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Rwanda Labour Force Survey

Impact of 19th ICLS standards on key labor market indicators and strategies used to communicate new indicators

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Outlines

- Background on labor statistics in Rwanda
- Process followed to implement new standards
- Impact of new standards on key headline indicators
- Relevance of new standards in Rwanda
- Strategies implemented to communicate the changes
- Good practices, main challenges faced/lessons learned



1. Background

- ❑ Prior to RLFS introduced in 2016, the main source of labor statistics (supply side) was the Integrated HH survey on living standards(EICV) which was conducted once in 5 years till 2010 and now every 3 years.
- ❑ There was an unmet demand of labour statistics
- ❑ Some indicators such as unemployment rate were inadequate to describe the labour market situation in Rwanda's economy context
- ❑ The NISR decided to plan a bi-annual LFS in the 2nd NSDS(2014-2018).

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2. Process followed to implement new standards

- ❑ In January 2014, it was already decided that new standards should be used in 2016 LFS.
- ❑ **2014: Awareness about new international standards**
 - Workshop on domestication of 19th ICLS resolutions (10th to 14th Feb 2014).
 - Labour statistics frame work/Metadata handbook
 - Capacity building of NISR staff
- ❑ **2015: Preparatory activities for the RLFS**
 - Sample design (May)
 - Developing survey tools (May)
 - Pre-test of questionnaire (August. 2015)

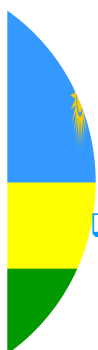
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Process followed in new standards implementation(ctd)

□ **2016: Pilote and first round of RLFS**

- Conducting the Pilot survey (Feb-March 2016)
- Publication of Pilot survey results(July 2016)
- Awareness of new standards using the results of Pilot survey (Key ministries, Senates Media, academia)

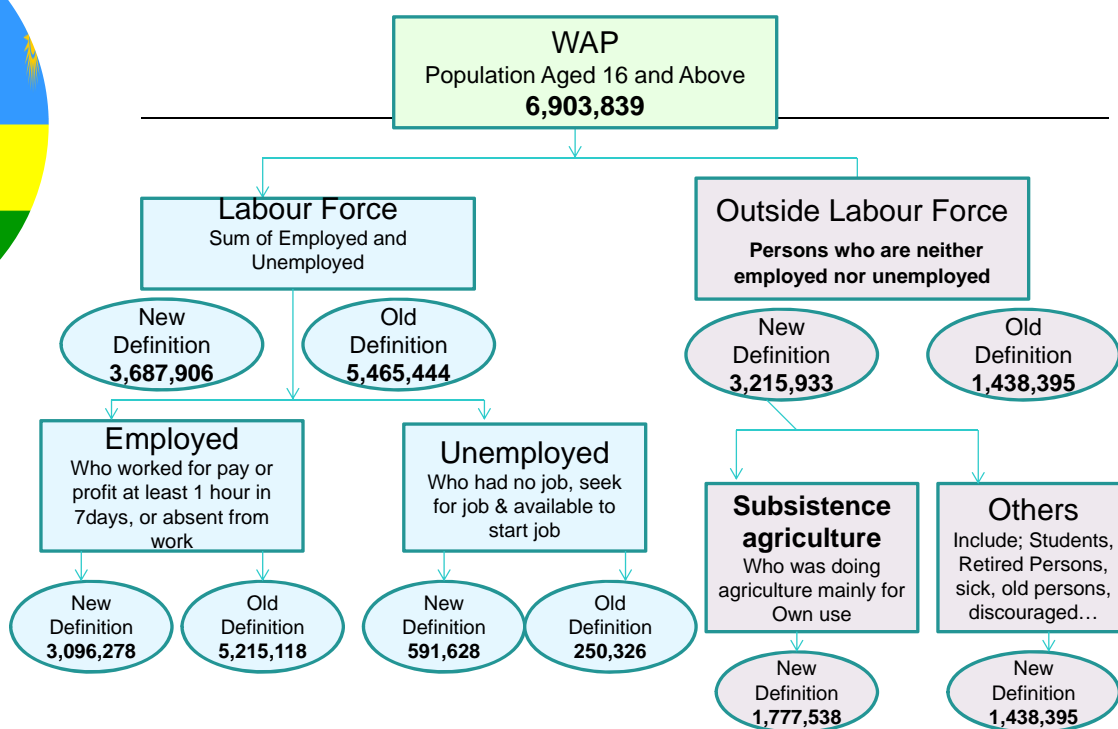


Process followed in new standards implementation

□ **Conducting the full survey (August 2016)**

- The first round of RLFS was carried out in August 2016 using a half of annual sample of 9,344 households. The results were published in October 2017.
- The RLFS is carried out in Feb and Aug of each year using a rotation sample design.
- In addition to pilot survey, 5 rounds were carried out so far.
- From Feb 2019, quarterly RLFS will be started.

