# STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Agricultural statistics development strategy for the Republic of Serbia, 2014 – 2018

Belgrade, 2014

Pursuant to Article 45, paragraph 1, the Act on Government (Official Gazette RS, no. 55/05, 71/05-Rev, 101/07, 65/08, 16/11, 68/12-US, 72/12, 7/14 and 44/14)

The Government of the Republic of Serbia shall hereby pass

# Agricultural statistics development strategy for the Republic of Serbia, 2014 – 2018

#### 1. Introduction

Within the process of accession of the Republic of Serbia to the EU, the area of agriculture shall undergo adjustments to a series of EU regulations and standards applicable in the EU, which is expected to induce considerable changes in this area. A set of legal acts, rules and procedures that ought to be adopted in the agricultural area include legally binding standards, common agricultural policy and structural funds.

In order to follow the process of adjustments and assess the achieved level of harmonization, it is necessary to introduce a number of statistical indicators for agricultural statistics. The implementation of the Census of Agriculture 2012 (hereinafter: Census of Agriculture) ensured grounds for new essential changes in the area of agriculture. The Strategy of agricultural statistics development (hereinafter referred to as Strategy) shall be regarded and adopted as the prerequisite for synchronised conduct of the future activities.

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter: SORS) takes into effect more that 80% of all statistical activities within the system of official statistics of the Republic of Serbia, the integral part of which is agricultural statistics. The Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection (hereinafter: MAEP) is also a producer of agricultural statistics included in the subject system.

This document contains the anticipated development activities for the official agricultural statistics until 2018. Here defined are the basic strategic objectives and presented is the description of the current status of the ahricultural area and the created program of changes with anticipated implementation activities in the fortcoming period that are based on cooperation between SORS and MAEP.

#### 1.1. Abbreviations used in this document

MAEP	Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection
SORS	Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia
SAV	Secretariat for Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry of AP Vojvodina
SAMIS	Serbian Agricultural Market Information System
IASA	Institute for Applied Science in Agriculture
ESA	Extension Services in Agriculture
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization - FAO
FADN	Farm Accountancy Data Network – FADN
NSTJ	National Nomenclature of Statistical Territorial Units
IPA	Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance – IPA
LUCAS	Land Use / Cover Area Frame Survey – LUCAS

# 2. Legislation background

The Serbian official statistics is based on the observance of the single standards, definitions and basic principles, in accordance with the Official Statistics Law (Official Gazette of RS, number 104/09) and the European Statistics Code of Practice.

All statistical surveys are conducted in compliance with the Plan of statistical surveys that is adopted by the Government of the Republic of Serbia for every referent year.

# 3. Strategic objectives

The basic strategic objectives are envisaged to define the priorities, i.e. the main course of activities and objectives that with their due observance agricultural statistics are expected to achieve.

# 3.1. Development and changes in agricultural statistics in line with actual overall changes that are expected to meet the national requirements

During the last 25 years, the Serbian economy has passed through periods of various crises, which had destructive impact on its organisation and activity, while numerous resources have been permanently demobilised. From the start of the transition period, the volume of economic output has been reduced by 50% in relation to pre-transition years. In the whole period, the agricultural production remained on an unchanged level or it recorded a moderate growth. Owing to climate conditions and natural soil features, the Serbian agricultural section, regarded by output value, has a significant share in the Gross domestic product. Agricultural production and food processing industry are activities where great expectations are invested, and in the municipal and regional development strategies, it is recognized as a major course of development.

Therefore, a special care is dedicated to the development of agricultural statistics. The main task for statistics is to reflect the subject actual and objective status and meeting this aim anticipates that agricultural statistics shall incorporate an established system of following and measuring the status and changes over time, as well as an adequate way of public information on the status and trends in this economic area, with the final aim to overcome as soon as possible the problems and difficulties in agriculture and to ensure an effective consolidation of the current state and projection of future development.

# 3.2. International comparability of agricultural statistics and harmonization with the EU standards

In the first place, we envisage steps on harmonising standards, classifications and methodologies, as well as adopting good statistical practice of other countries, i.e. adopting international solutions, primarily of the EU, in order to obtain internationally comparable statistical indicators. This is expected to facilitate the accomplishment of the requirements that the agricultural statistics are faced with in the process of stabilisation and accession of our country to the EU.

We shall further develop our international cooperation by fulfilling the obligations towards the organisation such as FAO, Eurostat, etc.

# 3.3. Upgraded system of agricultural statistics through cooperation and support by other institutions

SORS is the holder of the Serbian system of official statistics and therefore is held responsible for the official agricultural statistics. Certain areas of agricultural statistics fall in charge of other institutions, MAEP in the first place.

MAEP creates balance sheets of agricultural and food products, compiles data on market prices of agricultural and food products, and maintains various registers and records that can influence, as data sources, both the frames for statistical surveys and the provisions of various indicators of

agricultural statistics. In adition, other ministries that have respective data at their disposal can be important for the creation and calculation of indicators, especially for fishing and agroecology.

As an integral part of the Serbian official statistics, agricultural statistics shall present a well established system and pursuant to the Official Statistics Law, long-term development strategy, multi-annual and annual programs and plans of statistical surveys, and in accordance with other acts as well, it shall define the role and stipulated obligations among institutions that are authorised producers of official statistics.

Through its direct cooperation with MAEP and other ministries, SORS shall contribute to upgraded coherence, integrity and application of standardised classifications and definitions in creating statistical indicators. Therefore, this Strategy for the period 2014 – 2018 has been made harmonized in norms with the Strategy of development of agriculture and rural areas of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2014 – 2024 (Official Gazette of RS, number 85/14), which is proposed by MAEP. In this way ensured is the compatibility and harmonization of the national strategic documents that formally stipulate the area of agriculture and its issues from various aspects.

# 4. Producers of agricultural statistics

#### 4.1. **SORS**

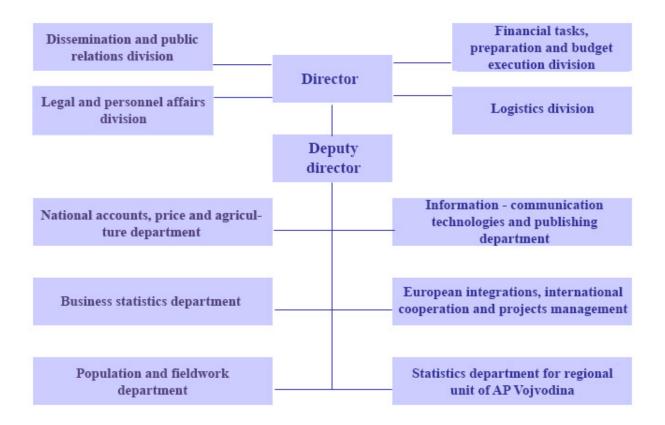
SORS shall ensure, on impartial basis, numerical and representative data and information on economic, demographic and social phenomena for all its users (business entities and associations thereof, government authorities, local government bodies, cultural, educational and scientific institutions, and public at large), while observing the basic principles of relevance, impartiality, reliability, timeliness and punctuality, professional independence, cost effectiveness, consistency, accessibility, confidentiality and personal data use, in accordance with the Official Statistics Law (Official Gazette of RS, number 104/09) and the European Statistics Code of Practice.

The official statistics is fully in compliance with the international obligations of the Republic of Serbia regarding the production, dissemination, analysis and publishing of official information.

#### **SORS** administrative capacities

According to the Rules of internal organisation and systematisation of positions of 30 March 2010, the total SORS employment numbered 485. Since SORS comprises 14 regional offices/departments, which have been established to facilitate the organisation of data collection in field for statistical surveys, 175 persons are employed out of the SORS head office. Hereafter is presented the scheme of SORS organisation.

# SORS organisation – Schematic presentation



SORS Division of agricultural and forestry statistics is an integral part of the Department of national accounts, prices and agriculture. The division is composed of two units, Crop production statistics unit and Animal production and fishing statistics unit. Each of the units has five employees, which together with the head of the division makes the number of 11 employees.

The calculation of prices and price indices in agriculture is carried out within the Unit for producer prices – Price statistics division, while the creation of economic account in agriculture is in charge of the Unit for satellite accounts, belonging to the Department of national accounts, prices and agriculture.

# Agricultural statistics - Availability of data

Within the area of agricultural statistics compiled are the data on agricultural land areas, categories of land use, sown and planted areas – by species/kinds of crops and plants, production and yields for about 60 cultures, number of livestock – by species and categories, output of animal products (meat, milk, eggs, wool, honey), as well as the data on slaughter of animals – by species.

The above mentioned data are compiled through regular surveys (18), in accordance with the prescribed methodology, and also applying the method of accounting and analysis (accounting of agricultural production physical volume, accounting of crop production – livestock increase and meat production, by kinds), in accordance with the Official Statistics Law and the Regulation stipulation the plan of official statistics for respective year.

Of the total number of agricultural surveys (18), about 80% is implemented through SORS regional departments, for 10% of surveys reporting units forward their reports directly to SORS head office in Belgrade, while the other data are provided indirectly using administrative sources. The detailed description of the method of collection and volume of data are given in Chapter 5 (Present status and development activities).

