Criteria for the selection of indicators for Target 3 of Goal 2 Monitoring Agricultural Productivity Growth of Small-holders

Process & Criteria

- FAO co-leads the cluster for SDG 2 (hunger, food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture), together with IFAD and WFP (RBAs)
- ▶ The list of indicators submitted for Goal 2, includes 14 indicators (10 Tier 1) to monitor progress towards the 5 Targets + 3 Means of Impl.
 - 1 indicator per target (with some exceptions)
- Selection of Indicators through broad consultation based on methodological factsheets structured as follows:
 - Relevance for the specific TARGET
 - Methodological soundness (Precise definition of the indicator)
 - Data availability Does the indicator already exist and is it regularly reported?
 - Quality: reliability, coverage, international comparability, and granularity
 - Target setting: Can a baseline value be set for 2015? Can a meaningful numerical target for 2030 be set?

Target 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

Tier 1 Indicator

Value of agricultural production per hectare by farm size

(measured in constant USD/hectare, disaggregated for the two lowest quintiles of countries' farm size distribution, as well as for female-headed smallholder producer households)

Relevance for the specific TARGET

- The indicator is directly linked to the target. The other dimensions of the target refer to access to land and to other resources, which are enablers, not outcomes.
- Income was dropped to respect the 1 indicator rule (better monitored by Goal 1).

Methodological soundness (Precise definition of the indicator)

The indicator measures the value of crop production per unit of land by farm size. Productivity of fishermen and pastoralists cannot be reliably measured. The definition of small-holders needs to be agreed at the international level.

Data Availability (Does the indicator already exist and is it regularly reported?)

- While agricultural productivity at the national level is regularly monitored by FAO, the target requires the compilation of a specific indicator by farm size, which can be produced only through surveys.
- Currently this indicator is only available for few developing countries, thanks to the LSMS-ISA, which includes an agricultural module in a LSMS type of survey. Unfortunately this kind of survey cannot produce complete and reliable data on agricultural production.
- Farm surveys, which should be the privileged source of information not only for agricultural production, but also for other essential SDG indicators, are conducted only very sporadically in developing countries. For this reason, the FAO Statistics Division has launched the AGRIS project

Reliability, Coverage, Comparability and Granularity of the indicator

- AGRIS (Agricultural and Rural Integrated Survey) is a multipurpose farm survey with a core module, collecting agricultural production & social data every year, & additional modules (collecting structural data every 3-5 years.
- Data quality is ensured by using the most advanced survey methods and new technologies, including Remote Sensing data for area frames, GPS for the measurement of crop areas, CAPI software for collecting data with mobile devices.
- The project aims to support developing countries in the adoption of the survey tool. This initiative complement farm surveys regularly conducted in developed countries, ensuring a global coverage of the indicator
- AGRIS provides a cost-effective and flexible survey tool to regularly produce a minimum set of reliable data related to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of farms activities. Data collected can be disaggregated by type of farms, geographical areas and population groups.

Target Setting: Is there already a baseline value for 2015?

A baseline value for 2015 can be estimated for developed countries and a few developing countries.

Can a meaningful numerical target for 2030 be set?

- The target may not be feasible at the global level as in developed countries the productivity of smallholders is already relatively high and the value of production is greater than in developing countries.
- The target seems achievable in developing countries, considering the current huge productivity gap, through:
 - increased use of fertilizers, water and machineries
 - structural transformation and migration out of rural areas
 - effective policies to promote agriculture and rural development
 - higher demand for food, due to population growth and shifting dietary preferences, which increases food prices