



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



REGIONAL STOCKTAKING CONFERENCE on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Farm based indicators

(27 - 30 November 2023, Nadi - Fiji)

ANNEX 2 - CONCEPT NOTE



1. Background

FAO is the custodian agency for twenty-one (21) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators under the SDG goals 2, 5, 6, 12, 14 and a contributing agency to five (5) additional SDG indicators under SDG goals 1, 14 and 15.

FAO's work as a custodian agency is:

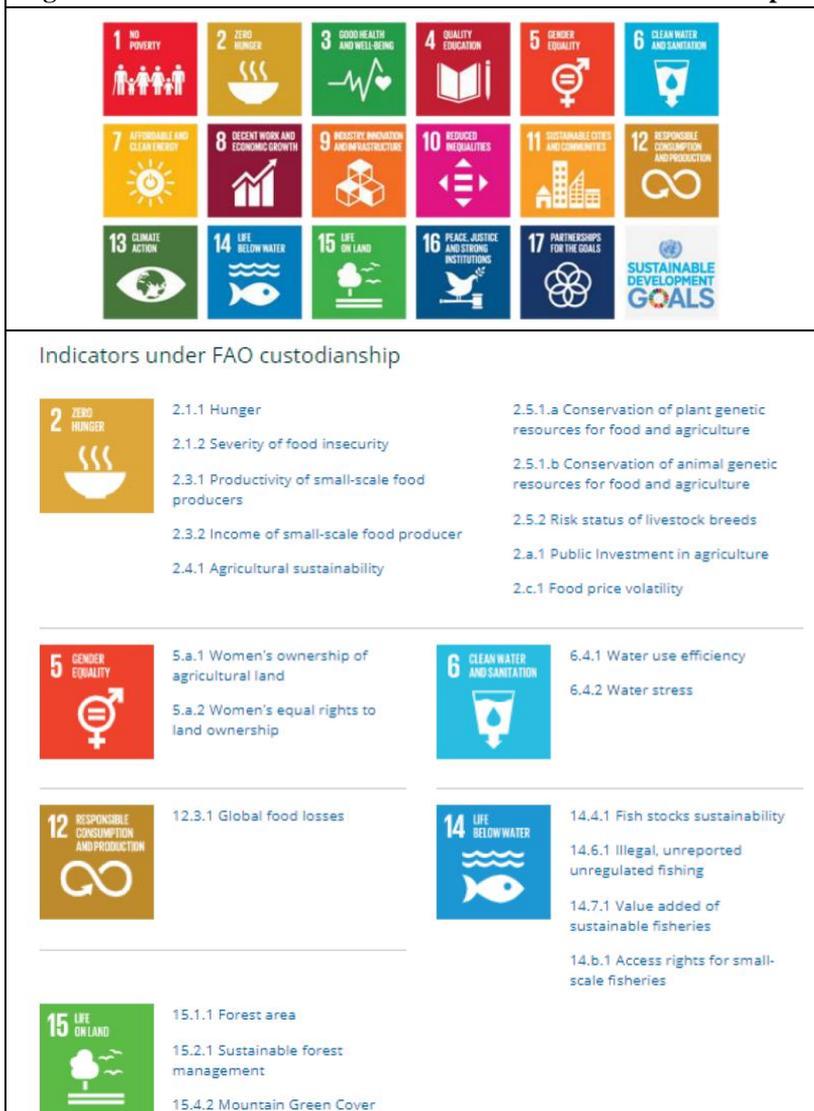
- ➔ To lead methodological development and documentation of the indicators.
- ➔ To support statistical capacity of countries to generate and disseminate national data.
- ➔ To collect data from national sources, ensure their comparability and consistency, and disseminate them at global level.

To date, the SDG indicators [2.3.1 \(Productivity of small-scale food producers\)](#), [2.3.2 \(Income of small-scale food producer\)](#), [2.4.1 \(Agricultural sustainability\)](#) - related to food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture; [5.a.1 \(Women's ownership of agricultural land\)](#) - related to gender equality are among those under FAO custodianship that are under-reported at global level and in the Pacific - despite being very critical in understanding the performance of the agri-food systems, the agricultural sustainability, gender equity as well as progress made toward [the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) - focusing on [SDG Goal 2 \(Zero Hunger\)](#), and [Goal 5 \(Gender Equality\)](#).

