

**Country Interventions for Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Seventh Session Bangkok, 26-28 August 2020**

Lao PDR

Agenda item 3a:

Progress made in support of the collective vision and framework for action by groups responsible for regional initiatives of the Committee on Statistics and by the secretariat.

Information document Supporting Agenda item 3a: Progress in implementing the Asia-Pacific regional Action plan to improve Agriculture and Rural Statistics.

Country intervention/statement:

Mr. Chair, Chairperson, Excellences, Distinguished Colleagues, It is an honor for us to participate in the 7th Session Committee of Statistics of the United Nations ESCAP.

I would like to share the progress on implementation of the 3rd Census of Agriculture (LCA III).

Lao PDR is now conducting the 3rd Census of Agriculture (LCA III) for 2019-2020, the result from this census will be used as a reference for the next national socio-economic development plan in 2021-2025. Particularly it will be remarkable evident based to improve the strategy for development of the agriculture sector for the period 2016-2025 and vision 2030. The vision is to integrate with SDG agenda mainly to ensure food security and develop an efficient and competitive agriculture sector. The goals are to produce a stable supply of agriculture products; ensure production of safe food in an environmentally friendly manner; and create employment and increase rural incomes. Our government strongly believe that if we can improve the agriculture sector will result in raising millions of Lao people above the poverty line.

The 3rd LCA will capture all agriculture holding including private households and collective households in almost 9,000 villages across Lao PDR. The census methodology is based on guidelines given in FAO's World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2020. In addition, LSB has prepared to modernize on statistics production and dissemination process. Our 3rd Lao Census of Agriculture 2019/2020 (LCA), we use CAPI based as tool for field data collection. Alternatively, the remote sensing data will be applied as sample study on land size verification, crop cutting in selected areas. This study will provide chance for LSB to learn and experience on adopt new technology into collecting and disseminating statistics.

The census field work will be conducted on October-November 2020, the result of the census is expected to be release on June 2021. Our government has value this census as priority activities, therefore the census has fully funded by Lao government about 8 million USD. We also receive the support on Technical Assistants from FAO to prepare and conduct Lao Census of Agriculture 2019/2020 in order to respond WCA2020 and SDG indicators. In addition, we are also discuss with ADB who interest to support on Post enumeration on Land measurement study using remote sensing.

Thank you.