AMIS five year progress report
(Information Group)

TENTH SESSION OF THE AMIS GLOBAL FOOD MARKET INFORMATION GROUP

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Outline

• Why was AMIS and the Information Group created?
• What has the Information Group achieved so far?
• How does capacity development fit in?
• Has available information improved?
• Summary and outlook
Why was AMIS and the IG created?

- Sharp rise of food commodity prices in 2007-10, weakening global food security
- Perceived lack of reliable and up-to-date information on crop supply and demand as well as mechanisms to coordinate effective policy responses.
- AMIS launched by the G20 in 2011
  - Information Group helping to enhance food market transparency
  - Rapid Response Forum providing a forum for policy dialogue
  - Multi-agency Secretariat supporting all functions of AMIS

What has the IG achieved so far?

- Three stages in work programme
  1. Stocktaking of available information (Sep 2011-Feb 2012)
  2. Collection of historical balances (Feb 2012-Oct 2013)
  3. Regular submission of forecasts (since Oct 2013)
- Harmonization of information and methodologies
- Most AMIS participants now provide sound balances; however, several issues remain
- Importantly: trust and collaboration
How does capacity development fit in?

- AMIS Exchange Programme
  - 3 cycles with a total of 7 participants
  - Mutual learning experience
  - Good results, but sometimes not improving country submissions

- Multi-year capacity building projects
  - Strengthening national statistical systems
  - Good results at country level
  - Several outputs at global level

- Peer learning and country exchanges
  - Promoting the “collaborative spirit” of AMIS

Has available information improved?

- Market information readily available
  - Market Database, Indicator Portal, Policy Database

- Market assessments regularly published
  - AMIS Market Monitor

- Information becoming more reliable
  - Convergence among main international data producers
  - Better understanding of remaining differences
  - Improvements at national level
Summary and outlook

• Important progress over the past five years
  – Improved information on global supply and demand
  – Better understanding of underlying market drivers
  – Effective platform for constructive dialogue

• However, several outstanding issues in data submissions

• Ongoing work on capacity development

• New challenges
  – Institutionalizing past achievements
  – Dealing with the new market situation of relatively low prices
  – Towards an AMIS Outlook Conference?

Upcoming activities in the framework of the AMIS capacity development projects
Upcoming activities on methodological improvements

1. Crop production forecasts

2. Measuring private stocks

3. Improving data collection on market prices

1. Crop production forecasts

- Improving crop production forecasts by enhancing country systems with additional data sources and tools

  Countries considered for the pilot: Senegal, Zimbabwe, Kenya

- Crowdsourcing approach for quicker crop production forecast data generation in the Philippines
2. Measuring private stocks

- Guidelines for designing and implementing grain stock surveys and on food grain stocks measurement throughout the value chain (to be prepared)

- Pilot stock survey in Bangladesh

➤ International seminar on measuring stocks

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- New Delhi, 9 – 11 November 2016

- Objectives:
  ✓ Increase awareness and understanding of information on private food grain stocks for decision support in the management of food security and market transparency;
  ✓ Provide a platform for dialogue and expert consultation on academic and empirical research with view to enhancing understanding of the phenomenon of private food grain stock measurement approaches;
  ✓ Share country experiences on prevailing approaches and methodologies for private food grain stock measurement
3. Improving data collection of market prices

- Crowdsourcing approach in Kaduna State in Nigeria
- Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) application in Nigeria
- Development of a Data Quality Assessment Framework for AMIS (self-assessment tool)

AMIS methodological developments

Embedded into other FAO initiatives:

- Strong synergies with the Global Strategy
- Strong synergies with FAO country work
Thank You