It is in this context that brings urgency to this regional stock taking conference. As the 2030 deadline approaches, it is evident that a stock taking exercise should be conducted for the Pacific region as most Pacific Islands Countries (PICs) do not report on selected SDG indicators nor is there a complete understanding of approved methodologies and guidelines.

We are now approaching the end of 2023 and from time to time, it is necessary to evaluate each country's capacity and performance in reporting on selected SDGs, assessing obstacles preventing countries from reporting on selected SDGs and potential opportunities to collaborate as a region in knowledge and experience exchange in reporting efforts. Custodian agencies have contributed a great deal of methodological work in establishing best practice and well written guidelines in deriving and reporting on SDGs. This places considerable importance on further collaboration of Small Island

Figure 1: SDG Goals & SDGs indicators under FAO custodianship



Developing States (SIDS) and development partners to enable SIDS to report (even if at proxy level) and/or work towards a full reporting in the future in line with the approved methodology.

During the Statistical Innovation and Capacity Building in the Pacific Islands (PACSTAT)¹ Regional conference on [HIES](#) and [Poverty](#) methods organized by the Pacific Community (SPC) - earlier this year in Nadi (Fiji), some Pacific countries expressed interest to be supported in adjusting their Household Survey questionnaires and in developing their capacity to derive the above mentioned four SDG indicators. Capitalizing on this momentum, FAO Sub-Regional office for the Pacific Islands (FAO SAP), has developed a 2-year Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) to address this request. The recently approved TCP/SAP/3905 has been operationalized since the 1st of August 2023 and is also an expression of FAO SAP's firm commitment in supporting the integration of the food security data into national household surveys such as HIES and others. These initiatives have also been endorsed by the Ministers of Agriculture at the 8th Regional Meeting of the Pacific Heads of Agriculture and Forestry Services held in Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji - on the 9th of March 2023 (cf. points 28, 29 and 30 of this [Meeting Outcome Statement](#)).

The implementation of the TCP/SAP/3905 is also supported by the FAO Office of the Chief Statistician (OCS) through the provision of technical assistance/expertise as well as funding² for the organization of this regional stock taking conference. This Regional conference will serve as a steppingstone and springboard for the implementation of the recently approved TCP/SAP/3905 - that aims to assist National Statistics Offices and the Ministries responsible for Agriculture to derive SDG Farm based indicators.

2. Objective

The regional conference aims at taking stock of the current status of SDG indicators being reported by Pacific countries, obstacles prohibiting countries from reporting on selected SDGs, enhancing the capacity of participants to understand the approved methodology for selected SDGs and the correct application of methodologies using existing data or collection of new data or proxy data with a goal of increasing the capacity of participating countries to report on selected SDG indicators.

The conference is designed to provide Government Statisticians and SDG Farm based indicators focal points with refreshed information on SDG Farm based indicators methodologies. It will also give countries the opportunity to share their experience and challenges in deriving these SDG indicators, as well as an opportunity to perform a gap analysis of their capacity and resources, to further discuss tailored technical assistance required in order to implement (in their country) activities planned under the TCP/SAP/3905 and to benefit from the participation of international experts of SDG Farm based indicators mentioned above and under FAO custodianship.

For this regional conference, a particular focus will be given to SDG Farm based indicators 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.4.1 and 5.a.1.

¹ The PACSTAT project has an overall development objective to improve the quality of welfare data collection and accessibility to comparable welfare data in the Pacific Island Countries (PICs). <https://sdd.spc.int/innovation-sdd/statistical-innovation-and-capacity-building-pacific-islands-project-pacstat>. The PACSTAT project targets ten Pacific countries - out of fourteen: Cook Islands, Nauru, Niue and Tokelau are not part of the PACSTAT project as they are not World Bank IDA-eligible countries.

² From the Flexible Multi-Partner Mechanism (FMM) / Flexible Voluntary Contribution (FVC) initiative and corporate funds to support Capacity Development on SDG indicators.

3. Participants & Contributors

The targeted institutions include National Statistics Offices and/or relevant Ministry Focal Points for selected SDG indicators for this workshop. The invitees are statisticians from the Pacific National Statistics Offices³, SDG Focal points from relevant Ministries and FAO Staff⁴.

Contributors to the conference are SDG experts, statisticians and practitioners willing to share their expertise and experience in collecting, reporting, and monitoring SDG indicators under FAO custodianship, as well as work in partnership to bridge any potential gaps in SDG indicator data points for the current reporting period (2020-2024).

