MAFAP eLearning series launch: Monitoring public expenditure for food and agriculture

Monitoring and Analysing Food & Agricultural Policies (MAFAP) Programme at FAO

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You may have heard...

- Spending in agriculture is key for growth and poverty reduction (e.g. Malabo Declaration).
- More spending is needed on agricultural public goods (e.g. Agricultural R&D, infrastructure).
- 87% of current agriculture support globally (USD 540 billion) include measures that are inefficient, inequitable, distort food prices and are bad for health and environment.

- If you are interested in these kinds of topics, this course is for you! This course walks you through the theory and practice behind these statements.
Structure of the course

- Lessons 1-2: Why care about PE?
  - Importance of policy monitoring
  - Review of theory on importance of public expenditures

- Lessons 3: Why use the MAFAP methodology?
  - Introduction of the MAFAP methodology
  - Why is the MAFAP methodology useful?
  - How does it compare to other methods?

- Lessons 4-7: How to implement the MAFAP methodology?
  - What data do you need and how to collect it?
  - How are the data classified?
  - How to construct the final dataset?

- Lessons 8: How to use results of MAFAP methodology?
  - What can you do with the results of MAFAP methodology?
In lessons 1-2 you will learn:

- Impact pathways for ag. expenditure are complex.
- Evidence seems that ag. expenditure is effective at increasing growth and reducing poverty, but impacts depend on:
  - Type of expenditure
  - Targeted commodity
  - Geography (country and region within a country)
  - Public-private linkages
  - Farmers targeted
  - Stage of ag. Transformation

- MAFAP can help providing evidence on these factors.
Lesson 3

In lessons 3 you will learn:

- Policy-makers face:
  - Challenging choices
  - Data and evidence constraints

- The MAFAP methodology does not address all questions, but allows to have data on:
  - Type of expenditure
  - Targeted commodity
  - Targeted agent
  - Geography (?)

- This information is essential for the analyses needed by policy-makers
In lessons 4-7 you will learn:

- Ideally, line-item data need to be obtained for the whole budget (but partial data may be ok) [Lesson 4]
- How to identify key ministries and institutions to obtain the data from [Lesson 5]
- How to classify the data and make the classification highly disaggregated and analytical [Lesson 6]
- How to carry out the main data-management tasks in Excel [Lesson 7]
Lesson 8

- In lesson 8 you will learn:
  - How to compute key indicators, including:
    - Levels of expenditures
    - Composition of expenditures (crop and category)
    - Intensity indicators
    - Execution rates
  - How to analyse these indicators and draw some basic conclusions from descriptive analysis
  - How to use these indicators to carry out further analyses, including:
    - Impact simulations (CGE, Investment planning)
    - Analysis of Policy Coherence
Countries analysed in sub-Saharan Africa spend on average 6.8% on agriculture.

CAADP target: 10%.
Concluding remarks

- We tried to develop a course that:
  - Fits the needs of as many potential learners as possible
  - Summarizes the literature around public expenditures in an accessible manner
  - Has a strong focus on sub-Saharan Africa, while still being relevant for other regions
  - Can be followed irrespective of the level of prior knowledge on the topic
  - You will enjoy and (hopefully) learn from!

- Let’s now hear from someone who took the course to share their experience: Dr Nancy Laibuni from the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA)
Thank you
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