Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

SDG Indicator 2.4.1 – Short, medium and long term expectations

Virtual Training (September–October 2020)

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SDG 2.4.1 – WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR

1. **Methodological front**

2. **Capacity development**

3. **Country data collection**

4. **Reporting to FAO**

METHODOLOGICAL FRONT

- The farm level approach around which the methodology has been developed was approved and endorsed by IAEG-SDG in Nov 2018; in this respect:

  - 3 expert group meetings, regular presentations at SAC of GSARS, online global consultations and webinars with IAEG-SDG members

  - Several rounds of testing:

    - Desk tests in Bangladesh, Kyrgyzstan, Ecuador, Belgium and Rwanda

    - Cognitive tests in Kenya, Mexico and Bangladesh

    - Field test of the survey questionnaire in Bangladesh

    - FAO data collection questionnaire tested in 45 countries

- All background documents have been finalized and uploaded to FAO SDG portal

  - Methodological note, Survey questionnaire, Sampling design ,Enumerator Manual, Calculation procedure and etc.

ADVOCACY AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT UNDERTAKEN – 46 COUNTRIES IN 2019

- Presented at AFCAS (2017), FAO Committee on Agriculture (2018), Brussels Briefings (2019) and ICAS – India (2019)

- Bilateral trainings (2019): Bangladesh, Viet Nam and Oman

- Trained 10 African countries in collaboration with UNECA and Ethiopian MOA (2019): Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia

- 17 countries from Asia and North Africa (2019): Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Sudan, Angola, Cameroon, Nigeria, Namibia, Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Mali, Burkina Faso and Zambia from 7-10 October 2019.

- 18 countries from Asia and Pacific (2019): Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam

ADVOCACY AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN THE PIPELINE FOR THIS YEAR

In 2020:

- 3 days Virtual Trainings group 1: Afghanistan, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan and Viet Nam from 8 to 10 September 2020

- 3 days Virtual Trainings group 2: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela from 22 to 24 September 2020

- 3 days Virtual Trainings group 3: Armenia, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Mali, Norway, Oman, Russian Federation, South Africa, Uganda, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates from 13 to 15 October 2020

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Already completed:

- E-learning courses

- Translation of key documents (Arabic, Spanish and French)

- Took advantage of country missions of in-house colleagues to raise SDG 241 awareness, confirm information on national Focal Points and assess national data availability

In 2021:

- Continue virtual trainings amidst COVID-19 and as well provide in-person trainings on SDG 2.4.1

- Translate all documents (including e-learning) in all 6 official UN languages

- Develop digital lectures on SDG 2.4.1

COUNTRY DATA COLLECTION FOR REPORTING TO UNSD IN 2022

- FAO data collection questionnaire and reporting protocols developed

2020:

- Dec 2019 to April 2020 - Questionnaire tested in 45 countries
- Aug 2020: Comprehensive global dispatch carried out
- Sep-Nov 2020: 2020 Data collection, analysis, gap filling, QA/QC processes;
- Dec 2020: Draft Analysis and finalization for UNSD Reporting (this year reporting to UNSD will be conditional on sufficient data being reported by countries to prepare storylines and construct global and regional aggregate and trends)

2021:

- Jan-Jul 2021: Preparation of and dispatch to countries
- Jul-Nov 2021: Data collection, analysis, gap filling, QA/QC processes
- Dec 2021: Draft Analysis and finalization for UNSD Reporting

REPORTING EXPECTATIONS FOR 2020-21

- Low response rates to the 2019 SDG 241 pilot dispatch were both expected and indicative, showing the complexity of the indicator and lack of data

Short term:

- Reporting on partial dashboard of SDG 2.4.1 based on the farm level data for us to report to UNSD

Medium to long term:

- Develop alternative data collection methods as a practical solution to enable and improve reporting on SDG 2.4.1

- In parallel, continuous outreach and capacity development support to countries in close coordination with the 50X2030 programme to collect and analyse detailed farm-level data for SDG 2.4.1 monitoring

