



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY, AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL STATISTICS
(UN-CEAG)
(2nd Meeting)**

Virtual Meeting

Friday, February 19th, 2021 - 9.00 AM – 12.00 PM (New York/EST time)

Introduction

The **Committee of Experts on food security, agricultural and rural statistics** (formerly known as the Inter-Agency Expert Group on food security, agricultural and rural statistics) aims to **develop and document good practices and guidelines on concepts, methods and statistical standards for food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development statistics**. As such, the Committee has also the mandate to **provide overall vision, coordination, prioritization and direction** for the development of this statistical field and **ensure its complementarity and integration** in other relevant economic, social and environmental statistical framework. This Committee, formed by experts from national statistical offices, ministries of agriculture and international organizations, was created under the umbrella of the UN Statistical Commission at its [43rd session](#) in 2012.

The **Programme of Work (2020-23)** of the Committee was endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission at its [51st session](#) and focuses on four activities: (i) the development of national data quality assurance frameworks for agricultural statistics, (ii) the development of methods and standards for the use of alternative data sources in producing food and agricultural statistics at the national and international levels, (iii) the development of innovative methods for producing real-time statistics at the country level, and (iv) conducting methodological research in the domain of food security statistics to further improve their relevance and accuracy.

As of February 2021, **three task-teams** were created to carry out substantive work on the following topics: 1) Food security and food consumption measurement; and 2) National Quality Assurance Framework for Agricultural Statistics and 3) the Use of Earth Observation data for Agricultural Statistics. For the latter, the Committee's contribution to the development of methods for the Use of Earth Observation data for Agricultural Statistics has been organized through a joint task team composed of members of the UN-CEAG and of the task team on Satellite Imagery and Geo-Spatial Data for agricultural statistics under the umbrella of the [Global Working Group on Big Data](#) for official statistics.

This meeting is the second one since the adoption of UN-CEAG Programme of work (2020-23). Its objective is to:

- discuss progress in the implementation of the work programme;
- provide comments and direction on the activities and outputs of the various task teams and agree on the proposed consultations mechanisms and timelines;
- learn more about initiatives relevant to UN-CEAG's mandate in other UN groups and agree on coordination mechanisms as necessary;
- discuss next UN-CEAG meetings.

PROPOSED MEETING AGENDA

Chair: Susana Patricia PEREZ CADENA, Deputy Director General of Economic and Agricultural Censuses, National Institute of Statistics and Geography, Mexico

9:00-9:10

Introduction

- Welcoming remarks
- Objective of the meeting
- Adoption of the agenda

ITEM 1

9:10-11:15

Updates from the UN-CEAG task teams

9:10-10:05

a) Task team on methodological improvement of food consumption and food security statistics – Chair: Ms Ellen Cathrine Kiøsterud (Statistics Norway)

- *Five projects to improve food security monitoring* – Ms Ellen Cathrine Kiøsterud (Statistics Norway)
- *Zoom-in on project 5: Guideline on processing food consumption data from HCES* - Ms Astrid Mathiassen (Statistics Norway)

Questions/Discussions

- Intervention from Mr Ashutosh Ojha / Mr Sanjay Kumar Pant on the activities conducted by MoSPI (India) with FAO support
- *Zoom-in on project 4: The current status of FIES use worldwide: moving beyond SDG monitoring* - Mr Carlo Cafiero (FAO)

Questions/Discussions

10:05-10:35

b) Task team on data quality standards and assessment framework for key food and agricultural data - Chair: Mr Kadarmanto (BPS - Indonesia)

- *Phase 1) Develop draft NQAF through a comprehensive literature review* – Mr Gary Jones (FAO)

Questions/Discussions

10:35-11:15

c) Joint task team on Use of Earth Observation data for agriculture statistics - Chair: Ms Alice Born (Statistics Canada) and Mr José Luis Escobar Gonzales (INEGI-Mexico)

- *Use of Earth Observation data for crop yield and crop area estimates, land cover mapping and data disaggregation* – Mr Gordon Reichert (Statistics Canada)

ITEM 2

11:15-11:45

Questions/Discussions

Updates on initiatives relevant to UN-CEAG's mandate in other UN groups

- Committee of Experts on National Accounts (Ms Carola Fabi, FAO)
- Committee of Experts on International Classifications (Ms Carola Fabi, FAO)
- Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics (Mr Dominique Habimana, FAO)
- Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (Mr Francesco Tubiello, FAO)
- UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) (Mr Lorenzo De Simone)
- Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (Mr Lorenzo De Simone)
- Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (Mr Lorenzo De Simone)
- Inter-Secretariat Working Group on household surveys (Mr Pietro Gennari)

ITEM 3

11:45-11:50

Questions/Discussions

ITEM 4

11:50-12:00

Next UN-CEAG Meetings - Mr Pietro Gennari (FAO)

Questions/Discussions

AOB

12:00

Closing of the Meeting
