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Theme 9: Work on the holding
Technical Session 13

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Background

In the WCA 2020 “work” concepts has been updated to be consistent with the resolution adopted by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2013*.

The title of the theme “Farm Labour” of the WCA 2010 Programme has been changed to “Work on holding” in the present Programme to reflect the new concept of work after the above mentioned resolution.

As a consequence, several items of the previous Programme has been modified:

• “Activity status” was modified as “0904 Labour force status”
• “Time worked on the holding” was modified as “0902 Working time on the holding”
• “Number of employees on the holding: time worked and sex” as “0903 Number and working time of employees on the holding by sex”.

*Note: The specific year 2013 should be referred to the exact resolution adopted by the ILO for consistency.
General concepts and definitions

1. **Two types** of work inputs are covered by the agricultural census:
   - Work provided by *household members*
   - Work provided by *outside workers*

2. The ILO resolution (2013)* defines the **basic concept of work** as “any activity performed by persons of any sex and age to produce goods or to provide services for use by others or for own use”.

3. **Work** is defined irrespective of its formal or informal character or of the legality of the activity.

4. Work, as defined in the ILO resolution, can be performed in any type of economic unit as distinguished by the System of National Accounts (SNA) 2008, namely: (i) **market units**; (ii) **non-market units**; and (iii) **households that produce goods or services for own final use**.
5. The ILO resolution identifies five mutually exclusive subsets of work activities or *forms of work*:

- **own-use production work**, comprising production of goods and services for own final use (an unpaid form of work)
- **employment work**, comprising work performed for others in exchange for pay or profit;
- **unpaid trainee work**
- **volunteer work**
- **other work activities** (including such activities as unpaid community service and unpaid military or alternative civilian service).
General concepts and definitions (contd.)

6. The theme collects information about the **working age population**. To determine the working age population, the Resolution recommends that:

   (i) “the lower age limit should be set taking into consideration the minimum age for employment and exceptions specified in national laws or regulations, or the age of completion of compulsory schooling”; and
   (ii) “no upper age limit should be set”.

General concepts and definitions (contd.)

7. Operational definitions on relevant forms of work:

• **Persons in employment** are defined as all those of working age who, during a short reference period (that is, seven days or one week), were engaged in any activity to produce goods or provide services for pay or profit.

• **Persons in own-use production work of goods** are defined in the Resolution as all those of working age who, during a short reference period (that is, four weeks or one calendar month) performed any activity to produce goods for own final use for a cumulative total of at least one hour.
General concepts and definitions (contd.)

8. Operational definitions related to labour force status:

The **labour force status** of a person of working age may be in one of three mutually exclusive categories, namely:

- *in employment*
- *in unemployment*
- *outside the labour force*

**Persons in unemployment** are defined as all those of working age who: (i) were not in employment; (ii) carried out activities to seek employment during a specified recent period; and (iii) were currently available to take up employment given a job opportunity.

**Persons outside the labour force** are those of working age who were neither in employment nor in unemployment during the reference period.
Use of the agricultural census reference year and questionnaire design issues

The new work statistics framework uses short reference periods (such as one week or one month) for the operational definitions of the forms of work concepts. However, for the census items in the present theme, the reference period is the census reference year.

As for items in the agricultural census, countries need to carefully design questionnaires for the collection of data related to work on the holding, suitable to national circumstances to ensure that the report is as complete and accurate as possible.
# Items

**Theme 9 comprises the following items:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0901</td>
<td>Whether working on the holding is the main activity (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex)</td>
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<td>0902</td>
<td>Working time on the holding (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex)</td>
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<td>0903</td>
<td>Number and working time of employees on the holding by sex (for the holding)</td>
</tr>
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<td>0904</td>
<td>Labour force status (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex)</td>
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<td>0905</td>
<td>Status in employment of main job (for each household member in employment, identifying the sex)</td>
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<tr>
<td>0906</td>
<td>Form of payment for employees (for the holding)</td>
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<td>0907</td>
<td>Use of contractors for work on the holding according to type (for the holding)</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Item 0901: Whether working on the holding is the main activity (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex)

Type: Essential item

Reference period: Census reference year

Purpose of the item: The purpose of this item is to determine whether or not, during the census reference year, the household member spent more time working on the agricultural holding than outside the holding.
Item 0902: Working time on the holding (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex)

**Type:** Essential item

**Reference period:** Census reference year

**Purpose of the item:** This item has two objectives:

- To collect information on the volume of work contributed by household members to the operation of the holding, both in paid and unpaid forms of work
- To obtain data on the number of household members working on the holding, disaggregated by sex.

**Concept:** Working time “comprises the time associated with productive activities and the arrangement of this time during a specified reference period”
Item 0902: Working time on the holding (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex) Contd.

Working time can be measured based on the assessment of *hours or days worked* on the holding, or by using *broad categories*, as feasible and relevant to national circumstances.

Based on a broad categories approach the following *options* can be considered:

i. Present data according to specified weeks/months per year and hours per day/week groupings;

ii. To summarize working time according to the following six categories:

- *Full-time work during 1-3 months in the year*
- *Full-time work during 4-6 months in the year*
- *Full-time work during 7 or more months in the year*
- *Part-time work during 1-3 months in the year*
- *Part-time work during 4-6 months in the year*
- *Part-time work during 7 or more months in the year.*
Item 0902: Working time on the holding (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex) Contd.