Preliminary data are available to public within the edition Statistical releases (9), in printed and electronic form, while the final data are published within the SORS regular publications (Statistical yearbook of the Republic of Serbia, Municipalities and regions of the Republic of Serbia), and in database at the SORS site (<a href="www.stat.gov.rs">www.stat.gov.rs</a>), provided as specific data, in time series from the year 1947.

Price statistics for agriculture include surveys on indices of producer prices of agricultural and fishing products and surveys on price indices of reproduction material, means of production and services in agriculture.

The list of products for specified prices includes about 140 products, while the list of products for indices includes 100 products.

Prices and producer price indices for agricultural and fishing products are calculated on monthly and annual basis, in compliance with the EU recommendations.

The subject data are released on the 12<sup>th</sup> day in a month (referent period m-2), in the edition Statistical releases (CN 40), and in the SORS publications – Monthly statistical bulletin and Statistical yearbook of the Republic of Serbia, apart from indices, Monthly statistical bulletin offers the average monthly producer purchase prices for agricultural and fishing products. The data are available at the SORS (<a href="www.stat.gov.rs">www.stat.gov.rs</a>).

Price indices for reproduction material, production means and services in agriculture are envisaged to be calculated starting from 2014.

In all stages of data collection, processing and publishing, special care is dedicated to the protection of personal and other individual data, as prescribed by the Law.

#### **Census of Agriculture 2012**

In the period from 1 October to 15 December 2012 we conducted the Census of Agriculture 2012, in accordance with the Law on the Census of Agriculture 2011 (Official Gazette of RS, number 104/09 and 24/11 – amendments).

Census of Agriculture 2012 in the territory of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter referred to as Census of Agriculture) was carried out with the observance of the following objectives:

- to provide an overall review of the structure of the national agriculture;
- to create database that shall be internationally comparable and grounded on key features
  of agricultural domain;
- to ensure statistics required for the development of a sustainable agricultural policy and for the process of negotiations and accession to the EU;
- to provide financial support for agricultural holdings by using the EU instruments of preaccession assistance;
- to facilitate the creation of the Statistical register of agricultural holdings.

The applied instruments, coverage, features and standardized concepts and definitions are in compliance with the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture, 2010 (FAO – UN) and Eurostat methodology and as prescribed by the Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88, OJ L 321, 1.12.2008, p. 14-34.

Within the Census of Agriculture and applying a single questionnaire, we also conducted the survey on agricultural production method (*Production method in agriculture*), the purpose of which was to fully meet the requirements prescribed in the above mentioned regulation.

The surveys that we carried out within the preliminary activities for the Census of Agriculture (the pilot censuses and the Pre-census test of the AC) were funded from the EU multi-beneficiary program – IPA 2007. The funds for financing the Census of Agriculture were provided partly from the budget of the Republic of Serbia, and partly from the instruments of pre-accession assistance within the EU multi-beneficiary program – IPA 2009.

In the course of the Census of Agriculture the number of 937210 households and 4200 legal entities and unincorporated enterprises were visited and interviews carried out. For enumeration purposes we engaged 6138 enumerators, 962 municipal instructors and 294 republic instructors, 15 regional coordinators, as well as 795 members of municipal census commissions.

The data obtained in the Census of Agriculture will contribute to acquiring the knowledge about the actual status of agriculture of the Republic of Serbia. That is of particular importance for all future users of aggregate data, in particular for the respondents – census units, which will be able to better plan agricultural production, apply for national and European funds supporting agriculture and obtain information on which branch of agriculture to invest in.

A part of the project within the EU multi-beneficiary program – IPA 2007 concerned the creation of the Statistical register of agricultural holdings. After the Census of Agriculture the conditions were met to ensure the creation and keeping (update) of this register, which will be in charge of the SORS, as well as to resume the process of harmonization of statistical surveys in agriculture according to the EU recommendations and standards. The statistical register of agricultural holdings is established in the first place to ensure the frame for agricultural holdings sample selection for regular surveys of agricultural statistics. In order to obtain good quality data in statistical surveys it is of utmost importance that the frame for sample selection would be updated; namely, that the Statistical register should include all agricultural holdings, i.e. exclude those holdings that for some reason ceased to be agricultural holdings. As a method of updating the Statistical register regarded is regular annual cross comparison of its data with all available records and administrative sources.

#### Initiated activities on upgrading agricultural statistics

Within the project IPA 2011, we conduct the activities on harmonizing statistics of agricultural production according to the recommendations and standards prescribed by Eurostat, and this course will be resumed within the EU multi-beneficiary program – IPA 2012. The projects of these programs actually concern crop production statistics (establishing the system of ensuring data through sample-based surveys and the system of yields estimation) and animal production statistics (number of animals in respective periods, monthly data on slaughtered livestock animals, data on milk and milk products on monthly and annual basis, data on structure of dairies and collection stations on three-year basis). In addition, the projects envisage the revision of time series of data according to the results of the Census of Agriculture.

The activities on the creation of economic accounts and prices in agriculture were initiated in 2010 within the EU multi-beneficiary program – IPA 2008 – Project 7: Economic Accounts for Agriculture and prices and a result of it was the detailed description of data sources and methodology of economic accounts for agriculture (EAA Inventory - Eurostat's standard report structure for its Member States), which serves as the basis for developing the system of accounts for agriculture.

During 2011 and 2012 we carried out experimental calculations of production account elements (output, intermediate consumption, gross value added, fixed assets expenditure and net value added) for the period from 2007 to 2009. According to the obtained results, the methodology of economic accounts for agriculture was upgraded.

Within statistics of prices in agriculture we upgraded the list of agricultural products, as well as the list of products for calculating input prices in agriculture, in compliance with the recommended EU methodology. Also, in 2012 we introduced the survey on prices of input (reproduction material and means of production) in agriculture. We also created a new scheme of weights for calculating price indices in agriculture, which resulted in an upgraded methodology of prices and price indices in agriculture.

# 4.2. Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection

Within the scope of its charges, in order to meet its own needs and to follow actual phenomena and status of agriculture, MAEP compiles certain data and maintains the records on agricultural producers and their output.

# Balance of agricultural and food products

MAEP creates balance sheet for major agricultural and food products, which is an instrument for following the market situation, as well as for establishing the measures of agricultural policy. The balance sheets are produced for the following agricultural and food products: wheat, maize, sugar beet and sugar, soya and soya sacma, sunflower and other oilseed crops' oils, raspberries, sour cherries and cherries, apples, potato, cattle and beef, and pigs and pork meat. These balance sheets present the basic tool for market analysis concerning agricultural and food products and they offer organized information on crop and animal products, described production results for certain agricultural and food products in respective economic year, as well as the summary of market relations.

The reporting output is a provisional balance for respective economic year, which sublimes the data and estimates obtained from MAEP, and comprises elements of supplies (domestic production, opening stocks and imports), on one side, and elements of consumption (domestic consumption, loss, exports and closing stocks), on the other side.

The creation of balance of agricultural and food products is based on the principle of equal offer and demands at some balanced price, and it presents the functional grounds of market economy.

#### Register of agricultural holdings

The Register of agricultural holdings (RAH) was established in 2004 and its maintenance is in charge of the Ministry of agriculture and environmental protection, the Administration of payments in agriculture. RAH is maintained with the aim to facilitate the implementation and monitoring of agricultural policy, keeping records of agricultural holdings and family agricultural holdings, and for the purpose of maintaining analytical and statistical data for the needs of MAEP.

The RAH shall include enterprises, farm cooperatives, other legal entities, such as institutions, schools, monasteries, churches and other organizations, unincorporated enterprises and farmers that carry out agricultural production and the entry in the RAH is the prerequisite for practising rights to support measures to agriculture and rural development. To this effect, agricultural holding a production unit where enterprise, farm cooperative or other legal entity, unincorporated enterprise and farmer carry out agricultural production, with no less than 0.5 ha of agricultural land in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. with less than 0.5 ha of agricultural, other land or construction whole where these subjects carry out livestock raising, viticulture or vegetable production (glasshouses or poly-tunnels), i.e. practice other forms of agricultural production (growing of fish, mushrooms, snails, keeping bees, etc.) that are entered in the RAH. Family agricultural holding may be commercial or non-commercial, in accordance with its market orientation, and this is determined with the entry in the RAH.

# Serbian Agricultural Market Information System - SAMIS

SAMIS presents the system of regular collection, processing and release of prices of agricultural and food products and reproduction material in the Serbian market. This system includes an overview of market prices in the area of crop production (fruit, vegetables and cereals),

livestock/animal production (prices of live animals and prices in slaughtering industry, poultry meat, eggs and milk products), as well as prices of production inputs for agricultural production (pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, seedlings and mineral fertilizers).

The system of data collection from the territory of the Republic of Serbia is based on a network of advisors from 18 included stations of ESA in the territory of the RS. Price collection is carried out on weekly basis for all products, except for purchase prices of milk, which ESA submit once in a month, and production input prices, which are collected biannually (before spring and autumn sowing season).

