

## Directory of statistical services of international organisations



### The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

<b>Brief description of the organisation<sup>1</sup></b>	<p><b>Established in 1945, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</b> mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. Achieving food security for all is at the heart of FAO's efforts - to make sure people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives. Serving both developed and developing countries, FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate development policies. FAO is also a source of knowledge and information. FAO is headquartered in Rome and has field offices in more than 100 countries.</p> <p>The statistical work is decentralized in various technical departments that conduct analytical and policy work. The Statistics Division has a coordinating role as well as responsibility for crop and livestock statistics. The Fisheries and Forestry Departments are responsible for fisheries and forestry statistics respectively whilst the Natural Resources Department collects and disseminates statistics on land and water and is the lead unit for geo-spatial data. Many other units maintain their own technical databases and are involved in statistical analysis.</p>
<b>Mission<sup>2</sup></b>	<p>To promote the development, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and timely statistics to monitor progress in agricultural production, hunger reduction and food security and to advocate for their use for evidence-based decision making.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Description of the statistics section/department in the organization

<sup>2</sup> Mission of the statistics section/department of the organization

<p><b>Fields of Activity/ structure</b></p> <p><i>Statistics</i></p>	<p><u>Fields of activity:</u> The Organization's fields of activity have grown over the years to cover not only key food and agricultural statistics, but also economic environmental and rural indicators.</p> <p><u>Structure:</u> The Statistics Division is composed of 11 teams, 6 of which cover the key fields of activities (Agricultural Census and Surveys; National Statistical Development &amp; CountrySTAT; Food Security and Social Statistics; Production, Trade &amp; Consumption Statistics; Resource, Economic and Environmental Statistics; FAOSTAT and Data Dissemination), with the other teams collecting, processing and validating agricultural production and trade data from the different regions of the world.</p> <p>The Fisheries and Aquaculture Information Statistics Service comprises a team responsible for statistics on capture fisheries, fishing fleets, aquaculture, commodity production and trade, and fish consumption. The Forest Assessment and Reporting Service covers statistics on forest resources, on production and trade of forest products and on forest policies and institutions. The Land and Water Division has units covering land and water statistics and information as well Geo-spatial information systems. All water information and statistics of the Water Development and Management Unit of this division are combined in AQUASTAT, its global information system on water and agriculture (<a href="http://www.fao.org/nr/aquastat">http://www.fao.org/nr/aquastat</a>).</p>
<p><b>Mandate</b></p>	<p>The Report of the First Session of the FAO Conference held in the City of Quebec, Canada, from 16 October to 1 November 1945 – under Article I: Functions of the Organization refers that “The Organization shall collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food and agriculture. In this Constitution, the term ‘agriculture’ and its derivatives include fisheries, marine products, forestry and primary forestry products.”</p>
<p><b>Statistical work programme</b></p>	<p>The programme of work and budget is carried out on a biannual basis.</p> <p>The current programme covers the period 2008-2009 and is intended to provide an overview of the priorities and the strategies to achieve them. The main pillars of the work programme 2008-2009 are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• capacity building</li> <li>• methodological development and setting of norms and standards</li> <li>• data compilation, analysis and dissemination</li> </ul>
<p><b>Number of staff</b></p> <p><i>Total / Statistical division</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total for FAO: 3500 staff</li> <li>• Statistics Division: 46 staff at HQS and 5 statisticians outposted in the regional offices</li> <li>• Statistical staff in other Departments (FI, FO and NR): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ FO: 17 staff at HQ with part time support from regional and subregional offices</li> <li>○ Water Development and Management Unit (NRLW): One senior technical officer at HQ with part time support from regional and subregional offices.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Flagship Publications</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAO Statistical Yearbook</li> <li>• The State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI)</li> <li>• Irrigation in <i>[name of continent or region]</i> in figures (AQUASTAT surveys)</li> <li>• FAO Fishery and Aquaculture Statistics Yearbook</li> <li>• The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture</li> <li>• The FAO Yearbook of Forest Products</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) (every 5 years)</li> <li>• The State of the World's Forests (SOFO) (every 2 years)</li> </ul>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.fao.org/es/ess/">http://www.fao.org/es/ess/</a> <a href="http://www.fao.org/nr/aquastat">http://www.fao.org/nr/aquastat</a>

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