



Global Strategy

IMPROVING AG-STATISTICS

ASIA PACIFIC REGION



Coordination Issues and FAO Experience in Integration: Best Country Practices

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Presentation outline

- *Experience of data Integration in FAO*
- *Linking PHC and Agriculture census*
- *FAO Recommendations*
- *Coordination issues and Best Practices: some examples*
 - *Japan*
 - *India*
 - *Thailand*
 - *Sri Lanka*



Characteristics of farming systems

- Size and level of production (small subsistence farms to very large?)
- Purpose of production (self consumption/cash crops)
- Level of mechanization (traditional / modern equipment)
- Type of management (no record keeping)
- Holder characteristics (illiteracy)



Integrating Agriculture into NSS

- Two facets
- Administrative and coordination issues across agencies
 - Centralized and decentralized systems
 - Strengths and weaknesses
- Technical issues
 - An integrates view of all processes- Production, distribution, marketing, utilization and storage processes
 - Seamless flow of information across the processes for efficient functioning
- Role of users



Administrative and Coordination issues

- Multiplicity of data producers/stakeholders
- Duplicated data collections due to overlap in activities
- Non-uniform definitions /concepts across data collections
- Inefficient use of limited resources
- Strengths of NSO and line ministries not appropriately utilized
- Non- existence of Forum to obtain user feedback and new data needs
- Lack of vision/long term strategy for agricultural statistics



FAO Experience in data Integration

- Data collection methods in agriculture vary from country to country
- Main methods include Agriculture census, agricultural surveys and administrative reporting systems
- Agricultural holding is the basic unit for data collection
- WCA2010 defines 2 categories of agricultural holdings
 - Holdings in the household sector
 - Holdings in the non-household sector including corporations, Government/Non-Government institutions



Approaches to Link PHC and Agriculture Census

- FAO has published guidelines for linking the two censuses (2012)
 1. Linking household as statistical unit of PHC with the agricultural holding
 - One hh one ag. Holding
 - One hh more than one ag holding
 - Two or more hhs operating one holding
 2. Using existing agriculture related data in PHC
 - Main Occupation
 - Main Industry
 - Status in employment



Approaches to Link PHC and Agriculture Census

3. Collecting additional agri data in PHC
 - better agriculture sector analysis with PHC data
 - To create frame for agriculture census
 - Better if collected at listing stage of PHC
4. Conducting two censuses as joint operation
5. Relationship with housing census
 - Housing conditions reflect economic status
6. Relationship with economic census



WCA 2010 Modular Approach

- Canvassing a core module of only limited items
- Conducting one or more census supplementary modules on a sample basis
 - To collect more detailed structural data or data not required at lower administrative level
 - Sampling frame to come from core module



Relationship between different Concepts

- Agricultural holding
 - An economic unit of agricultural production under single management comprising all livestock kept and all land used wholly or partly for agricultural production purposes without regard to title, legal form or size
- Household
 - Is based on arrangements made by persons, individually or in groups, for providing themselves with food or other essentials for living: may be related or unrelated
- Household and number of its holdings determined by its Management units
- Household and dwelling units relationship

FAO Recommendations

1. Use of common concepts, definitions and classifications
2. Sharing field material
3. PHC to provide a frame for agricultural census
4. Identifying farm households from PHC and their possible use as agricultural sample frame
5. Collecting additional agricultural data in PHC to enable development of frames or compilation of tables
6. Linking data from two censuses
7. Conducting two censuses as joint field operation