4. Outcome

The expected outcomes of the conference are:

- ✓ Participants and FAO have a good understanding of what countries have done or plan to do in collecting and monitoring selected SDG indicators under FAO custodianship.
- ✓ Participants are provided with a refresher guidance on SDG indicators methodologies and tools.
- ✓ A report summarizing exchanges with countries, opportunities and challenges, as well as an agreed way forward in terms of technical assistance and capacity development tailored for countries in collecting, reporting and monitoring SDG indicators under FAO custodianship.

5. Venue, timing, and provisional agenda

The conference will be held in Nadi, Fiji for 4 days, from Monday, 27 November to Thursday, 30 November 2023 - according to the following provisional agenda (as of 17 October 2023):

³ Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

⁴ FAO International Statisticians, Census Operations Expert, Global SDG Farm based indicators Experts and Focal points.

Date/Time	Sessions	Task Description	Speaker
Day 1, Monday 27 November 2023			
08:00 – 08:30		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival of participants 	
08:30 – 09:00	Session 1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening session & Presentation of participants (Presentation of the workshop organization, objectives, and agenda) 	Noataga Faaola
09:00 – 10:30	Session 1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of Technical Cooperation Programme “TCP/SAP/3905” 	Guy Obama
10:30 – 11:00	Break		
11:00 – 12:30	Session 1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the reporting of the SDG indicators (under FAO custodianship) in the Pacific 	Noataga Faaola
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch		
13.30 – 14:30	Session 1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 2.3.1 (Productivity of small-scale food producers) methodology and tools 	Veronica Boero
14:30 – 15:00	Afternoon refreshments		
15.00 – 16:00	Session 1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 2.3.1 (Productivity of small-scale food producers) methodology and tools - Continued 	Veronica Boero
Day 2, Tuesday 28 November 2023			
08:30 – 09:00		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival of participants 	
09:00 – 09:30		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day 1 - Recap 	Noataga Faaola & Guy Obama
09:30 – 10:30	Session 2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 2.3.2 (Income of small-scale food producer) methodology and tools 	Veronica Boero
10:30 – 11:00	Break		
11:00 – 12:30	Session 2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 2.3.2 (Income of small-scale food producer) methodology and tools 	Veronica Boero
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch		
13:30 – 14:30	Session 2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 2.4.1 (Agricultural sustainability) methodology and tools 	Asfandiyar Khan
14:30 – 15:00	Afternoon refreshments		
15:00 – 16:00	Session 2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 2.4.1 (Agricultural sustainability) methodology and tools - Continued 	Asfandiyar Khan
Day 3, Wednesday 29 November 2023			
08:30 – 09:00		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival of participants 	
09:00 – 09:30		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day 2 - Recap 	Noataga Faaola & Guy Obama
09:30 – 10:30	Session 3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 5.a.1 (Women’s ownership of agricultural land) methodology and tools 	Veronica Boero
10:30 – 11:00	Break		
11:00 – 12:30	Session 3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher information and guidance on the SDG indicator 5.a.1 (Women’s ownership of agricultural land) methodology and tools 	Veronica Boero
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch		
13:30 – 14:30	Session 3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion and exchanges on each country tailored technical assistance (for the implementation of the TCP/SAP/3905) and/or request for FAO assistance related to “Data & Statistics” 	Guy Obama

14:30 – 15:00	Afternoon refreshments		
15:00 – 16:00	Session 3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and exchanges on each country tailored technical assistance (for the implementation of the TCP/SAP/3905) and/or request for FAO assistance related to “Data & Statistics” - Continued 	Guy Obama
Day 4, Thursday 30 November 2023			
08:30 – 09:00		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival of participants 	
09:00 – 09:30		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 3 - Recap 	Noataga Faaola & Guy Obama
09:00 – 10:30	Session 4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentation on opportunities, challenges, (data) gap analysis, an agreed way forward in terms of technical assistance, capacities development and sustainability that may be needed in collecting, reporting, and monitoring SDG Farm based indicators (or other indicators under FAO custodianship) 	Country Participants
10:30 – 11:00	Break		
11:00 – 12:30	Session 4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentation on opportunities, challenges, (data) gap analysis, an agreed way forward in terms of technical assistance, capacities development and sustainability that may be needed in collecting, reporting, and monitoring SDG Farm based indicators (or other indicators under FAO custodianship) 	Country Participants
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch		
13:30 – 15:30	Session 4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 4 - Recap • Participants workshop evaluation • Closing session 	
15:30 – 16:00	Afternoon refreshments		