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Session Title: Developing a Master Sampling Frame for Integrated Agricultural and Rural Surveys

TITLE: Indirect Sampling as a General Approach for Defining Unbiased Sampling Strategies for Integrated Agricultural Surveys

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ABSTRACT

Keywords: Calibration, Consistency, Master Sample Frame, Weight Share Method.

One of the pillars of the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics, is the development of a Master Sampling Frame (MSF), where information on land parcels, households and farms are interlinked, in order to ensure the integration of agricultural statistics into the national statistical system.

The sampling strategy, presented in this paper, achieves this objective and simultaneously allows to obtain consistent statistics on the environmental, social and economic dimensions of agriculture. The methodological approach, based on indirect sampling and on the generalized weight share method for estimation, is rather flexible and can be tailored to the different informative contexts which characterize the production of agricultural statistics in developing countries. Furthermore, under quite general conditions, it allows to produce unbiased statistics, overcoming most of the problems caused by imperfect sampling frames.

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