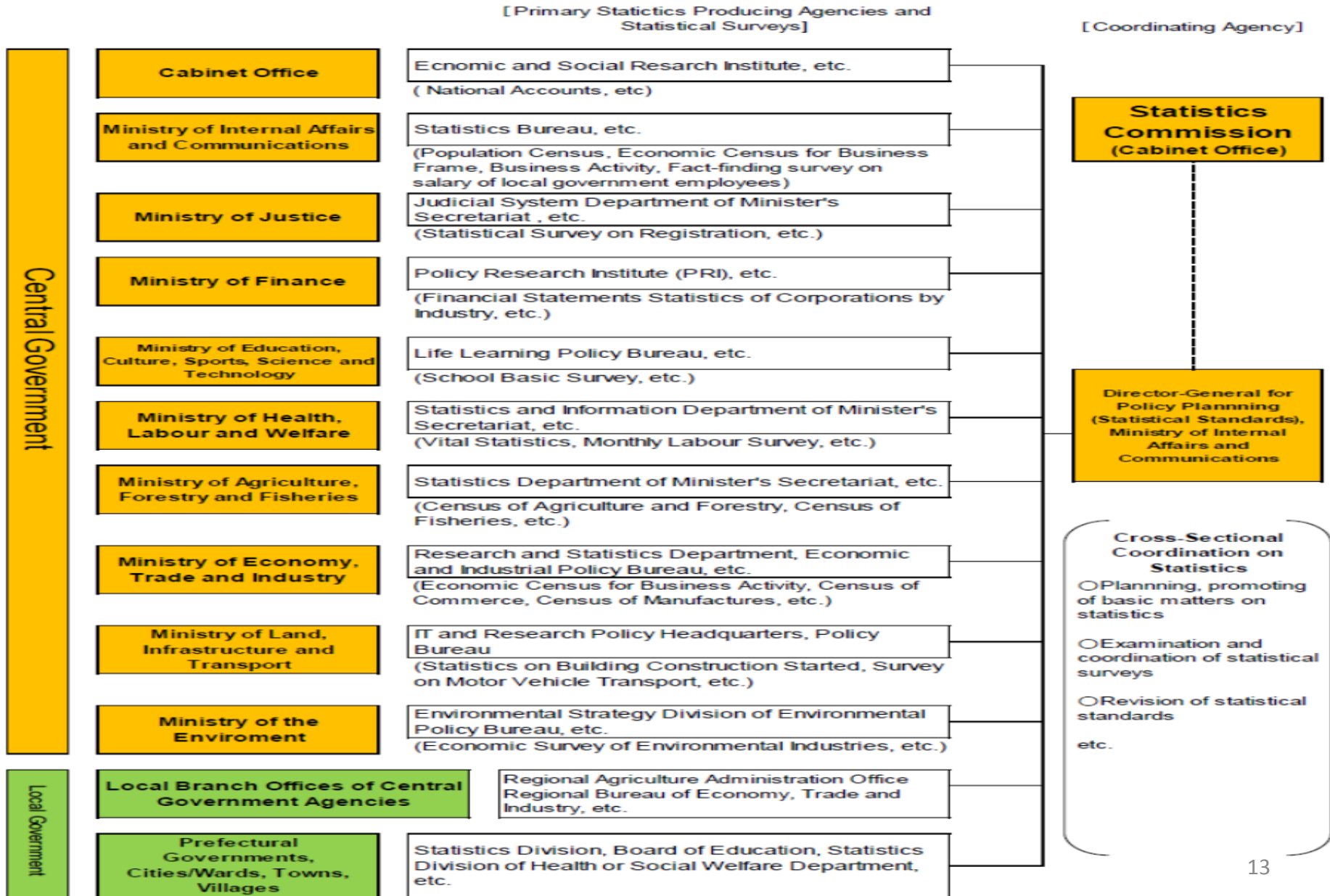


Coordination Mechanisms in Japan

- Decentralized Statistics System
- individual ministries have a central statistics bureau that prepares statistics needed by them
- Director-General for policy planning (Statistical Standards) is in charge of overall coordination among organizations.
- Statistical Commission provides technical advice on statistical standards and coordinating and integrating statistical activities



Statistical System in Japan



Japan Statistics Act 2007

- Specifies that official statistics form a critical information infrastructure in society
- Establishes “Master Plan Concerning the Development of Official Statistics”
- Covers all official statistics,
- Tightens controls on confidentiality in surveys (obligation to preserve secrecy) and
- promotes the use of statistical data responding to the needs of academic research
- Establishes the Statistics Commission