Through this system ensured is the following of movements of agricultural and food products' retail prices in green markets and wholesale prices in (wholesale) markets, based on which market supply and demands are presented, as well as the quality and price trends in the pervious seven days, which is reported within the bulletin on weekly basis.

This system of information is especially important since data on wholesale prices are used for the creation of purchase prices of major agricultural products. The database includes over 196 crop production items, about 160 items of livestock production and about 15 products of the group of cereals. Further on, the collected data on prices and situation in the market are the basis for conducting analysis and executing reports that are distributed to users at the internet site (<a href="www.stips.minpolj.gov.rs">www.stips.minpolj.gov.rs</a>), through radio and TV programs, and in daily papers. The average number of daily visits to the site is 800.

The data of SAMIS are applied by a large number of institutions that follow price movements and that directly or indirectly use them in their activities (e.g. government authorities and their general administrations, Ministry of Defence, Student centre, correctional facilities, hospitals, *Srbijašume* PE, attorneys in solving legal property issues, estimation of damages, etc.).

There exists an established cooperation with the countries of the region that also have a developed market information system and our bulletins regularly include tables with prices of major agricultural and food products from Croatia and Montenegro. SAMIS is included in the system AGRIMIS and thereby the access to the data from the Central and South-East Europe countries is ensured.

# Files and registers

Within the scope of its charges and regular activities, MAEP maintains a large number of registers and files. As prescribed by legislation, MAEP is authorized to maintain the following registers and files: Register of agricultural holdings, Register of incentives to agriculture and rural development (in the process of creation), Central register, Register of viticulture, Wine register, Register of agricultural producers with special authorizations, Register of seed producers and manufacturers, Register of seedlings, Register of pesticides and mineral fertilizers producers, Register of pesticides and other agrochemicals holders, Register of crop producers and holders, Register of nutritive agrochemicals, Register of recognized sorts, Register of seed manufacturers, Register of seedling importers, Register of applications for assigned rights of crops improvers, Register of protected sorts, Register of transfer rights of improvers, Register of licensing documents, Register of public warehousing for agricultural products, Central station for animal coding and identification, Register of economic subjects operating with food of animal origin, Register of stem crops, forest nurseries and nurseries of ornamental plants, Records of agricultural land in state ownership, Records of payments for fertility control, etc, Records of state-ownership agricultural land lease agreements, Records of organic production, Register of flour coding, Register of seedling producers, Records of geographical indication coding for agricultural and food products (except water, wine and brandy), Records of producers and marking of wine with geographical indication, Records of wine with geographical indication marking (quality and origin marking) and Records of issued codes for wine declarations.

These registers and records can be used for updating the Register of agricultural holdings, which presents the frame for statistical surveys, and in certain cases for creating various agricultural

statistical indicators with the aim to reduce costs of surveys and excessive burden for respondents.

## Viticulture and Wine register

Pursuant to the Law on wine (Official Gazette of RS, number 41/09 and 93/12), and in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 436/2009 of 26 May 2009 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 as regards the vineyard register, compulsory declarations and the gathering of information to monitor the wine market, the documents accompanying consignments of wine products and the wine sector, OJ L128/15, 27.5.2009, MAEP shall maintain the Viticulture register that will compile and be used to check all data on grape producers, their vineyard lots and areas, grape sorts, soil grounds and other data, as well as annual data on grape production. These tasks were initiated in 2012 by the Expert team for Viticulture register, and the first important and useful data will be available starting from 2015. In addition, according to the mentioned national and the EU legislation, the MAEP agricultural inspection shall establish the Wine register, which will compile all data on wine producers, as well as on annual production and stocks of wine and other products used for wine production.

#### Early estimates of yields on weekly basis

One of the MAEP charges, which it implements through ESA, is to report on sown/harvested areas, i.e. to estimate crop yields during agricultural season on weekly basis. This reporting is based on field estimations provided from ESA, and they are carried out according to contacts with selected agricultural holdings, based on quantitative data on sown areas and qualitative assessment in a vegetation cycle. Sublimation, processing and reporting is provided by the Institute for applied science in agriculture (IASA).

In order to improve early estimates of produced yields, MAEP and SORS take active steps at establishing single methodology of qualitative estimation, and on upgrading representative sample, which should result in better quality output data and create the basis for anticipating marketing of products, forecasting market trends and therefore, for upgrading crop production statistics.

# Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) in the Republic of Serbia

MAEP has the charge of introducing the system of FADN in the Republic of Serbia. Since the establishment of this system is a complex issue, it asks for well coordinated activities of a large number of participants, with the support of all relevant institutions, however also with technical assistance that is presently ensured by the EU Delegation to the Republic of Serbia.

The functioning of the FADN system in the Republic of Serbia calls for active engagement in the first place of SORS, Extension services in agriculture – Secretariat for agriculture, water management and forestry of AP Vojvodina (SAV), IASA and ESA, which implement data collection directly from agricultural holdings in the territory of the Republic of Serbia.

The Serbian system of Farm Accountancy Data Network will create the grounds for collecting data directly from agricultural holding in a calendar year and will be implemented in compliance with the single FADN methodology, which was prescribed according to the EU standards. The methodology is envisaged to ensure representative data that serve to determine income gained at agricultural holdings and for numerous business analyses as well.

MAEP and other institutions comprised by the Serbian system of FADN shall establish and harmonize the system with the EU standards and legal acts and the national legislation.

Within the preparatory activities for the establishment of FADN system, the Republic of Serbia is obligated to pass the National five-year plan for establishment and improvement of Farm Accountancy Data Network. MAEP received the support through the EU project of technical

assistance – Establishment of the Serbian Farm Accountancy Data Network, which was initiated in 2011.

# Methods of data collection (Extension services in agriculture)

The MAEP activities of authorised maintaining agricultural statistics are mainly based on the cooperation with the Extension services in agriculture, as a systemically established and according to territorial principle organized network of professional and technical advisors. The cooperation between MAEP and ESA is formally stipulated by the Law on extension services in agriculture (Official Gazette of RS, number 30/10), which envisages the establishment of an authorised organisation for extension services in agriculture. This organisation shall pass the Plan of activities in compliance with mid-term and annual development programs that are adopted MAEP.

In accordance with the adopted plan, the activities of extension services in agriculture are coordinated by IASA organizations (in charge of extension services in agriculture in the territory of Srbija – jug and Beogradski region, *NSTJ*) and the Secretariat for agriculture, water management and forestry of AP Vojvodina (in charge of extension services in agriculture in Region Vojvodine, *NSTJ*).

The Institute of applied science in agriculture is authorized to coordinate and supervise the activities of extension services in agriculture and simultaneously it conducts training courses and educational programs for professional and technical advisors and agricultural producers. In AP Vojvodina, the Secretariat for agriculture, water management and forestry of AP Vojvodina implements the coordination and supervision of extension services in agriculture and conducts training and educational programs for professional and technical advisors and agricultural producers.

ESA have an important role in upgrading the general knowledge and adopting respective technologies in crop production and livestock raising; in managing agricultural production; implementing the EU standards and legislation in selected holdings and in other agricultural holdings as well; in educating agricultural producers by providing professional assistance; in organising seminars, workshops and publishing professional/technical materials, as well as in conducting other activities aimed at the improvement of agricultural production. In the area of agricultural statistics and pursuant to the authorisation by MAEP, ESA collect data for the needs of SAMIS, first estimates of crop yields, FADN system and carry out other tasks assigned by MAEP.

The advisory services are presently rendered by 34 organisations of extension services in agriculture with about 220 employed advisors, and they include: extension services in Srbija – jug and Beogradski region (21 agricultural stations with about 135 advisors) and AP Vojvodina extension services in agriculture (13 stations employing 78 advisors).

# 5. Present status and anticipated development of agricultural statistics

The Official statistics development strategy for the period 2009 – 2012 had envisaged the harmonization of agricultural statistical surveys in compliance with the EU standards; however the harmonization was not accomplished in the period covered by the Official statistics development strategy, which was due the fact that the Census of population, households and dwellings was postponed and therefore the frame for the implementation of the Census of agriculture was not ensured in time. As the agricultural census creates the basis for the establishment of the new system of surveys in agricultural statistics, the reform activities concerning the agricultural statistical system and the respective harmonization in the area of agriculture have been started upon the accomplished processing of the Census of agriculture 2012 results and the creation of the Statistical register of agricultural holdings.

Since the harmonization with EU standards is seen as a strategic objective for the development of agricultural statistics, the present status is regarded in relevance to the Statistical requirements compendium, 2013 Eurostat edition, by topics and modules in Chapter 4 – Statistics of agriculture, forestry and fishing. Here are described in details all indicators that need to be provided to Eurostat, as well as the respective legal frame.

# 5.1. Agricultural production statistics (4.01)

# 5.1.1. Crop production statistics (4.01.01)

#### Present status

Crop production statistics are envisaged to compile data on land areas, methods of land use, sown areas, production and yields by crops and plantations (about 60 species), as well as areas of fallow land and uncultivated arable land, on annual basis. To obtain the mentioned data, the following surveys are implemented:

- Sown areas in autumn sowing season
- Survey on sown areas and plantations in late spring season
- Survey on realised early crops and fruit yields and expected yields of major late crops
- Expected yields of late crops, fruit and vines
- Realised yields of late crops, fruit and vines.

