



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROSTAT

Directorate E: Sectoral and regional statistics

Luxembourg, 10 October 2013

ESTAT/E/PDM/ME/eb

**DOC. CPSA/706 Available in EN only**

**\* Please note that paper copies of the documents will not be provided at the meeting\***

## **STANDING COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS (CPSA)**

**7-8 NOVEMBER 2013**

**JMO BUILDING – ROOM JMO M6  
KIRCHBERG, LUXEMBOURG**

**CHAired BY: MR DÍAZ MUÑOZ**

### **3.4. AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS WORK PROGRAMME \***

\* Document available on Circabc: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/1f6548e8-00e1-410b-b3c2-3981abdd07f6>

## **STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES FOR 2015 AND FOLLOWING YEARS**

This document is a first reflection of the main activities in Agriculture and Fisheries Statistics for the period starting in 2015. The CPSA is requested to give its opinion on these activities.

### **PRIORITIES**

#### **1. ROADMAP TOWARDS A NEW LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR 2020 ONWARDS.**

##### **Issues:**

- For what purpose and to what extent should legislation be revised with the aim to have a new generation of legal acts, coherent with the FSS for the period starting in 2020.
- Should the scope of agricultural statistics be redefined according to policy and economic reality?

##### **Detailed legislation to be studied:**

- FSS 2020-2027: This revision is necessary as there will be no legal basis after 2016. The following aspects should be included in the reflection:
  - Modular approach to surveys following the model designed in the withdrawn draft regulation FSS 2016-2026.
  - Foster the use of administrative and other sources such as FADN to replace and/or complement statistical surveys building on the results of the TF on Administrative sources.
  - Adaptation of concepts used in FSS to obtain an optimal alignment with those used for administrative registers
  - Proposal of Unique Farm Identification Number to ensure the link between survey and administrative data and to facilitate the update of the statistical farm register.
  - Analyse the units used in the FSS and their coherence with other sources, in particular with the units covered in the Statistical Business Register.
  - Reflect on the need of an agricultural exhaustive data collection (census) in 2020 and analysis of the actions that could permit to discontinue this costly operation without a risk of loss of information or quality.
- Fisheries legislation
  - Simplification of the data requirements for catches following the results of the running project to use control information reported by MS to DG MARE instead of data supplied by MS.
- Production legislation (Crops, Animal, Agro-monetary)
  - Reflection in order to ensure synergy and coherence within all themes in agricultural statistics, in particular FSS, land use information and FADN.

- A Regulation on prices with the objective to stabilise and review this data collection and to include in a compulsory way the domain of land prices and rents.
  - Reflection on the need a new legal basis and its scope.
- New needs linked to the interaction of agriculture with Environment and climate change
  - Identify statistical needs emerging from new policy processes.
  - Reflection on how statistical responses to these needs can be structured and in particular if a legal act is needed and, if so, how it related to the current or planned legal framework.
- Phasing out of Milk quota
  - Will this political action require changes in current statistical legislation?

**Planning of the consecutive steps:**

- May 2014 (CPSA): Proposal for a reflection on Agriculture legislation. This reflection will have to address:
  - Statistical domains to be covered and main scope
  - How to run the reflection? (dedicated TF?, PG?)
  - How to ensure an adequate involvement of CPSA and ESSC
- May 2015: Start drafting process
  - May 2016: Legal proposals to be submitted to ESSC/CPSA starting by FSS 2020-2026
  - Summer 2018: Adoption of FSS 2020-2026

## **2. NON-COMPULSORY DATA COLLECTIONS FOR QUICK REACTION TO NEW NEEDS.**

### **Issues:**

Policy makers have occasionally statistical needs that are not covered by data collected under legal framework. Provided that certain conditions are met - such as stability of the need, statistical character, and synergy with other statistical activities... - it is adequate that this information is collected under the statistical work programme.

A process has to be defined, starting from the statement of the need, passing by analysis of the statistical activity needed and running of pilot texts and eventually ending by a certain form of commitment from the national partners to provide the information.

### **Possible areas covered:**

As illustration, below are the domains which are at present subject of this reflection:

- Supply Balance Sheets for a limited set of specific products
- Data needs for Eggs
- Data needs for Milk

### **Possible actions:**

- Develop the concept and design the decision making process further
- Proposal to May 2014 CPSA meeting

## **3. PRODUCTION PROCESS IMPROVEMENT**

### **Issues:**

- Improvement of the ESS statistical production chain in order to make it more efficient (less resources), more rapid (more timeliness) and with less errors (more quality)
- Achieve better coordination at national level between the different data producers.

### **Possible actions and times:**

- Proposal for redistribution of roles in validation process; starts 1<sup>st</sup> half 2014.
- New validation tools available to MS as web services by 2015.
- Migration of FSS Database (Eurofarm); operational for FSS 2016.
- Migration of all Eurostat agricultural production processes to MDT; completed by 2014.
  
- Inventory of data flows from MS to Eurostat to be checked at country and domain level (grants already launched in 2013). To be continued in 2015.

#### **4. METHODOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS**

##### **Issues:**

- Efforts to develop methodological solutions to enhance the possibilities to exploit the data available, see opportunities to develop additional information and tackle quality problems.

##### **Possible areas of action:**

- Geo referencing in Agricultural statistics (location of farms). What are the challenges and what are the uses.
- Measuring the impact of the quality of administrative sources in the statistical data produced using these sources either for production, for verification or for developing sampling frames.
- Opportunities for using Big Data in agricultural statistics
- Developing common tools for the dissemination of agricultural data.

#### **5. INTEGRATION OF NON-AGRICULTURE DATA SOURCES**

##### **Issues:**

There is an increasing need of presenting to users statistical products that combine a variety of statistical sources. The recent examples of the Food Prices Monitoring Tool illustrate the possibilities offered by this approach.

##### **Possible areas to be covered:**

- PRODCOM
- Enterprise statistics
- Prices
- External trade
- Labour market
- Household budget surveys

##### **Action proposed**

- Reflection in CPSA May 2014 meeting