Eighth International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS VIII)
New Delhi, India, 18-21 November 2019

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The Eighth International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS VIII) will be held in New Delhi on 18-21 November 2019. It is organized by the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW), Government of India, in close collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), under the auspices of the ISI Committee on Agricultural Statistics (ISI-CAS).

ICAS Conferences are organized every three years and convene senior agricultural statisticians representing national statistical offices and ministries of agriculture from all over the world. The Conference is open to all producers and users of agricultural statistics, from government entities, academia, development partners and international organizations.

ICAS VIII will provide an ideal occasion to discuss research studies and best practices on the indicators selected for the agricultural-related targets of the 2030 Agenda and assess the challenges that countries face to monitor them. In this context, the Conference will help to address the changing needs and opportunities for agricultural statistics under the overarching theme of "**Statistics for Transformation of Agriculture to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**".

The **International Scientific Programme Committee** is co-chaired by the Chief Statistician of India and Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (Dr Pravin Srivastava), a member of the National Institution for Transforming India, also called NITI Aayog (Prof. Ramesh Chand), the Chair of the ISI Committee on Agricultural Statistics (Mr Michael Steiner) and the FAO Chief Statistician (Mr Pietro Gennari). The Committee coordinates the work of **42 international senior experts** who act as Session Organizers.

The Scientific Programme of ICAS VIII is structured in five plenary sessions, 42 parallel sessions focusing on 10 thematic areas and a poster session. In total, over 200 papers will be presented at one of the plenary or parallel sessions, and about 100 poster-papers will be on display. The papers presented at ICAS VIII will be published online as part of the Proceedings of the Conference.

A series of interesting side events are organized in the margins of ICAS VIII, including a workshop on *Closing the Agricultural Data Gap through Agricultural Integrated Surveys* hosted by FAO (22 November 2019), a training course on the *Use of administrative data in agricultural statistics,* organized by Eurostat in collaboration with Statistics Poland (22 November 2019), and a training course on *Methodology for Agricultural Censuses and Surveys for Young Statisticians* (22 and 23November 2019), organized by USDA.

ISI Members are invited to **register online** and to meet at this International Conference dedicated to modernizing agricultural statistics and improving the data and indicators used to monitor the agricultural-related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.