



IPS Paper

Plan B: agricultural surveys in times of unexpected events

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Brief Description

Economic statistics need to be able to capture the new phenomena and complex realities of the 21st century.

The goal of this session is to highlight some of the major developments using non-conventional methods to react unexpected events in agricultural statistics, or to find an appropriate way to transform administrative datasets into statistical raw material.

During the session an efficient method is introduced to detect the demographic events of the enterprise statistical unit with the Levenshtein distance technique, and it will also be highlighted, how data providers' reporting burdens can be reduced by using VAT data in short term business statistics.

Efficient usage of these methods may help to enhance value to users and stakeholders, to reduce administrative burdens and to improve the quality of official statistics.

Abstract

The aim of the presentation is to show the possibilities of carrying out agricultural statistical data collections and censuses in times of unexpected events (e.g. pandemic). The nature of the event itself is not really important, what is more important is the preparation and the existence of a plan B that can be implemented quickly. Also during these periods, it is important to have good quality and timely information for decision making. Agriculture is a particularly sensitive area, as investments and developments are linked to national and EU subsidies and they require the most detailed and up-to-date information for planning. Data providers and farmers need to be aware that without their data, good decisions cannot be made, and decisions are based on official statistics. Researching new methods and intensive use of new data sources are also essential in the field of agricultural statistics. Tools of Plan B can be using more administrative data, intensive communication, increasing the rate of online completion and, if necessary, rescheduling of data collections. Ideally, certain elements of Plan B could later become routine.