It is recommended that the number of persons who worked on the holding during the census reference year as well as working time of such persons, be cross-tabulated:

- according to whether the work is in:
  - employment or
  - own-use production work
- by sex.
Item 0903: Number and working time of employees on the holding by sex (for the holding)

**Type:** Essential item

**Reference period:** Census reference year

**Concept:** This item refers to the use of paid workers on the holding. It refers:

- For holdings in the non-household sector - to all employees on the holding, while in
- In the household sector - only to employees who are not members of the holding’s household.

An *employee on the holding* is a person who had a job on the holding at some time during the reference year, whose status in employment for that job was “employee”

**Note:** A distinction is made between hiring an employee to work on the holding for a defined remuneration and engaging a contractor to provide certain agricultural services for an agreed fee. Item 0903 covers only employees. Contract work is covered in item 0907.
Item 0904: Labour force status (for each household member of working age, identifying the sex)

Type: Additional item

Reference period: Census reference year

Concept: Labour force status refers to whether a person’s main status was within or outside the labour force during the census reference year.

Categories:

- **Inside the labour force:**
  - *in employment*,
  - *in unemployment*

- **Outside the labour force**
Item 0905: Status in employment of main job (for each household member in employment, identifying the sex)

**Type:** Additional item

**Reference period:** Census reference year

**Concept:** For the purposes of this item, the main job over the census reference year is defined as the job in which the person has spent most of his/her time during his/her period of employment during the reference year.
Item 0905: Status in employment of main job (for each household member in employment, identifying the sex)

Contd.

Categories:

- **Employee**: person who holds paid employment job.
- **Self-employed**: Remuneration depends directly upon the profits (actual or potential) derived through market transactions from the goods and services produced:
  - **Employer** (Person who working on his/her own account or with one or a few partners holds a self-employment job and has engaged employees)
  - **Own-account worker** (Person who working on his/her own account or with one or a few partners holds a self-employment job in a market-oriented establishment and has not engaged any employee)
  - **Contributing family worker** (Person who holds a self-employment job in a market-oriented establishment operated by a related person living in the same household and who cannot be regarded as a partner)
- **Member of producers’ cooperative** (Person who holds a self-employment job in an establishment organized as a cooperative)
- **Person not classifiable by status** (those persons with jobs for which insufficient information is available and/or who cannot be included in any of the preceding categories)
Item 0906: Form of payment for employees (for the holding)

**Type:** Additional item

**Reference period:** Census reference year

**Concept:** This item refers to the form or forms of payment used on the holding during the reference year.

**Typical categories (forms of payment groups):**

- *Money*
- *Farm produce*
- *Exchange of labour*
- *Other forms of in-kind payment*

**Note:** If more than one form of payment is used on the holding, then all forms of payment practised by holdings should be reported.
Item 0907: Use of contractors for work on the holding according to type (for the holding)

**Type:** Additional item

**Reference period:** Census reference year

**Concept:** This item refers to whether agricultural service contractors were used for work on the holding during the census reference year. **Contractors** are workers who:

- have registered with the tax authorities (and/or other relevant bodies) as a separate business unit responsible for the relevant forms of taxes, and/or have made arrangements so that their employing organization is not responsible for relevant social security payments, and/or have a contractual relationship that is not subject to national labour legislation applicable to e.g. “regular employees”;
- hold explicit or implicit contracts which correspond to those of “paid employment”.
Country Experiences

Saudi Arabia: Agricultural Census 2010

Census questionnaire, included Section IV regarding some aggregated information about household members (by 3 age groups) and Section V “Labour” with the following items:

1. Number of workers – members of holder’s household: paid, unpaid

2. Number of outside workers

3. Type of labour: permanent labour, temporary labour, casual labour.
Country experiences (contd.)

Botswana: Agricultural Census 2015

In Form II (Traditional farmers questionnaire), for each of members of the holder’s household the following questions were included (Q. 12b):

- **What has [household member] been doing mainly during this agricultural season?** (Include work for payment in cash, in kind or for no payment) 1. Seasonal work: a) paid; b) unpaid; 2. Non-seasonal work: a) paid; b) unpaid; 3. No work

- **What was [household member] working as during this agricultural season?** 1. Employee - paid cash; 2. Employee - paid in kind; 3. Employee - paid both cash & in kind; 4. Self employed - no employee; 5. Self employed - with employees; 6. Unpaid family helper; 7. Worked in own lands/ cattle post (unpaid).

- **Type of work during the agricultural season** (open question) and
- **Type of industry [economic activity]** for jobs outside the holding (open question).

In addition, for each household member the following information was collected:

- **Relationship to household’s head**
- **Sex**
- **Age**
For each employee currently employed in the holding, the following information was collected:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Sex and age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Country of citizenship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Marital status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Highest level of education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Status in employment as:
   - Employee (a) paid cash; b) paid in-kind; c) paid both)
   - Self-employed (a) if with no employee; b) with employees)

7. Employed on full time or temporary basis: 1. Full time 2. Temporary (Note: include also casual laborers)

8. Occupation/ type of work done (open question)


10. Amount paid in cash or equivalent in cash.
MANY THANKS