

## **ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL ACTION PLAN TO IMPROVE AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL STATISTICS**

The Regional Action Plan has certainly assisted the Pacific Region in pursuing its 2020 round of Agriculture Statistics Census. While Agriculture and Fisheries are the backbone to our member countries' economic development we have agriculture statistics that are quite out of date.

I want to note that this regional action plan has a lot of benefit that is worth mentioning here:

1. This Action Plan showcase how a regional approach can supplement individual countries in Agriculture Census. This is an area where national statistics system are lack the right capability and requires regional support.
2. The partnership between FAO/ESCAP and ADB in the Pacific region has been well coordinated and this needs to be acknowledged. It is important that when they are in the country to be able to clearly define who does what on the ground. A good model to use.
3. It's important to translate our global strategy to a regional strategy because that enables our region to contextualise the strategy to fit our own situation.

Thanks