
44	Tunisia	691,867	2
45	Moldova, Republic of	669,344	1
46	Burkina Faso	607,982	2
47	Mauritania	591,375	2
48	Morocco	535,867	2
49	Bhutan	514,617	3
50	Kyrgyzstan	511,516	3
51	Namibia	478,000	1
52	Samoa	474,750	2
53	Tonga	469,750	2
54	Timor-Leste	467,651	1
55	Comoros	438,477	1
56	Colombia	408,867	2

57	Fiji	340,750	2
58	Madagascar	292,982	2
59	Algeria	290,867	1
60	Argentina	290,867	1
61	South Africa	290,867	1
62	Uruguay	290,867	1
63	Myanmar	281,250	2
64	Maldives	223,750	2
65	Mauritius	204,000	1
66	Guatemala	188,000	1
67	Guyana	170,889	1
68	Indonesia	165,000	1
69	Mongolia	165,000	1
70	Sri Lanka	165,000	1
71	China	123,750	1
72	Gambia	86,667	1
73	Zimbabwe	86,667	1
74	Equatorial Guinea	70,188	1
75	Kiribati	69,284	1
76	Liberia	65,500	1
77	Togo	65,500	1
78	Ecuador	54,948	1
79	El Salvador	53,390	1
80	Brazil	47,114	1
81	Bolivia	41,201	1
82	Azerbaijan	34,900	1
83	Iran, Islamic Republic of	34,900	1
84	Kazakhstan	34,900	1
85	Turkey	34,900	1
86	Turkmenistan	34,900	1
87	Uzbekistan	34,900	1