Seventh International Conference on Agricultural Statistics

Parallel Session 33: Post-disaster needs assessments and rapid assessments tools

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As the frequency of hydro-climatic natural disasters increases so do the financial, human and economic costs in the agricultural sector. Over the past several decades, billions of dollars of private and public sector flows have been spent to reduce the impact of such disasters on populations exposed to them. There are both domestic and international sources for such flows. Estimating the requirement for these flows, as well as looking at the responsiveness of these different forms of support and their impact in mitigating the impact of disaster and aiding recovery are important areas of study.

This session will be concerned with some of the key issues surrounding financial flows to support agricultural livelihoods in natural disaster contexts. Included within the scope of the session be questions concerning the measurement of damage and loss in the agricultural sector due to natural disasters. As such papers are invited which focus on the following topics and areas:

- What is the evidence for the responsiveness of public aid flows to different kinds of disasters affecting agriculture and how can we measure the impact of these flows on recovery?
- With globalization and the rise of the internet, private remittance flows are becoming a more and more important component of disaster relief. How can remittances be measured systematically? What kinds of support do they provide to people living in rural areas? What are the critical conditions determining the effectiveness of remittances as a way of reducing vulnerability and aiding recovery from disasters in agriculture?
- What role can social insurance play in disaster mitigation and prevention for agricultural communities, particularly in contexts where formal insurance and credit markets do not work well or at all. How can the impact of such forms of insurance be measured?
- The financial implications of disasters in agriculture and the subsequent needs in terms of the dollar value of recovery are commonly estimated using Post Disaster Need Assessment (PDNA) methodology. What are the limitations of this approach and how can post disaster assessment techniques be improved in practical ways?”