Annex 2. AGROVOC 25 top concepts

Activities: This contains activities that are conducted along the food supply chain, like *"breeding", "feeding", "surveying", "cleaning", "transport"*. Included here are also higher-level management activities like *"accounting"* and *"planning"*, activities and nutritional topics like *"weight reduction"* as well as activities that are more loosely related to agriculture and food or rural areas like *"cartography", "computer programming"* or "*recreation"*.

Entities: Entities are broadly defined as "something which is distinct and separate from something else." These include narrower concepts like *"agencies", "labels", "networks",* and *"policies".*

Events: Events in this context are defined as something taking place at a certain point in time and involving the participation of people, so includes concepts like *"exhibitions"* and *"training courses".*

Factors: In agricultural research and publications, the term *"factors"* is frequently used in a number of rather common word combinations. These common combinations are reflected in the narrower concepts to be found here, e.g. "*abiotic factors", "biotic factors", "environmental factors"* or *"production factors"*.

Features: This relates to the feature concept from geosciences and genetics and contains narrower concepts such as "*genomic features", "physiographic features" and "soil morphological features"*.

Groups: Groups are defined as "a number of individual items or people brought together." Narrower concepts like *"engineers", "librarians"* but also societal groups like *"consumers"* and *"interest groups"* can be found here.

Location: A location is a "a point or extent in space" and thus holds concepts like *"climatic zones", "maritime zones", "protected areas"* and *"urban areas"*.

Measure: While a measure can also denote an action taken, in this context, it is clearly defined as something that can be observed and involves a measurement: "Number or quantity that records a directly observable value or performance. All measures have a unit attached to them: inch, centimetre, dollar, litre, etc." Examples of narrower concepts are: *"altitude", "breeding value", "humidity", "price indices", and "soil water potential"*.

Methods: Methods describe ways of doing things, either in agricultural research or in production but also in everyday life. They are like recipes - and as a notable fact, *"cooking methods"* is a narrower concept of the methods top concept. Other examples include *"autoclaving", "irrigation methods", "sampling", "statistical methods"* and *"survey methods"*.

Objects: Objects in this context include human-made, tangible things like *"equipment"* and *"furniture"*.

Organisms: The organisms tree is one of the largest subtrees in AGROVOC and contains the taxonomic trees of organisms relevant to agriculture under concepts like *"Eukaryota"* and *"Prokaryotae"*, as well as common organism classes like "*plants"* and *"animals"*, but also roles that an organism can hold like *"hosts", "pests"* or *"predators"*. Concepts for organisms that live in a certain habitat like *"aquatic organisms"* or *"soil organisms"* are also available.

Phenomena: In scientific usage, a phenomenon is any event that is observable, however common it might be, even if it requires the use of instrumentation to observe, record, or compile data concerning it. In natural sciences, a phenomenon is an observable happening or event. This tree contains concepts like *"deficiencies", "economic phenomena", "hazards", "population dynamics"* and *"trends"*.

Processes: A process is a set of interrelated or interacting activities which transforms inputs into outputs. Examples of narrower concepts of processes include: *"anthropogenic changes", "biological processes", "evolution", "inhibition", "physiological processes"* and *"synthesis"*.

Products: In the context of AGROVOC, these concepts are mostly confined to products and product classes originating from agricultural supply chains, like *"animal products", "feeds", "foods"* or *"oil products"*. Raw materials or product properties are also represented by concepts such as *"resins"*, *"forest products"*, *"biodegradable products"* and *"sustainable products"*.

Properties: A property is a characteristic or quality that can be owned or possessed, which serves to define or describe its possessor. This tree contains numerous narrower concepts of differing granularity, e. g. *"age", "colour-fastness", "periodicity", "soil properties", "toxicity"* and *"wind direction"*.

Resources: Resources are things that are used during a production process or that are required to cover human needs in everyday life. Concepts like *"economic resources", "inputs"* and *"raw materials"* would refer to the former category. The latter category is covered by more abstract resources like *"cultural heritage"* or *"natural resources"*.

Site: Sites contain narrower concepts that serve to describe locations and facilities that are set up by humans for a certain purpose like *"hospitals", "laboratories", "meteorological stations", "restaurants"* and "*timber yards"*.

Stages: Stages has a few narrower concepts: *"developmental stages"* and *"life cycle"*. The former concept, however, is highly branched, containing plant and animal development stages like *"embryo stage", "reproductive stage"* etc.

State: States are any condition in which a physical substance or organism can be in. Some narrower concepts are: "*anoxia*", "*colloidal state*", "*employment*", "*physical states*", and "*sleep*".

Strategies: Strategies describe acting options and include communication, rural development and training strategies, as well as *"approaches"*.

Subjects: Subjects are disciplines of study or topics relevant to agriculture and nutrition and includes *"cartography", "humanities"* and *"sciences"*.

Substances: Substances is a broad subtree providing hierarchies for chemical substances according to physical properties like *"ceramics", "explosives", "oils"* or *"solutes"* but also according to their role or function like *"attractants", "culture media", "drugs"* or *"soil amendments"*, and their source or place of origin like *"exudates", "filter cakes"* or *"sediment"*.

Systems: The systems top concept contains a wide range of concepts for systems of human action, interaction and thought (*"economic systems", "political systems", "value systems"*), production and supply (*"distribution systems", "drinking water systems", "agroforestry systems"*), technological systems (*"information systems", "photovoltaic systems", "surveillance systems"*), as well as systematic and organizational approaches from science (*"knowledge organization system", "terminology"*).

Technology: This includes concepts for technological developments and inventions that are applied in modern agricultural and food systems: *"biotechnology", "food technology", "information and communication technologies", "seed technology", "wood technology"* and so on.

Time: This contains concepts that describe timespans with a certain function - e. g. *"free time", "seasons", "times of the day", "working hours"* and timespans relevant to agricultural production are mostly aggregated in the "timing" concept.