



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**

Concept Note

on

**Regional Advocacy Event for Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
related to Food and Agriculture Sector**

&

Demonstration Workshop on tools for Monitoring Food Security (SDG 2)

4-8 September, 2017, Bangkok

Background

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has played a key role in the Post 2015 Development Agenda process leading to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. FAO has also been an active contributor to the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators (IAEG-SDG), which developed a Global Indicator Framework recently adopted by the UN Statistical Commission and ECOSOC. Monitoring the 230 indicators in this Framework, covering the 17 SDGs and their 169 Targets presents an immense challenge for member countries with regards to their current data availability, statistical capacity and resource availability.

Countries in the Asia Pacific region have expressed, in various international fora, the need for technical assistance from FAO and its partners in localizing these Goals, as well as establishing a monitoring system for reporting progress toward the SDGs and strengthening their statistical systems to better collect critical data.

SDG 2, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 15 are directly related to the mandate of FAO which not only relate to building capacity of countries to develop appropriate policies and action plan to achieve the SDGs but also to develop the data systems to monitor and report on them. FAO has been designated as custodian agency for 21 SDG indicators. FAO through its recent initiative of Multi-Partner Programme Support Mechanism (FMM) is providing technical assistance to selected countries in preparation of Voluntary National Reviews on the SDGs for reporting in the HLPF, New York in July 2017. On-going FAO regional technical cooperation programme, and the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics are also being oriented to build national capacity to monitor the SDG. FAO is also working with regional partners, through the Thematic Working Group of Statistics (TWG-STAT) of UN agencies and other means, to synergize the efforts of international development agencies to maximize impact of development assistance. However, a preliminary assessment has indicated that the assistance that can be provided with available resources is far below the demand.

Objectives

The two events will bring together technical experts from National Planning Bodies and National Statistical Offices of some 21 Asian Countries. The events are conceived to complement each other and will be organized with following specific objectives.

1. Regional Advocacy Event on monitoring SDGs

- ✓ Advocate monitoring of SDG to countries
- ✓ Inform countries about FAO actions in support of building national capacities
- ✓ Assess the country needs for support
- ✓ Build partnerships in support of FAO's agenda to support national effort

2. Demonstration workshop on tools for monitoring Food Security (SDG 2)

- ✓ Update countries on methodological development in the SDG 2 Indicators and tools.
- ✓ Build capacity of technical staff of countries to compile indicators on SDG 2 through technical lectures, demonstrative country presentations and hand-on exercises on compilation of Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) and Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU).

The regional event will formally launch SDG monitoring work in the region. Based upon the specific needs of countries for technical assistance on 21 indicators, gathered through the event, a follow-up technical assistance plan will be drawn-up.

Outputs:

Expected Outputs of the meetings are:

- Awareness about 21 SDG indicators and the regional framework for monitoring raised among the participating countries, and the potential donors and development partners sensitized through appropriate communication material.
- Preliminary need assessment on technical capacity of countries to monitor SDG 2 carried out and a report prepared for planning further action and resource mobilization. The project will contribute to one component of Zero Hunger Challenge, and SP-2.
- In-depth training on methodology for SDG 2 Indicators conducted.

Participants

Participants of the **Regional Advocacy Event on monitoring SDGs (Day 1-3)** will include: Partner institution, resource persons, and country participants from Planning Bodies and National Statistics Office. Resource partners and media will be invited to attend the Inaugural Session on the first day.

Demonstration workshop (Day 4–5) on tools for monitoring Food Security (SDG 2) is a learning event and will focus on compilation of Food Security Indicators, particularly the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) and Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU).

A total of about 50 participants are expected to attend the event.

Venue

Ballroom I
Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel & Towers
2 Charoen Krung Road Soi 30
(Captain Bush Lane), Siphaya
Bangrak, Bangkok 10500, Thailand
Tel: (66-2) 266-0123
Fax: (66-2) 639-5480
Website: <http://www.royalorchidsheraton.com/>

Costs and Logistics

All participants are required to register in advance using the prescribed form which provides further logistic details. The logistics and local cost related to workshop will be covered by the organizers. The cost of air travel and the daily subsistence allowance of selected country participants/experts will be borne by the organizers, unless borne by the organizations for which they are working. Countries are welcome to nominate additional participants at their own cost.