The collection of data for theses surveys is carried out through regular annual reporting based on bookkeeping and other records of enterprises and farm cooperatives, and by estimations implemented by statistical estimators for family holdings. Estimations for family holdings are based on general land register/cadastre. For these estimations a network of 1250 statistical estimators has been established and they provide data for about 4000 estimated areas, which are usually composed of one or several cadastre municipalities.

The collection of data on early estimates of production and yields is carried out applying the same method as for regular statistical surveys on crop production.

So far, we have not implemented enumeration of fruit kinds and vineyards. Data on industrial and domestic production of wine are available; however data on balance of wine are not available and data of the Viticulture register are not accessible yet, since the implementation has been recently started.

Crop production statistics are available to the level of municipalities. They are published in SORS publications and in database at the SORS site. Data on early estimates of production and yields are quarterly published to the level of regions (NSTJ 2) in the edition Statistical releases and at the SORS site.

#### Further development activities

The revision of the system of surveys concerning crop production statistics has been initiated within the program IPA 2011 and it anticipates the revision of the number and contents of actual surveys, and the revision of methodology and ways of data collection, which also assumes the use of administrative sources wherever it would be possible.

The objective of this revision is to achieve the harmonization of crop production statistics in compliance with the Regulation (EC) No 543/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 concerning crop statistics and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 837/90 and (EEC) No 959/93, OJ L 167, 29.6.2009, p. 1-11, namely, to upgrade the quality of existing indicators and ensure indicators that are missing, however are required to be provided to Eurostat.

The new system of surveys on crop production statistics assumes that the number of surveys, their contents and methods of implementation shall be optimised. Therefore, starting from 2014 the Agricultural production survey will be conducted twice a year, and it will ensure compiled data on crop and animal production.

The survey implemented in May (state as of 25 May) will ensure data on sown areas at the end of spring sowing season, data on agricultural areas by land use, as well as estimates for early crops

and fruit yields. Through this survey, data on the number of pigs will also be provided, if it proves necessary.

The survey implemented in December will ensure data on harvested areas and realised crop production (including seed and seedlings), areas sown in autumn sowing season, anticipation of spring sowing season, as well as data on number of livestock and animal production.

In addition, another objective of these surveys is to compile data on use of mineral fertilizers at agricultural holdings.

The survey will be carried out on a representative sample for the level of areas (NSTJ 3), and the defined indicators are expected to meet the quality requirements prescribed by the mentioned Regulation. The survey shall cover family agricultural holdings and holdings of legal entities that are engaged in agricultural production activity. The established Statistical register of agricultural holdings will present the sample frame. The actual records and registers maintained by MAEP will be used for updating the Statistical register of agricultural holdings, as well as for checking data compiled through the surveys.

In compliance with the revision of number and contents of crop production statistical surveys, the definitions and concept will pass methodological harmonization based on the Eurostat Handbook for annual crop statistics – Revision 2013.

According to the results of the Census of agriculture, time series relative to harvested areas and yields of agricultural cultures shall be revised.

MAEP (for the territory of the central Serbia) and SAV (for the territory of Vojvodina) have at disposal early estimates of areas and forecast of crop yields that they receive during an agricultural season from ESA and local government bodies, i.e. from municipal agricultural authorities.

Within IPA 2011 project and in cooperation with the American Embassy in Belgrade and US Department of Agriculture, the system that according to single methodology shall ensure quality data needed by MAEP and SAV, and representative for the territory of the Republic of Serbia, is in the process of being established. It is envisaged that SORS shall take over early estimates from MAEP and SAV, and forward them to Eurostat according to defined time schedule.

Regarding statistics of permanent plantations (orchards and vineyards), SORS in cooperation with MAEP will carry out the process of harmonization with the EU standards as prescribed by Regulation (EC) No 1337/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 concerning European statistics on permanent crops and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 357/79 and Directive 2001/109/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, OJ L 347, 30.12.2011, p. 7–20, and this assumes enumeration of fruit kinds and sorts once in five years and maintaining of Viticulture register. The Viticulture register is in the process of being established with MAEP, and MAEP will have the charge of keeping and updating the register, and of creating the balance of wine as well.

#### 5.1.2. Statistics of livestock, meat and eggs (4.01.02)

#### Present status

Data on number and weight of livestock – by species (cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, poultry) and categories specified in Annex II – Regulation (EC) No 1165/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 concerning livestock and meat statistics and repealing Council Directives 93/23/EEC, 93/24/EEC and 93/25/EEC, OJ L 321, 1.12.2008, p. 1-13, as well

as data on livestock production, are obtained by implementing the annual Survey on livestock (number) for family agricultural holdings and the regular annual surveys on livestock raising for enterprises, agricultural cooperatives and other organisations with the status of legal entities. These regular statistical surveys ensure data on quantities of primary animal products: eggs (total), honey, milk and wool. Data on number of livestock, by species and categories, and data on total production of eggs, milk and wool, are available to the level of areas (NSTJ 3), and they are published to the level of regions (NSTJ 2).

In cooperation with MAEP, SORS implements monthly survey on slaughtering at registered slaughterhouses. Thereby provided are data on number, gross and net weight of livestock slaughtered at slaughterhouses registered in the territory of the RS, by species and categories of livestock animals as defined in Annex IV of the subject Regulation. The data are available to the level of regions (NSTJ 2).

Based on data compiled though regular surveys on livestock statistics, and on data on imports and exports of live animals, calculated is livestock increase in live weight and meat production (gross indigenous production) on annual basis. Theses data are available for the level of the RS. Forecasts of meat production are not carried out.

Data on activity of hatcheries – by use and production of chicks, on monthly basis, and annual data on structure of hatcheries are not available from SORS. However, monthly data on exports and imports of chicks, by kinds and use, are available through SORS external trade statistics, to the level of regions (NSTJ 2).

All available data are released in publications and within database at the SORS site. Data on number of livestock, by species and categories, and data on monthly slaughtering at slaughterhouses and trade of chicks, have been forwarded to Eurostat since 2012 according to defined time schedule.

#### Anticipated development activities

Within IPA 2011 and 2012 projects, we have resumed the process of harmonisation of statistics of meat and livestock in compliance with the applicable EU legislation, with the aim to upgrade the quality of existing indicators and ensure the missing indicators. According to the data obtained through the Census of Agriculture, a new sample will be selected for the purpose of the Survey on number of livestock. Among other things, this survey will ensure data on structure of slaughtering out of slaughterhouses, by livestock categories and by months, which is required for creating forecasts of meat production on respective basis (on annual basis for cattle and goats, and on biannual basis for pigs and sheep). We anticipate to introduce June survey on number of pigs, since the number of pigs in the Republic of Serbia exceeds 3 million heads and pursuant to the EU Regulation 1165/2008 it is necessary to ensure data on number of pigs, by categories, on biannual basis.

Regarding statistics of activity of hatcheries and production of chicks, MAEP will be active at ensuring respective records and applying procedures in compliance with the Commission Regulation (EC) No 617/2008 of 27 June 2008 laying down detailed rules for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1237/2007 as regarding marketing standards for eggs for hatching and farmyard poultry chicks, OJ L 168, 28.6.2008, p. 5-16, which are prerequisite for providing the required statistics.

## 5.1.3. Statistics of milk and milk products (4.01.03)

#### Present status

SORS provides annual data on produced milk quantities – total and quantities used for human consumption and processing, monthly data on purchase of milk, as well as data on industrial dairy production, namely – on monthly basis (pursuant to the Nomenclature of industrial products – PRODCOM, which is in accordance with the Classification of Activities) and on annual basis.

According to Council Directive 96/16/EC of 19 March 1996 on statistical surveys of milk and milk products, OJ L 78 of 28.3.1996, p. 27-29, since 2010 we have implemented partly harmonised surveys on monthly and annual basis. These surveys shall ensure data on the purchase of cow milk and cow milk products on monthly basis, as well as data on purchase of all types of milk, milk products, and protein and milkfat contents – on annual basis.

Data on available quantities of cow milk and produced milk products in dairies have been forwarded to Eurostat since 2012 according to defined time schedule.

The present system of statistical surveys has not ensured the full harmonization with the EU standards and recommendations, since all required data concerning milk processing and milk products are not available and the applied definitions for certain products are not fully in compliance with the definitions given in Annex 1 of the subject Directive. Presently, the major issue here is incomplete coverage of dairies, which is due the fact that many dairies refuse to provide data.

# Anticipated development activities

Within IPA 2011 and 2012 projects, we undertake measures at upgrading quality of data on available milk quantities and milk products and forwarding them to Eurostat on monthly, annual and three-year basis, according to the EU standards and recommendations. Apart from the questionnaire revision, in cooperation with MAEP, SORS shall act to ensure a satisfactory coverage of dairies, and simultaneously to reduce burden on respondents. Used milk quantities for producing respective milk products at dairies will be obtained by calculations based on quantitative data on these products, as well as on data on protein and milkfat content in the used raw milk.

