



Strategic goals and challenges for agricultural statistics

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Evaluation of the European Agricultural Statistics System (EASS) 2015

- Agricultural statistics legislation did not adequately serve new and emerging data needs
- EASS was not flexible enough and not reacting quickly to emerging needs
- Data collections were not harmonised and consistent
- The statistics could be produced more efficiently if the legislation allowed various sources of information and if countries adapted to modern technology



Legislative work was launched

Evolution 2015 - 2023

Statistical system

- New legal basis for IFS and SAIO
- EAA include regional accounts and quality reporting
- COVID: big push for modernising data collections

Agriculture & policy

- NEW CAP: more data needed due to further broadening of the scope and new performance-based delivery model: environmental & social aspects
- Russian aggression on Ukraine further revealed the dependency of agriculture on inputs from outside EU + the volatility of the input and output markets: importance of the timeliness of the data

Short/Mid-term goals until 2027

- Finalise the IFS decennial cycle (2020, 2023, 2026)
- Get all SAIO data collections up and running for reference year(s) 2025 – 2026
- Improve the data comparability between IFS – SAIO - EAA
- Increase efficiency and timeliness of the data collections

Main challenges until 2027 (1/2)

- Setting up new data collections for SAIO
 - ESS & other voluntary agreements (10 in total)
 - Organic production
 - Grasslands
 - PPP use data
 - Organic fertilisers
 - Methodology
 - Data sources
 - Questionnaires
 - Data collection,
 - IT set up,
 - Validation,
 - Dissemination,
 - Etc.
- IFS 2026 data collection
- Modernising and expanding EAA

Main challenges until 2027 (2/2)

- Tapping into new data sources: admin data, EO data, big data, etc.
- Making more data collections fully electronic
- Increasing data quality
- Increasing efficiency
- Incorporation of systematic approach
- Making more data available to users
- Keeping the burden and costs under control

Goals by 2030 and beyond

- Meet the new needs stemming from CAP 2028 onwards + other EU policies
- Find a right balance between continuity and new needs in IFS 2030 decennial cycle
- Fully integrated and streamlined EASS
- Cost-efficient data collections based as much as possible on existing data sources and big data
- Complementarity with other data sources
- Keep statistics competitive on the data markets

Challenges

- 'Legislative burden' for IFS 2030 cycle: how to keep it under control without risking the qualitative aspects
 - Amending act or new legal act?
 - Simplification?
 - Balance of tabular data/micro data?
 - New IT platforms?
- How to cover the new needs in a flexible manner and keeping the burden acceptable; maybe ad-hoc data collections?
- How to ensure the timeliness of the data for policy processes?
- How to increase the granularity of statistics to meet the modelling needs?

How can we reach the goals? (1/2)

- New data sources
 - Electronic pesticide farm records
 - Adding dimensions into existing administrative registers – organic farming in LPIS
 - Farm management and precision farming softwares and databases
 - Geo-referenced data
 - Earth observation – both by MS and at EU level
- Exploring the possibilities of data sharing & linking
 - Linking data together without putting at risk statistical confidentiality

How can we reach the goals? (2/2)

- Learning from the neighbours
 - Collaboration within and between countries
 - Common tools and methodologies
 - Honest reports on failures
 - Common webinars, workshops and other events
- Close co-operation
 - Discussions with data users at EU and national level
 - Discussions in DGAS and WGs
 - 'Think tanks' – Discussion groups

Thank you



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