USE OF ALTERNATIVE DATA SOURCES

No.	Sub-indicators	Admin data	Ag/livestock census	Ag surveys	Env. monitoring systems	GIS/remote sensing	Household surveys	Other
1	Farm output value per hectare		X	X		X	X	X
2	Net farm income		X	X			X	
3	Risk mitigation mechanisms	X		X			X	X
4	Prevalence of soil degradation			X	X	X		
5	Variation in water availability	X		X	X	X		X
6	Management of fertilizers	X		X	X	X		
7	Management of pesticides	X		X	X			X
8	Use of biodiversity-supportive practices			X	X	X		
9	Wage rate in agriculture	X		X			X	X
10	Food insecurity experience scale (FIES)			X			X	X
11	Secure tenure rights to land	X		X			X	

Note: Environmental monitoring systems include soil sampling, river flows records, and groundwater abstraction records. GIS/RS includes models.

ALTERNATIVE DATA SOURCES - CHALLENGES

In general, alternative sources vary widely due to:

- Different objectives, scale of assessment, scope and definitions

- Temporal resolutions and periodicity of the data sets

- Sampling issues (differences in design, size, under and/or non-coverage of agriculture holdings)

- Different unit of measurement

- Association of the results with agricultural land area

- Adjusting and harmonizing different baselines across different countries

- Integrating data from different data sources is typically complicated due to lack mechanism for coordination

ALTERNATIVE DATA SOURCES – CONSIDERATIONS BEFORE ITS USE FOR 2.4.1

- Alternative source gives results of at least same quality as the surveys

- Can be attributed to agricultural land area in the country, considering different farm typologies and agricultural regions;

- Can be associated with the country's agricultural productions systems, particularly crops, livestock and a mix of both;

- Capture the same aspect/phenomenon as the proposed farm survey ;

- Are representative of the situation at the national level (with respect to agricultural land area);

- Are compliant with international/national standards and classifications systems in order to ensure the indicator to be internationally comparable.

STREAM OF WORK ON ALTERNATIVE DATA SOURCES

- Oct-Dec 2020: Explore the use of remote sensing information for reporting on selected sub-indicators of SDG 2.4.1

- Jan-Mar 2021: Expand the efforts to include other data sources for reporting on selected sub-indicators. Draft field test protocols document and select test countries for comparing the EO data with farm survey

- Apr-June 2021: Testing and data analysis for triangulating the farm survey and EO data

- July-Aug 2021: Draft guidelines on how EO and other data sources can be used to report on SDG 2.4.1

- Oct-Dec 2021: Finalize the guidelines for dissemination to countries

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Do you think assessment of sustainable agriculture using 2.4.1 framework will support your national policy making?

- To what extent your country is ready to report on the SDG 2.4.1 based on the current farm survey approach?

- What alternative data sources do you envision that can be used to report on the respective 11 sub-indicators of SDG 2.4.1?

- Are you currently using any framework to report on sustainable agriculture? If yes, can these on going processes help feed into 2.4.1?

- What proxies can be used in the interim period for reporting on sustainable agriculture while countries are getting organized to implement and operationalize SDG 2.4.1 methodology?

- What are the constraints that inhibit your country to report on SDG 2.4.1. in the short term (given the current state of agriculture statistical system)? How are you planning on overcoming these challenges in the medium to long term?

- What do you expect from FAO in terms of further support to help you improve the reporting on 2.4.1?

SDG 2.4.1 – NEXT STEPS

1. Participants are requested to fill in the stocktaking excel sheet that was shared, this will help assess the data gaps in your agriculture statistical system vis-à-vis requirement of SDG 2.4.1

2. Respond to the FAO 2020 data collection questionnaire by filling it in using available data (due for 30 Sept 2020)

3. Prepare a two to three page action plan that detail the implementation of and reporting on 2.4.1:

    • Isolate and identify the constraints that inhibit reporting on the entire dashboard

    • What action will you take and by when for your country to be able to collect data on SDG 2.4.1 and report it to FAO

THANK YOU

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