The processing of annual data will ensure data on three-year basis relative to the structure of purchase stations according to the quantity of purchased milk, and the structure of dairies according to directly purchased milk, used raw milk and output of certain milk products.

# 5.1.4. Organic production statistics (1.09.04)

## Present status

The Census of Agriculture compiled the data on organic production according to the requirements defined in the EU regulation concerning farm structure surveys – Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008, Farm Structure Surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods.

Based on annual reports from authorized controllers and their organisations, MAEP maintains integral records on organic production (producers/operators, areas with applied organic production production methods, areas under conversion to organic production, livestock raising by organic production methods – species and number of animal heads at agricultural holding), organic products processing operators, and persons engaged in organic products external trade.

## Anticipated development activities

In the forthcoming period MAEP shall take steps to prescribe maintenance of records that will cover all participants in domestic trade of organic products.

Since data on organic production that are in charge of MAEP are existent, in order to meet the requirements stipulated by Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007, on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91, OJ L 189, 20.7.2007; Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 of 5 September 2008 laying down detailed rules for implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products with regard to organic production, labelling and control, OJ L 250, 18.9.2008, p.1, SORS will take over the respective data and forward them to Eurostat on annual basis.

# 5.2. Statistics of agricultural structures (4.02.01)

#### **5.2.1. Farm Structure Survey (4.02.01)**

#### Present status

In the period from 1 October to 15 December 2012, the Census of Agriculture was implemented as an overall structural survey.

The data on following aspects were compiled through the Census of Agriculture:

- Land,
- Irrigation,
- Use of mineral fertilizers, manure and pesticides.
- Cultivation and maintenance of land,
- Livestock, bees and other animals,
- Organic production,
- Agricultural machinery and equipment,
- Agricultural buildings,
- Labour force and activities of the holding.

Taking into account the importance of statistics of agricultural structures, which play a leading role in designing, implementing and following the common agricultural policy of the EU, pursuant to the respective legislation the Census of Agriculture is conducted once in ten years, and meanwhile Farm Structure Survey is carried out as sample-based survey and is expected to provide grounds for the functioning of the system of agricultural statistics.

Since the Census of Agriculture was implemented in the territory of the Republic of Serbia in 2012, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on farm structure surveys and the survey on agricultural production methods and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 571/88. OJ L 321, 1.12.2008, p. 14-34, SORS will carry out the next sample-based Farm Structure Survey in 2016.

#### Anticipated development activities

According to the results of the Census of Agriculture, SORS shall create the typology of agricultural holdings by type of production and their economic performances according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 867/2007 of 21 September 2009 amending and correcting Regulation (EC) No 1242/2008 2008 establishing a Community typology for agricultural holdings, OJ L 248, 22.9.2009, p. 17.

The objective of the typology is to ensure comparability of holdings, which further facilitates analysis of their structural features and economic performances.

For the purpose of this typology, SORS will ensure the calculation of Standard output coefficient – SO, for all items of agricultural production, i.e. kind of crops, permanent plantations and livestock species. The coefficient represents average output value for certain agricultural production item expressed by measurement unit (ha, kg, animal head, etc.), and estimation is carried out at prices achieved by actual product realisation, and excluded are direct payments (subsidies), VAT, etc. This coefficient is calculated after each agricultural census, its update follows each sample-based Farm Structure Survey, when the coefficient is forwarded to Eurostat.

# 5.3. Land use (4.03.01)

### 5.3.1. Land use (4.03.01)

#### Present status

The data on land use are obtained through regular statistical surveys of crop production. The data are compiled from regular annual reports from bookkeeping and other records – for enterprises and farm cooperatives, and by estimation implemented by statistical estimators – for family holdings. The accomplished Census of Agriculture provided data on land areas of agricultural holdings by categories of use.

The compilation and harmonization of data relative to land use on the level of the EU are ensured in three ways: 1. through land use/cover area survey (LUCAS); 2. by taking over available data relative to land use from Member States, while observing the necessary comparability of data; 3. through cooperation with the EU Member States, European Economic Community and other international institutions.

LUCAS survey is designed and implemented by Eurostat in Member States through direct data collection.

#### Anticipated development activities

SORS does not anticipate conducting this survey in the forthcoming period; however, in cooperation with other authorized institutions the scope of charges in this area will be determined.

# 5.4. Economic Accounts for Agriculture and prices (4.04.01)

# 5.4.1. Economic Accounts for Agriculture and prices (4.04.01)

#### Present status

Economic Accounts for Agriculture are satellite accounts of the European system of integrated economic accounts (ECA), the mayor purpose of which is to ensure the analysis of agricultural production process and income acquired in agriculture. Also, it enables the measuring of Disposable Income of Agricultural Households; since households with agricultural production may have at disposal other income sources (property related income, social transfers, etc.)

Namely, system of economic accounts for agriculture shall ensure information grounds for making plans, taking decisions, and assessing effects of the measures of a national agricultural policy.

The calculation of Economic Accounts for Agriculture in the Republic of Serbia is in charge of the SORS Department of NA, prices and agriculture – Satellite account division.

The methodological frame for the creation of economic accounts for agriculture creates ESA 95 – European System of Accounts, Regulation (EC) No 138/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 December 2003 on the economic accounts for agriculture in the Community, OJ L 33, 5.2.2004, p. 1-87, as well as Commission Regulation (EC) No 306/2005 of 24 February 2005 amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 138/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the economic accounts for agriculture in the Community, OJ L 52, 25.2.2005, p. 9-10,

Commission Regulation (EC) No 909/2006 of 20 June 2006, amending Annexes I and II to Regulation (EC) No 138/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the economic accounts for agriculture in the Community, OJ L 168, 21.06.2006 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 212/2008 of 7 March 2008, amending Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 138/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the economic accounts for agriculture in the Community, OJ L 65, 8.3.2008. Apart from these regulations, the methodology for the creation of EAA is based on the Manual on the Economic Accounts for Agriculture and Forestry, Rev. 1.1 – Eurostat and the Target methodology for agricultural labour input statistics Rev. 1 – Eurostat.

Economic accounts for agriculture make a set of inter-related accounts.

Since these accounts are grounded on the concept of 'activity', the set of accounts pursuant to ESA 2010 is necessarily limited to primary accounts of current transactions: production account and income (creation) account. Therefore, as income aggregate for agricultural activity, the following balance items are obtained: net value added, net operating surplus (net mixed income) and net entrepreneurial income. Also, system of economic accounts for agriculture includes capital account, where gross fixed capital formation in agriculture is recorded as item of use.

As price statistics in agriculture is concerned, SORS carries out accounting of prices and calculation of indices of producer prices of agricultural and fishing products. Producer prices of agricultural and fishing products are followed on monthly basis, while average prices and price indices are calculated monthly, quarterly and annually, in compliance with the EU recommendations.

In 2012 we initiated the survey of input prices in agriculture (reproduction material and labour input). The new weighting scheme has been created for calculating price indices for agriculture and therefore the methodology of prices and price indices for agriculture has been upgraded.

Statistics of prices in agriculture includes the following surveys:

- Survey of producer price indices for agricultural and fishing products;
- Survey of price indices for input in agriculture (reproduction material, labour and services).

The objective of the survey of producer price indices for agricultural and fishing products is to estimate average producer prices and producer price indices for agricultural and fishing products.

Average producer prices for agricultural and fishing products are calculated based on quantities and values of purchased and sold products that provide domestic trade statistics and agricultural statistics.

Producer price indices for agricultural and fishing products are obtained from producer prices only in the first estimation stage (elementary index, i.e. producer index), and then from other, estimated price indices and respective weights.

The objective of the survey of price indices for input in agriculture (reproduction material, labour and services) is to estimate average prices and price indices for input in agriculture, i.e. reproduction material, labour and services.

Average prices represent weighted average of prices of products provided by reporting units. Price indices are estimated in the same way as for producer price indices for agricultural and fishing products; however product weights on monthly basis are not applied here, since these products shall not be seasonally adjusted.

#### Anticipated development activities

Within IPA 2011 project, further activities are implemented concerning the establishment of the system of economic accounts for agriculture, i.e. the above defined income aggregates for agriculture, in accordance with the applicable EU regulation. The aim is to ensure the required

indicators for measuring income gained in agriculture, and its respective changes as well. Therefore, in the forthcoming period SORS will conduct the estimations of so-called agricultural income indicators:

*Indicator A:* Index of real factor income in agriculture (net value added at constant prices) by annual labour unit – measuring labour productivity in agriculture;

*Indicator B:* Index of real net agricultural entrepreneurial income, by annual unpaid labour unit – measuring labour productivity in agriculture;

*Indicator C:* Net entrepreneurial income in agriculture.

In the forthcoming period, the methodology of price statistics for agriculture will be further upgraded:

- Upgraded list of products for the both surveys in the following years;
- Estimation of producer prices and price indices of agricultural and fishing products will be implemented, apart from on monthly and annual basis, on quarterly basis as well;
- Upgraded estimation of agricultural input prices;
- Estimation of agricultural input price index will be introduced in 2014.