Decentralized statistical system

India

- Censuses (operational efficiency based?)
 - Population census – Ministry of Home Affairs
 - Agriculture Census- Ministry of Agriculture
 - Economic Census and sample surveys- NSO
- Statistics on agricultural, health, labour, education, trade statistics by respective ministries
- MoA compiles statistics on crops, livestock and fisheries
- Sub-national level - provincial and local governments.
- Indian Statistical Service – in integrating catalyst



Division of responsibility

Union Government and Provinces

- Constitution of India divides responsibilities of central and state governments under 3 lists viz. Union list , State list and concurrent list
- **Collection of Statistics Act 2008**
- The Act empowers the Central Government to make rules on principles for coordination
- Notify certain subjects of national importance as core statistics
- Appointment of nodal officers by respective Governments to advise on steps to avoid duplications



Division of responsibility

Union Government and Provinces

- Departments/Ministries at central level to consult the central nodal officer in the M/o Statistics before launching any data collection activity.
- Similarly, Province(State) Departments to consult the state nodal officer before launching any data collection activity at state level.
- Powers and duties of the nodal officers have been appropriately defined in the law/rules.



National Statistical Commission

- to identify the core statistics
- to constitute professional committees WGs to assist the Commission on technical issues;
- to evolve national policies and priorities relating to the statistical system;
- to evolve and lay down statistical standard
- to evolve strategies for HR development



National Statistical Commission

- to evolve measures for effective co-ordination
- to exercise statistical audit to ensure quality and integrity of the statistical products



Coordination for improvement of State Statistical Systems

- India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP)
- Conference of Central and State Statistical Officers



Coordination Mechanisms on Statistical Activities

- **For Crop Statistics**
 - State Agricultural Statistics Authorities appointed in each state
- **On National socio-economic surveys**
 - Concept of Central and state sample



Coordination Mechanisms in Sri Lanka

- Many government agencies compiling and disseminating various demographic and socio-economic statistics
- National Statistical System (NSS) consists of all these agencies and DCS is the key institution
- Centralized Statistical System as DCS responsible for all censuses and surveys and dissemination of official statistics
- places statistical staff in many government agencies
- National Data Council
 - oversees the national statistics system data requirements
 - Defining the role and responsibility of different stake holders in the statistical system for data collection and dissemination of statistics is the role of NDC





Coordination Mechanisms in Sri Lanka

- **Department of Census and Statistics**
 - maintains an office in each district and DS Division
 - conducts major national censuses and surveys
 - publishes the official crop and livestock statistics
 - has a well-established statistical system for crop statistics, annual livestock statistics except for plantation crops and export agricultural crops
- Fisheries and Forestry statistics collected by the respective line ministries
- Statistics on plantation crops, export agricultural crops, fisheries and forestry are published by the respective line agencies
- Line ministries and their agencies have their own statistics sections and collect some data in addition to DCS





Legal framework for collection of statistics in Sri Lanka

- There are two ordinances
 - Census ordinance
 - Statistics ordinance
 - Legal authority for a census is required for
 - fixing administrative responsibilities on public officers
 - placing legal obligation upon the public to give correct answers
 - for maintaining confidentiality of the individual information



Coordination Issues in Sri Lanka

- Being centralized system, PHC and Agricultural Census are linked. PHC provides the frame for agricultural census.
- Issues on Coordination
 - Overlap in data collection in some cases
 - Data collection agency for agricultural statistics under the administrative control of another Ministry
 - Impact on Supervision of data collection work
 - Non existence of National Strategic plan for development of statistics/agricultural statistics



References

- FAO (2012): Linking Population census and agricultural census
- In-depth country reports from Global Strategy work
- Technical report on Integrated Survey Framework (2014)



Country situations for establishing Integrated Survey Framework

- What are major coordination issues faced by agricultural statistical system in your country?
- What mechanisms exist to deal with coordination and technical issues?
- Describe the country situation for suitability for an ISF?
- How an ISF will improve the agricultural statistics in the country?
- What technical expertise may be needed to develop an ISF?
- What are your observations/recommendations for adoption of ISF?

