



Sector Working Group-Agriculture and Rural Development (SWG-ARD) meeting

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Department of Planning and Cooperation
Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
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Structure of presentation

- Overview of the Global Strategy (GS)
- Why Do we need GS
- Lao PDR: Progress so far
- Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)
- What do we need support
- Concluding Remarks



Overview

What is the Global Strategy?

- An initiative of the UNSC to be implemented in 90 countries in the world and 20 countries in Asia Pacific region over 5 years
- Developed through extensive consultation with international organizations, national stakeholders and NGOs
- Focus on strategic planning and capacity building



Global Strategy, ctd

- Three main pillars
 - Produce a minimum set of core data and determine national priorities
 - Integrate agricultural statistics into national statistical systems
 - Foster sustainability of agricultural statistics through governance and statistical capacity development



Why do we need the Global Strategy

- Declining quality and quantity of agricultural statistics
- Lao PDR government recognises that the capacity to produce good quality agriculture and rural statistics needs to be improved
- In the Pilot Country Assessment exercise conducted in 2011-12, Lao PDR was assessed as below average, particularly in relation to 'Statistical Methods and Practices' and 'Statistical Information and Availability'
- Lao PDR therefore requested to participate in the Global Strategy implementation, so that a better understanding of the current situation could be obtained, and suggestions for improvements made
- Lao PDR was selected for inclusion in 2014



Lao PDR: Progress so far

- GS implementation initiated in June 2014
- Draft IdCA Report prepared and shared with Government
- Country Proposal Paper prepared and shared with Government in October 2014
- RSC approval obtained on the Country Proposal.
- Two of six core activities approved with the budget of 165,000 US\$ include:
 - Preparing Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics “SPARS”
 - “Improving the Administrative Reporting System for agricultural statistics”
- **Next steps**
 - Preparing SPARS during next 6 months
 - Implementing the project activity ‘Improving the Administrative Reporting System’



Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (SPARS)

- SPARS is a long-term plan for the development of agricultural and rural statistics.
- SPARS aims to integrate agricultural and rural statistics into the national statistics system within the framework of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). The NSDS for Lao PDR was prepared in 2010.
- The SPARS for Lao PDR is being developed as part of the Global Strategy work. Work is already under way and the SPARS is expected to be completed in early 2016. The Government fully supports this work.
- The SPARS will provide an action plan and financing strategy for the development of agricultural and rural statistics over the next 5-10 years.

A Possible Proposal Calendar of Agricultural Statistics Activities

| Activity | Year | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTING SYSTEM | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| CENSUSES AND SURVEYS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Census of Population and Housing (LSB) | X | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Agricultural Census (LSB + MAF) | | | | | | X | | | | | |
| Inter-censal Agricultural Survey (LSB + MAF) | | | | | | | | | | | X |
| Rice Crop Cutting Surveys (MAF) | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Crop Cutting Surveys for Other Crops (MAF) | | | | | | | X | X | X | X | X |
| Livestock Production Survey (MAF) | | | X | | | | | X | | | |
| Rice Cost of Production Survey (MAF) | | | | X | | | | | X | | |
| Fisheries Production Survey (MAF) | | | | | X | | | | | X | |
| Rice Stocks Survey (MAF) | | X | | | | | | | | | |
| Price Monitoring Surveys (MAF) | | | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |

What do we need support?

- The projects in order of priority are shown in Figure 1, together with the timetable and estimated budget.
- The total budget is US\$308,500.
- Looking of support from Development Partners to implement for 4 Project (Project 2, 3, 4 and 5) with the total budget of 150,000 US\$.

Figure 1: Timetable and Budget for Country Proposal Projects

| Project | 2014 | | | | | 2015 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2016 | | | | | | Budget (USD) |
|---|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | |
| Project 1: Improving the Administrative Reporting System for Agricultural Statistics | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$67 800 |
| Project 2: Improving Dissemination of Agricultural Statistics | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$65 500 |
| Project 3: Developing a System for Collection of Farm-gate Prices | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$56 500 |
| Project 4: Developing Cost of Production Statistics for Rice | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$54 200 |
| Project 5: Improving Data Quality for the Food Balance Sheet | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$28 300 |
| Project 6: Developing a Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$36 200 |

Concluding Remarks

- GS implementation has considerably raised the expectations of the Stakeholders to improve the ARS in the country
- Both producers and users of ARS have participated in the process
- SPARS development and implementation is a high priority area for the country.
- GS has shown the way. However, SPARS implementation will face challenges on funding the improvement activities
- Development Partners support is crucial to SPARS implementation and we look forward to their continued support to fulfill the vision.



Thank you