## 5.5. Forestry statistics (4.05.01)

#### 5.5.1. Forestry statistics (4.05.01)

#### Present status

The data are compiled by reporting methods using the following sources: technical documents, bookkeeping records, forestry – economic research papers, etc. When these sources are not available, mainly concerning untended forests, the method of estimation is applied.

Data on areas are compiled on once-in-three-year basis. The reports are provided by forestry and other organizations, i.e. business entities in charge of forest management and exploitation. Data on traffic roads, transport vehicles and machinery are compiled on annual basis.

Data on output, sales and stocks of forest assortments are provided from monthly reports of forestry and other organisations, i.e. business entities, regardless whether forest exploitation is their main activity. The reports are made in accordance with records of output, sales and stocks of forest assortments.

Data on hunting are compiled from hunting associations and organizations, and from other bodies and organizations, i.e. business entitles that are in charge of management and exploitation of hunting areas and game rearing facilities. This survey is carried out once in two years.

#### Anticipated development activities

In the forthcoming period, SORS in cooperation with MAEP will act to ensure annual data on production and trade of timber and wood products, which are needed for the completion of Joint Forest Questionnaire (JFSQ) that is defined and used by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). In addition, in cooperation with MAEP, SORS will undertake activities at upgrading the quality of the existent data by using all available sources (the Census of Agriculture 2012, MAEP records, etc.).

The execution of economic accounts for environment and forestry has not been anticipated.

# **5.6. Fishing statistics (4.06.01)**

# 5.6.1. Fishing statistics (4.06.01)

#### Present status

SORS follows the trends of main indicators in this area. The Annual survey on production of consumer and young fish in fisheries provides data of fishery aquaculture statistics, data on fishery capacities, equipment and labour force, according to available bookkeeping and other records provided by reporting units. Data on fish/aquaculture captures from rivers, lakes and other waterways are obtained through the Annual survey on fish/aquaculture captures from rivers, lakes and other waterways, which in compliance with the records of fishing area users compiles data on fish/aquaculture captures by species/kinds, number of licences issued for commercial and recreation fishing and aqua-culturing.

MAEP, within the scope of its charges, shall ensure available data on the number of issued licences for commercial and recreation fishing. Also, this Ministry maintains the register of issued fish watch licences and the register of professional fishermen, with listed persons that passed the respective tests. Fishing area users, as officially authorized, maintain records on fish landings, alochthonous aquaculture landings and aqua-culturing in fishing areas. Statistics of aquaculture capture in fishing waterways of the Republic of Serbia are obtained by analysing the Annual report on fishing area use and the Final report on fishing area use. The records kept by fishermen (recreation and commercial) and fishing area users provide data on aquaculture captures – by species, number of fishing licences, aqua-culturing and alochthonous aquaculture landings.

# Anticipated development activities

Fishery statistics questionnaire is in the process of being revised pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1921/2006 of the European Parliament and the Council of 18 December 2006, on the submission of statistical data on landings of fishery products in Member States and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 1382/91, OJ L 403, 30.12.2006 0 and Regulation (EC) No 762/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council of 9 July 2008, on the submission by Member States of statistics on aquaculture and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 788/96, OJ L 218, 13.8.2008.

In cooperation with MAEP, the activities will be undertaken on upgrading estimation of aquaculture capture in rivers, lakes and other waterways. The activities on upgrading coverage of fisheries for the SORS annual survey of aquaculture statistics are anticipated, and they will be carried out according to available records maintained with MAEP and data obtained through the Census of Agriculture.

# 5.7. Agroecology statistics (4.07.01)

# 5.7.1. Agroecology statistics (4.07.01)

## Present status

Within the present system of agricultural statistics, respective indicators are not available.

The implementation of the Census of Agriculture ensured the grounds for the sample-based surveys that will provide the required data.

#### Anticipated development activities

Further activities shall be aimed at producing and following 28 indicators in the area of agroecology statistics, in compliance with the common EU agricultural policy, based on Commission Communication COM (2006) 508.

Therefore, MAEP has undertaken adequate steps aimed at preparing, collecting and processing data pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1185/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 concerning statistics on pesticides, OJ L 324, 10.10.2009, p 1-2, and the respective survey shall be in charge of MAEP. SORS will be responsible for forwarding the compiled data to Eurostat. Also, it is expected that until 2018 in cooperation with other relevant institutions all requirements will be defined, so that the data needed for the development of agroecology statistics can be ensured.

# 5.8. Rural development and maritime statistics (4.08.01)

# 5.8.1. Rural development statistics (4.08.01)

#### Present status

Certain indicators needed for rural development statistics are compiled in regular SORS surveys in respective statistical areas.

## Anticipated development activities

Further activities in this statistical area will relate to compiling data required for estimating and following sustainable rural development, in compliance with the applicable Council Regulation (EC) No 1305/2013 of 17 December 2013, on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), OJ 347/487, 20.12.2013. These data shall be ensured to the level *NUTS* 3, from various statistical areas:

- Demography (population changes age structure, natural increase, life expectancy, migrations);
- Social and economic indicators (production share in Gross value added, tertiary sector share in GVA, agriculture share in GVA, capacities and occupancy of tourist trade facilities, employment, employment forms, employment by major sections, activity rate, human resources, unemployment, agricultural holdings – structure and productivity);
- Infrastructure and services (traffic network roads and railways availability, roads accessibility, access to railway stations; schools accessibility and availability of primary and secondary schools, accessibility to the nearest university; hospitals accessibility and availability of hospitals; human health and care: home care, old people homes).

# 5.8.2 Maritime statistics (4.08.02)

Taking into account the geographic position of the Republic of Serbia, this statistical are is not relevant.

# 6. Harmonization of agricultural statistics – Overview in tables

Here after we present an overview in tables for the harmonization of agricultural statistics: description of indicators, authorities in charge and deadlines for releasing indicators harmonized with the EU recommendations and standards, in compliance with datasets to be forwarded to Eurostat, by topics and modules in part 4 – Statistics of agriculture, forestry and fishing, Statistical requirements compendium, 2013 Eurostat edition.

# Topic 4.01 – Agricultural production statistics Module 4.01.01 – Crop production statistics

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Crops - Early estimates CROPROD_EARLY_A	Indicator: crops, early estimates of areas and yields  Level: national  Periodic: monthly  Deadline: 28 Feb, 31 March, 30 April, 31 May, 30 June, 31 July, 31 August	MAEP and SORS	2015
Fruit and vegetables - Early estimates CROPROD_FVEARLY_A	Indicator: fruit and vegetables, early estimates of yields  Level: national  Periodic: monthly  Deadline: 31 March, 30 April, 31 May, 30 June, 31 July, 31 August, 30 Sept	MAEP and SORS	2015
Crop from arable land R1CROP	Indicator: areas of winter crops  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 31 Jan n + 1	SORS	2015
Crop from arable land R2CROP	Indicator: areas under cereals for grain (wheat – total, winter wheat, rye, barley – total, winter barley, oats, grain maize, triticale), beans, potatoes, sugar beet, oil pumpkin, sunflower, soybeans, maize for fodder  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 30 June n	SORS	2015
Crop from arable land R3CROP	Indicator: areas under cereals for grain (wheat – total, winter wheat, rye, barley – total, winter barley, oats, grain maize, triticale), beans, potatoes, sugar beet, oil pumpkin, sunflower, soybeans, maize for fodder Yields: 100 kg/ha for all stated cultures  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 31 August n	SORS	2015
Crop from arable land R4CROP	Indicator: areas in 1000 ha under cereals for grain (wheat – total, winter wheat, rye, barley – total, winter barley, oats, grain maize, triticale), beans, potatoes, sugar beet, oil pumpkin, sunflower, soybeans, maize for fodder Output in 1000 t for all stated cultures  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 Sept. n	SORS	2015
Crop from arable land R5CROP	Indicator: output in 1000 t under cereals for grain (wheat – total, winter wheat, rye, barley – total, winter barley, oats, grain maize, triticale), beans, potatoes, sugar beet, oil pumpkin, sunflower, soybeans, maize for fodder  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 31 Oct. n	SORS	2015
Crop from arable land, final data on areas and output R6CROP	Indicator: 1000 ha area under cereals for grain (cereals – total, wheat – total, winter wheat, rye, barley – total, winter barley, oats, other early cereals, grain maize, triticale, other cereals for grain)  Output in 1000 t for all stated cultures  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 31 Jan n + 1	SORS	2015

