

Message from Mr Jose Rosero Moncayo, Director, Statistics Division

FAO QUESTIONNAIRES 2021

On CROPS AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION DATA, On PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, and on GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON AGRICULTURE

Dear Sir/Madam,

The collection and dissemination of comparable statistical information on food and agriculture represents a core mandate of FAO. We need your assistance to live up to this challenge, and produce globally comprehensive, accurate and comparable data.

To this end, we request your office to complete the attached questionnaires on:

- **Crops and Livestock Production and Utilization Data**
- **Prices Received by Farmers**
- **Expenditure on Agriculture.**

You may note that it is the fifth time that FAO is sending the three questionnaires together, rather than sending them separately in different months of the year, as happened in the past. The joint dispatch is an attempt to reduce the response burden for your office. We will continue trying to facilitate the transmission of the data and the coordination of our data requests.

The attached questionnaires are designed to collect **data up to year 2020**. Data referring to previous years were provided to us by officers from your country. They are included in the attached questionnaires to facilitate the completion of the questionnaires with new data and the revision of historical time series. We kindly ask you to provide all available historical data points, including very old data you may have available. We also require your specific commitment and accuracy in completing the metadata of each section of the questionnaires.

In addition, please allow me to flag a few important questionnaire-specific issues that deserve special attention on your side.

- When completing the questionnaire on **Crops and Livestock Production and Prices Received by Farmers**, we request your office to check whether the list of products reported is exhaustive. Should this not be the case, the questionnaire offers space at the end of each section to provide more details, to communicate data on products we may have omitted from the list.
- The **Crops and Livestock Production** questionnaire contains a section on the utilization of agricultural products, which is very important for the compilation of the Food Balance Sheets (FBS). In this context, as you are aware, data on losses have become of utmost importance. The international community is voicing a pressing demand for information in this area, with a view to reduce losses worldwide. The same data is required for monitoring target 12.3 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We would therefore underline the importance of your commitment towards providing any data you can access in this domain, as defined in the notes to the questionnaire.

- Concerning the questionnaire on **Prices Received by Farmers**, we request you to communicate both the annual and the monthly time series.
- The questionnaire on **Government Expenditure on Agriculture** also requires information that is in high demand to inform the relative FAOSTAT domain and monitoring indicator 2.a.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals (Agriculture Orientation Index of Government Expenditures). We ask you to provide complete and consolidated information you have in this domain across all levels of Government, including expenditure of decentralized Government level. You may note that the questionnaire was slightly revised with the inclusion of additional consistency checks and the Manual for filling in the questionnaire was also revised with more updated information.

Please complete and return the attached questionnaires to FAO by no later than **14 May 2021**.

Should it be more convenient, you are welcome to send us the various questionnaires as soon as they are completed, rather than sending them all at the same time.

If you *not* the responsible person for any of the attached questionnaires, we ask you to *inform us immediately and/or forward the questionnaires to the responsible national authority or institution*.

Should your country *not* collect the data that we are requesting, we ask you to inform us, as this will help FAO to plan future efforts in technical assistance.

For any further questions, comments or difficulties in completing any of these questionnaires, please do not hesitate to contact us at FAO-Questionnaires@fao.org.

Thank you in advance for your valued cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



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