



**Asia-Pacific  
Economic Cooperation**

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**Experience of ASEAN Food Security Information  
System (AFSIS) Project and Technical Cooperation  
on Agricultural Statistics**

Submitted by: Japan



**Workshop to Assess and Improve  
Agricultural Data Collection and  
Dissemination by APEC Member  
Economies  
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# Experience of ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS) Project and Technical Cooperation on Agricultural Statistics

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  - Do you have political bias?
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## Findings

- Extraordinary data:
  - Consumption which you cannot consume
  - Stock which you cannot find anywhere
- Contradictions between economies:
  - Export which does not correspond with import of the other economy
  - Yield which is increasing by far the most in other economies

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### Findings (continued)

- Doubtful data:
  - Production which is as same as last year
  - Increasing rate which is exactly 10 % every year
  - Area of harvested area which is as same as last year

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## Issues

- The data is right or wrong?
  - The data has no background evidence.
  - Farmers don't know the exact number of production or area.
  - You make an entry of imagined data in questionnaires without survey, as you have budget to neither go to the fields nor print the questionnaires.

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Issues (continued)

- How do you collect the data of production?

You collect the data from farmers or a head of village.

You estimate the production comparing the weather of this year with that of last year.

You multiply average yield by area of the village. (Production=Yield x Area)

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Issues (continued)

- How do you collect the data of area?

The area of the field is 1 ha, if you use 60kg of seeds in the field.

The area is same every year, because farmers plant in the same place every year.

- How do you collect the data of average yield?

You estimate it by weather conditions, because you have your own personal knowledge and experience for estimating.

You estimate it by information from farmers.

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## Issues (continued)

- Is the definition of area consistent with yield?  
Area includes dyke, trees, stones, ponds, while yield is defined as a production per area without dyke etc.
- Do you have political bias?  
You prefer less production than real one for keeping price high.  
You prefer more production than real one, as you have to achieve the national target of the production.

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## Issues (continued)

- Are you happy with the result of analysis?  
Lots of analysis have been done based on the existing data, as if the data are reliable.  
There are many analytical reports on agriculture, but you cannot use it, as the analysis is not based on actual data.

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## How to Solve the Problem

### -Multilateral Approach-

- Through multilateral approach like AFSIS project,
  - the supply and demand data will become consistent among member states,
  - you will be able to understand the situation on food security in each state,
  - you will understand the importance of analysis based on the reliable statistics.

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## How to Solve the Problem

### -Approach to Individual economies-

- Through approach to individual economies, each economy will
  - introduce the easy method to conduct survey,
  - introduce actual measurement into important crops,
  - harmonize methodology and definition.

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How to Solve the Problem  
-Approach to Individual economies- (continued)

- Easy method enables you
  - to conduct sample survey without mother population in advance,
  - avoid using expensive equipment such as GPS, moisture meter, digital balance which can not be repaired or supplied,
  - to use only Excel for data processing.

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How to Solve the Problem  
-Approach to Individual economies- (continued)

- Actual measurement enables you
  - to eliminate political bias from the data as it gives you the ground or evidence of the data.
- Through the technical cooperation,
  - Japan has been developing the way of improving statistical methodology in individual economies.

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## Lastly,

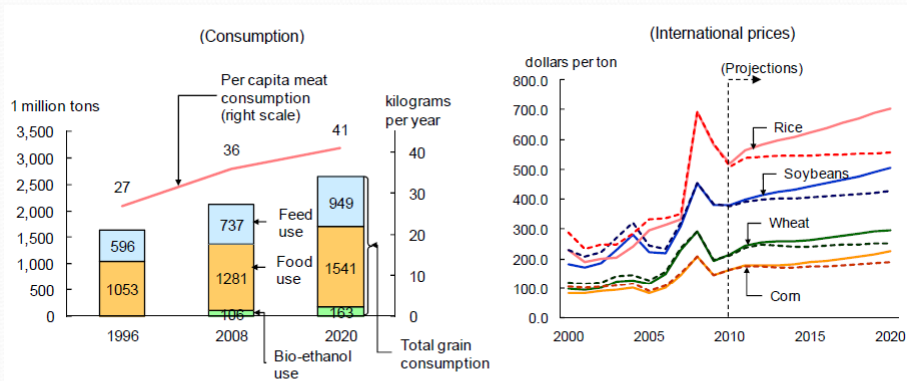
- Japan is willing to share the way how to collect reliable information, as Japan has experience such as AFSIS project and technical cooperation.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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## Appendix

### ○ Future prospects for world grain consumption and international prices



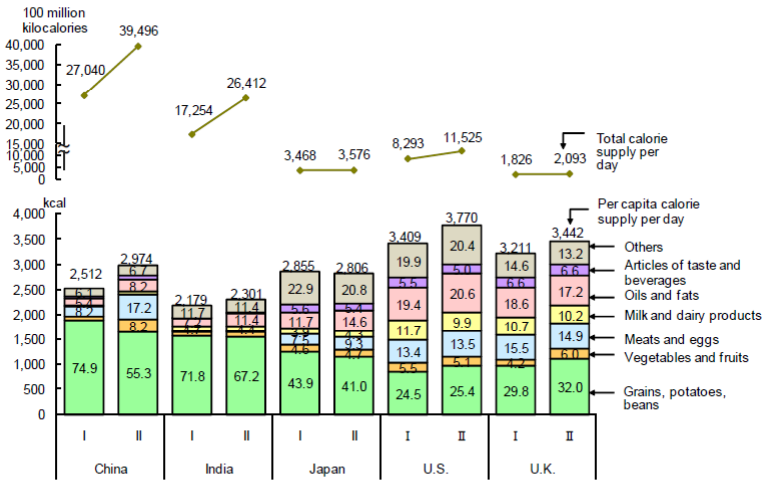
Source: MAFF Policy Research Institute, "World Food Supply and Demand Projections to 2020" (released in February 2011)  
 Note: The solid line for international prices indicates nominal prices and the dashed line real prices.

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Appendix (continued)

Changes in food consumption in major countries

(Changes in food categories' shares of consumption and total calorie supply per day in major countries)



Source: Prepared by MAFF based on FAO "FAOSTAT"

Notes: 1) Average per capita calorie supply per day in the 1985-1987 period (I) and the 2005-2007 period (II) for each category was computed to calculate each category's share of total supply.

2) Numbers in the bar graph represent percentage shares of per capita calorie supply per day