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Crop from arable land R7CROP	Indicator: 1000 ha area under pulses – total, beans, other pulses, tubers and roots – total, potatoes, sugar beet, other tubers and roots, industrial crops – total, oil pumpkin – total, sunflower, soybean, tobacco, aromatic, spices/condiments and medicinal herbs, fodder crops – total, maize for fodder, leguminous fodder crops, temporary grassland – up to 5 years)  Output in 1000 t for all stated  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 31 March n + 1	SORS	2015
Vegetables, melons and stowberies R7VEG	Indicator: 1000 ha area and output in 1000 t for all relevant vegetables, melons and strawberries  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 31 March n + 1	SORS	2015
Crop from arable land R8CROP	Indicator: 1000 ha area areas under cereals for grain (cereals – total, wheat – total, winter wheat, rye, barley – total, winter barley, oats, other early cereals, grain maize, triticale), pulses – total, beans, other pulses, tubers and roots – total, potatoes, sugar beet, other tubers and roots, industrial crops – total, oil pumpkin - total, winter oil pumpkin, sunflower, soybeans, tobacco, aromatic, spices/condiments and medicinal herbs, energy plants, fodder crops – total, maize for fodder, leguminous fodder crops, temporary grassland – up to 5 years)  Output in 1000 t for all stated  Level: national and regional  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 Sept. n + 1	SORS	2015
Permanent crops R7PERM	Indicator: 1000 ha area and output in 1000 t for all relevant fruit, vineyards and grapes  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 31 March n + 1	SORS	2015
Agricultural land use R8UAA	Indicator: 1000 ha area of arable land (all categories included), permanent plantations and meadows and pastures  Level: national and regional  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 Sept. n + 1	sors	2015
Cultures not relevant for the country  NSC	Indicator: information on all cultures not grown or are not relevant for the country  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 Dec. n	SORS	2014

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Supply Balance Sheets - Wine-Provisional CROPSBS_WINE1_A	Indicator: wine balance, provisional results  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 Dec. n + 1	MAEP	2016
Supply Balance Sheets – Wine-Final CROPSBS_WINE2_A	Indicator: wine balance, final results  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15. March n + 2	MAEP	2017
Orchards Survey FRUCTUS_ORCHARD_5	Indicator: orchards  Level: national  Periodic: once in five years  Deadline: 2018	MAEP and SORS	2018
Vineyards-Forecast VITIS_FORECST_A	Indicator: vineyards, yields – forecast  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 31 March n + 1	МАЕР	2016
Vineyards-areas VITIS_VINAREA_A	Indicator: vineyards, areas  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 Sept. n + 1	SORS	2016
Vineyards-Grub (re) planted VITIS_VINAGRUB_A	Indicator: vineyards – grub, (re) planted  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 2016	МАЕР	2017
Wine Production VITIS_WINEPRD_A	Indicator: vine production  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 28 Feb. n + 1	MAEP	2016

# Module 4.01.02 – Livestock, meat and eggs

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Gross Indigenous Production – Cattle ANI_GIPCAT_S	Indicator: gross indigenous production of cattle, production estimate in heads for 4 forthcoming six-month terms  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 Feb. n	SORS	2015
Gross Indigenous Production – Pigs ANI_GIPPIG_Q	Indicator: gross indigenous production of pigs, production estimate in heads for 4 forthcoming quarters  Level: national  Periodic: biannual  Deadline: 15 Feb. and 15 Sept. n	SORS	2015
Gross Indigenous Production – Sheep and Goats ANI_GIPSHGO_S	Indicator: gross indigenous production of sheep and goats, production estimate in heads in current year  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 Feb. n	SORS	2015
Activity of Hatcheries ANI_HATACTI_M	Indicator: activity of hatcheries, number of eggs laid in hatcheries, by use and species/kinds of poultry (hens, ducks, turkeys, geese, guinea fowl and other birds)  Level: national Periodic: monthly Deadline: until end of month for the previous month	MAEP and SORS	2018
Structure of Hatcheries ANI_HATSTRU_A	Indicator: structure of hatcheries by bird species/kinds (hens, ducks, turkeys, geese, guinea fowl and other birds) and number of laid eggs by use (laying hens, for meat, mixed)  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 30 June n + 1	MAEP and SORS	2018
Livestock Survey – Cattle, May/June ANI_LSCATMJ_A	Indicator: livestock survey (May/June), number of cattle heads and weight, by category  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 Sep. n – for provisional results  15 Oct. n – for final results	Not relevant for the Republic of Serbia (the number of cattle does not exceed the threshold of 1.5 million heads)	/
Livestock Survey – Cattle, November/December ANI_LSCATND_A	Indicator: livestock survey (Nov/Dec), number of cattle heads and weight, by category  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 Feb. n + 1 – for provisional results  15 May n + 1 – for final results	SORS	2014
Livestock Survey – Cattle ANI_LSCATR_A	Indicator: livestock survey, number of cattle heads  Level: regions  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 May n + 1	SORS	2014

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Livestock Survey – Pigs, May/June ANI_LSPIGMJ_A	Indicator: livestock survey (May/June), number of pigs, by category  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 Sept. n – for provisional results  15 Oct. n – for final results	SORS	2014
Livestock Survey – Pigs, November/December ANI_LSPIGND_A	Indicator: livestock survey (Nov/Dec), number of pigs, by category  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15. Feb. n + 1 – for provisional results  15. May n + 1– for final results	SORS	2014
Livestock Survey – Pigs ANI_LSPIGR_A	Indicator: livestock survey, number of pigs  Level: regions  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 May n + 1	SORS	2014
Livestock Survey – Sheep and Goats, November/December ANI_LSSHGND_A	Indicator: Indicator: livestock survey (Nov/Dec), number of sheep and goats, by category  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15. Feb. n + 1 – for provisional results  15. May n + 1– for final results	SORS	2014
Livestock Survey – Sheep and Goats ANI_LSSHGOR_A	Indicator: livestock survey, number of sheep and goats  Level: regions  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 15 May n + 1	SORS	2014
Slaughtering ANI_SLAUGHT_M	Indicator: slaughtering at slaughterhouses, number of heads, gross and net weight  Level: national  Periodic: monthly  Deadline: 60 days after end of referent month	MAEP and SORS	Indicator harmonized since 2012
Other slaughtering ANI_SLAUOHT_A	Indicator: slaughtering, number of heads, gross and net weight (estimate)  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 183 days after end of referent month	SORS	2015
Other slaughtering ANI_SLAUOHT_M	Indicator: slaughtering, number of heads, gross and net weight (estimate)  Level: national  Periodic: monthly  Deadline: 92 days after end of referent month	SORS	2015
Trade of Chicks ANI_TRADCHI_M	Indicator: imports and exports of chicks, by use  Level: national  Periodic: monthly  Deadline: 30 days after end of referent month	SORS	Indicator harmonized since 2012

Module 4.01.03 - Statistics of milk and milk products

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Structure of Dairies MILK_DSENCC_3	Indicator: structure of collection centres by annual volume/qty of collected milk  Level: national  Periodic: once in three years  Deadline: 30 Sept. n + 1 (starting from 31/12/1997)	MAEP and SORS	2015
Structure of Dairies MILK_DSENDC_3	Indicator: structure of dairies by annual volume/qty of collected milk  Level: national  Periodic: once in three years  Deadline: 30 Sept. n + 1 (starting from 31/12/1997)	MAEP and SORS	2015
Structure of Dairies MILK_DSENDV_3	Indicator: structure of dairies by annual volume/qty of processed milk  Level: national  Periodic: once in three years  Deadline: 30 Sept. n + 1 (starting from 31/12/1997)	MAEP and SORS	2015
Structure of Dairies MILK_DSENGM_3	Indicator: structure of dairies by annual production of milk products, by groups  Level: national  Periodic: once in three years  Deadline: 30 Sept. n + 1 (starting from 31/12/1997)	MAEP and SORS	2015
Milk Protein Contents MILK_PROTEIN_A	Indicator: milk protein content  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 30 June n + 1	MAEP and SORS	2015
Milk Production MILK_REGION_A	Indicator: milk production  Level: regions  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 June n + 1	SORS	2014
Milk production, table A MILK_TABLEA_M	Indicator: availabilities: cow milk and products thereof, table A  Level: national Periodic: monthly Deadline: 45 days after end of referent month	MAEP and SORS	2014
Milk production, table B MILK_TABLEB_A	Indicator: availabilities: milk and products thereof Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 30 June n + 1	MAEP and SORS	2015
Milk production, table C MILK_TABLEC_A	Indicator: availabilities: milk and products thereof in private sector (family holdings)  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 30 June n + 1	MAEP and SORS	2015

# **Module 1.09.04 Organic production**

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Number of organic operators FOOD_OFOPER_A	Indicator: number of operators included in organic production (producers, manufacturers, importers and other operators) in previous year  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 1 July n + 1	МАЕР	2014
Organic crop area FOOD_OFAREA_A	Indicator: organic production area (included areas under conversion) and organic crop production  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 1 July n + 1	МАЕР	2014
Organic livestock FOOD_OFLIVES_A	Indicator: species and number of livestock and aquacultures raised by organic production methods, organic livestock products  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 1 July n + 1	МАЕР	2014
Number of organic operators – classified by NACE rev. 2 FOOD_OFNACE_A	Indicator: number of operators, volume and value of economic activity  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 1 July n + 1	МАЕР	2015