3.Impact of new standards on key headline indicators (LF status)



Souce: RLFS_Feb 2018

Impact of new standards on key headline indicators(ctd...)

Indicator	New standards (LFS)	Old standards(LFS)	Old standards(EICV_2014)
Labour force participation rate	53.4%	79.2%	87.4%
Employment to population ratio	44.8%	75.5%	85.6%
Subsistence foodstuff producer rate	25.7%	NA	NA
Unemployment rate	16%	4.6%	2.0%
Rate of labour underutilization	56.6%	NA	NA

Souce: RLFS_Feb 2018 and EICV4



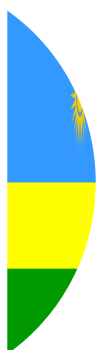
Impact of new standards on key headline indicators (Ctd...)

Indicators	Participated in subsistence agriculture	Not participated in subsistence agriculture	All
LFPR	49.4%	57.6%	53.4%
Employment to population ratio	39.7%	50.2%	44.8%
LU1 - Unemployment rate	19.7%	12.8%	16.0%
LU2 - Combined rate of unemployment and time-related underemployment	55.1%	28.5%	41.0%
LU3 - Combined rate of unemployment and potential labour force	49.0%	25.2%	38.2%
LU4 - Composite measure of labour underutilization	71.5%	38.7%	56.6%

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4.Relevance of new standards in Rwanda context

- ❑ The advantage of separating employment and own-use production (mainly subsistence agricultural) is that it allows proper assessment that provides adequate measures of promoting productive and decent work.
- ❑ New standards provide a range of underutilisation indicators that well describe the unmet needs for employment.(LU1, LU2, LU3, LU4).

❑

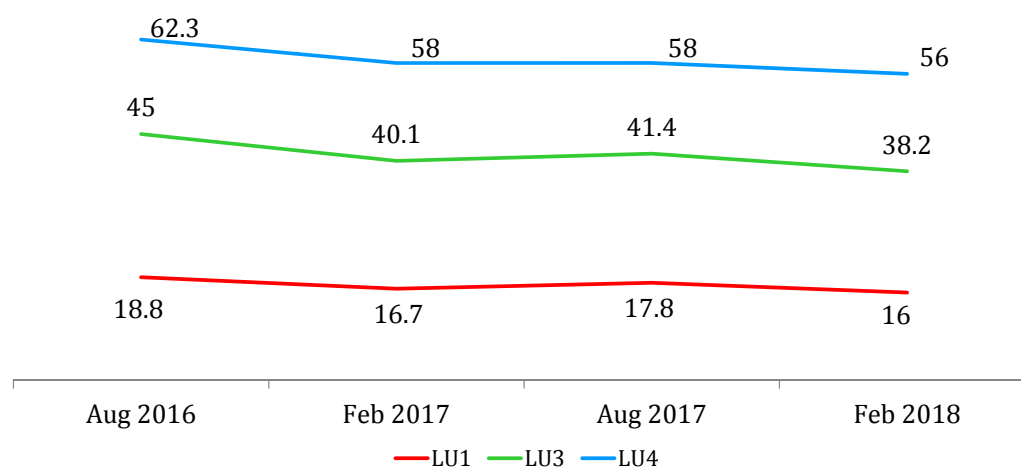
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Relevance of new standards in Rwanda context (Labour underutilisation)



5.Strategies implemented to communicates the changes

- ❑ To inform key stakeholders(Key Ministries, Private sector, syndicates representative, about new standards as earlier as possible (February 2014).
- ❑ Update key stakeholders on the progress in the implementation (workshops: May 2015, July 2015)
- ❑ Involving some key stakeholders in all stages of implementation of new standards
- ❑ Informing high level authorities about new changes, its implications and their relevance (using pilot survey results)
- ❑ Carry out dissemination among small groups of targeted main users
- ❑ Clarify new concepts in produced reports



6. Good practices identified in communicating the changes, main challenges faced/lessons learned

□ Good practices:

- To publish headline indicators using both new and old standards.
- To present the LFPR along with subsistence foodstuff producer rate when subsistence farming is important in a country.

Challenges faced:

- Scattered data on workers in agriculture while the whole picture of agriculture is needed.
- The concept to be used when employment is combined with subsistence agriculture is not clear.
- Labour force status of usually subsistence agricultural who own small plots of industrial plants.



□ Lessons learnt

- We should not worry about the impact of new standards on labour market indicator whatever big is it. We just have to well communicate the sources of changes and focus on trends of new indicators over time.
- To present statistics on agriculture as a whole(Eg: include a chapter on work in agriculture in the report.



For more information on
Rwanda labour force survey:

www.statistics.gov.rw/datasource/labour-force-survey-0



THANK YOU