# **Topic 4.02 – Agricultural structure Module 4.02.01 Farm structure survey**

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Results of Farm Structure Survey AGRI_FARM_A	Indicator: results of Farm structure survey: land use, organic production, number of livestock, production method in agriculture, agricultural buildings, machinery, labour force Level: national Periodic: once in ten years  Deadline: 15 months after end of year when survey implemented	SORS	2014
Results of Farm Structure Survey AGRI_FARM_A	Indicator: results of Farm structure survey: land use, organic production, number of livestock, production method in agriculture, agricultural buildings, machinery, labour force – on sample  Level: national  Periodic: once in three years  Deadline: 15 months after end of year when survey implemented	SORS	2018
SGM Coeficients AGRI_SGMCOEF_N	Indicator: SGM coefficients, farm typology  Level: national Periodic: once in ten years  Deadline: -	SORS	2014

# Topic 4.04 – Agricultural accounts and prices Module 4.04.01 – Agricultural accounts and prices

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ First estimates COSAEA_AGR1_A	Indicator: economic activity aggregates for agriculture: agricultural output, intermediate consumption, GVA, operating surplus, entrepreneurial income and gross fixed capital formation  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 November n	SORS	2017
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Second Estimates COSAEA_AGR2_A	Indicator: economic activity aggregates for agriculture: agricultural output, intermediate consumption, GVA, operating surplus, entrepreneurial income and gross fixed capital formation  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: n + 1 month	SORS	2017
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Final COSAEA_AGR3_A	Indicator: : economic activity aggregates for agriculture at current and constant prices: agricultural output, intermediate consumption, GVA, operating surplus, entrepreneurial income and gross fixed capital formation  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: n + 9 months	SORS	2017
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Labour Input/First estimates COSAEA_ALI1_A	Indicator: labour input in agriculture: paid labour input, unpaid labour input and total labour input  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 30 Nov. n	SORS	2017
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Labour Input/Second estimates COSAEA_ALI2_A	Indicator: labour input in agriculture: paid labour input, unpaid labour input and total labour input  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: n + 1 month	SORS	2017
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Labour Input/Final Estimates COSAEA_ALI3_A	Indicator: labour input in agriculture: paid labour input, unpaid labour input and total labour input  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: n + 9 months	sors	2017
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Regional COSAEA_REGION_A	Indicator: economic activity aggregates for agriculture, NSTJ 2  Level: national regions Periodic: biannual Deadline: n + 21 months	SORS	2017

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Unit values COSAEA_UV_A	Indicator: unit values at producer prices Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: n + 9 months	SORS	2017
Economic Accounts for Agriculture/ Unit values COSAEA_UV_A	Indicator: unit values at basic prices Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: n + 9 months	SORS	2017
Agricultural Prices – Indices, Forecast PRAG_FORECAST_A	Indicator: agricultural prices – indices, forecast Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: n	SORS	2018
Agricultural Prices - Indices, Final PRAG_INDICES_A	Indicator: producer price indices for agricultural and fishery products  Level: national Periodic: monthly Deadline: 60 days after end of referent month	SORS	Indicator harmonized since 2012
Agricultural Prices – Indices, Quarterly PRAG_INDICES_Q	Indicator: price indices of input material, labour means and services in agriculture  Level: national Periodic: quarterly Deadline: 45 days after end of quarter	SORS	2014
Agricultural Prices- Land (including rent) PRAG_LAND_A	Indicator: agricultural land prices and rent Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: n + 270 days	SORS	2018
Agricultural Prices, absolute PRAG_PICES_A	Indicator: average producer prices of agricultural and fishery products  Level: national Periodic: monthly Deadline: 60 days after end of referent month	SORS	Indicator harmonized since 2012

# Topic 4.05 – Forestry statistics

# Module 4.05.01 – Forestry statistics

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Forestry Statistics FOREST_A_A	Indicator: annual production and trade in timber and wood products  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 15 May n + 1	SORS	2018
Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting for Forestry  IEEAF_ACC_A	Indicator: integrated environmental and forestry economic accounting  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 31 July n + 1	SORS	2018

# Topic 4.06 – Fishing statistics Module 4.06.01 – Fishing statistics

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Fishery Captures Statistics FISH_CATCH_A	Indicator: fishery captures and equipment  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 31 July	SORS	2015
Fishery Aquaculture Statistics FISH_AQ_A	Indicator: fishery aquaculture statistics, equipment and capacities  Level: national Periodic: annual Deadline: 31 July	SORS	2015
Fishery Landings Statistics FISH_LANDG_A	Indicator: fishery landings statistics  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 31 July	NA	/

# Topic 4.07 – Agroecology statistics Module 4.07.01 – Agroecology statistics

Dataset	Description of indicators, level, periodic, EU deadlines	Authority in charge	Deadline for releasing harmonized indicators
Pesticides AEI_PESTICI_A	Indicator: annual turnover of pesticides  Level: national  Periodic: annual  Deadline: 30 Dec. n + 1	МАЕР	2017
Pesticides AEI_PESTICI_A	Indicator: annual quantity of applied pesticides and areas treated by each substance in selected referent year  Level: national  Periodic: once in five year  Deadline: 30 Dec. n + 1	МАЕР	2017

# 7. Strategic aims and implementation activities

The perquisite for the implementation of the described strategic aims and objectives is to ensure the undertaking of a series of actions, namely the respective legal frame to be in place, as well as to introduce new statistical surveys that would provide agricultural data, and to ensure various indicators for agriculture (complex surveys) in accordance with national and international requirements.

The legislation issues will be in charge of the respective ministry, while the Statistical Office will be authorized for the implementation of statistical surveys and calculation of indicators.

Realization activities are more closely defined in the action plan for the execution of the strategy, as it follows:

# Action plan: Implementation of strategic aims

Strategic aim	Implementation activity / Legal frame	Authority in charge	Deadline	Source of funds
Indicators of crop production and permanent crops statistics	<ul> <li>Survey of sown areas in the end of spring sowing season</li> <li>Survey of harvested areas and realized crop yields and sown areas in autumn sowing season</li> </ul>	SORS	2015	Budget of the Republic of Serbia
	Census of fruit kinds and sorts	SORS, MAEP	2018	Budget of the Republic of Serbia
	Vineyard and wine register	MAEP	2017	No additional funds needed
Indicators of livestock production, meat and eggs statistics	<ul><li>Livestock survey</li><li>Pigs survey</li><li>Livestock slaughter at slaughterhouses</li></ul>	SORS	2015	Budget of the Republic of Serbia
	Draft legislation concerning marketing standards for eggs for hatching and farmyard poultry chicks	MAEP	2017	No additional funds needed
Indicators of farm structure	Farm structure survey	SORS	2018	Budget of the Republic of Serbia
Indicators of milk and milk products statistics	<ul> <li>Survey of cow milk purchase</li> <li>Dairies report on input of cow milk and quantities of cow milk products</li> </ul>	SORS, MAEP	2015	No additional funds needed
Agricultural accounts and prices	Creation of accounts for agriculture	SORS	2017	No additional funds needed
Indicators of forestry statistics	Data harmonized with administrative sources	SORS, MAEP	2018	No additional funds needed
Indicators of fishing statistics	<ul><li>Survey of fishery capture in rivers and lakes</li><li>Survey of fishery aquaculture</li></ul>	SORS	2015	Budget of the Republic of Serbia
Agroecology statistics	Draft amendments to the Law on statistics of pesticides	MAEP	2017	No additional funds needed

# 8. Strategy implementation terms

The prerequisite for successful implementation of this strategy is to create an adequate setting for the anticipated changes, which means to make investments in material and human resources and ensure respective legislation and institutional activity. To this effect, the following facts shall be noted:

- In the negotiations concerning Serbian stabilization and accession to the EU we encounter
  on increasing basis the requirements for various statistical indicators in agriculture that
  official statistics is obligated to ensure.
  - Following the accomplished Census of Agriculture, we anticipate maintaining the Statistical register of agricultural holdings, regular implementation of the Farm structure survey (once in ten years, as agricultural census, and meanwhile once in three years, as sample-based survey), inception of new surveys on agricultural statistics, as well as other developing activities concerning harmonization of agricultural statistics. The mentioned activities and tasks are extensive in volume and therefore require increased staff to be engaged on their implementation.
- Funds for the revision of our agricultural statistics were partly provided through the EU instruments for pre-accession assistance (IPA 2011, IPA 2012). It is necessary on annual basis to ensure funds from the budget of the Republic of Serbia for the implementation of the envisaged regular annual surveys, the Farm structure survey in 2016, as well as new surveys, in accordance with annual plans and program of official statistics.
- Facilitated implementation of the anticipated activities requires an intensive cooperation among relevant institutions and institutes on the exchange of available data. Especially this refers to the use of various records and files that can serve as administrative sources for the production of required statistical indicators and update of the Statistical register of agricultural holdings. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure single identification that would enable update and transfer of information from various registers. It can be concluded that cooperation among institutions is also needed while creating registers, in order to ensure comparable parameters and single identification.

The cooperation between SORS and MAEP was officially established by signing the Memorandum of understanding in 2007, and due to the extended requirements this document was supplemented with new provisions. In addition, required is support from the Government and other authorities in the process of implementation of the plan of development that is envisaged by this strategy.

# 9. Final provisions

This Strategy has been adopted by the SORS Board of management and will be published at the SORS website as an official document.

The strategy will be published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia.