



Managing censuses in 2020 round – UNSD's work in progress

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Setting up 2020 round

- ❑ UN Statistical Commission submitted the 2020 World Population and Housing Censuses Programme in March 2015 to ECOSOC for adoption

- ❑ Adopted by ECOSOC on 5 August 2015 (2015/10) – five major points
 - Endorses the 2020 World Programme
 - Urges conducting at least one population and housing census within the Programme by each country
 - Underscores maintaining internationally recommended quality standards and compliance with fundamental principles of official statistics
 - Emphasizes the importance of the programme to SDG's
 - Requests UN to develop standards, methods and guidelines and to monitor the implementation of the World Programme



Principles and Recommendations

- Endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission in 2015
 - Updates and revisions based on two expert group meetings
 - Elaboration of contemporary approaches to counting population
 - Based on Generic Statistical Business Process Model, ver. 5.0
 - Emphasis on quality assurance and control
 - Confidentiality, uses of data
 - Census topics
 - Census operations
 - Census products
 - Documentation
 - Archiving
 - Evaluation



Accompanying volumes

- Each version of the United Nations principles and recommendations is accompanied by a series of publications focusing on specific issues in detail
 - Handbook on census editing
 - Handbook on measuring economically active population
 - Handbook on geospatial infrastructure in support of census
 - Handbook on census management
 - Operational guidelines for PES
 - Census data capture methodology



Managing censuses in 2020 round

- ❑ Current version of UNSD census management handbook – in need of updates and revision
 - ❑ First draft developed in cooperation of UN Statistics Division and the US Census Bureau International Programs – October 2015
 - ❑ Expert Group meeting – December 2015
 - ❑ Second draft now in progress at UNSD
 - ❑ Dispatching of second draft March-April 2016
 - ❑ Incorporating second round inputs – May 2016
 - ❑ Finalization and submission for formal editing ... - June 2016



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- Revised handbook – focus exclusively on traditional censuses, i.e. where all households in the country/area are directly approached with request for providing census-relevant information

- Irrespective of the method used – direct interview with paper or electronic questionnaire, filling the questionnaire online, mail-out, mail-back, combination...



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- Register based censuses – work on the guidelines approved by the Conference of European Statisticians
 - Steering Group formed – UNSD a member
 - Working Group established
 - First draft in fall 2016
 - Final version early 2017



Managing censuses in 2020 round

- Revised UNSD handbook – content
 - Essential definitions – from principles and recommendations
 - Planning, organization and administration
 - Overall census planning
 - Plans for enumeration
 - Administrative organization and management structure
 - Census legislation
 - Census calendar
 - User consultation
 - Communication and publicity
 - Financial management
 - Procurement
 - Contracting out
 - Use of technology
 - Documentation
 - Quality assurance
 - Use of sampling



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- Revised UNSD handbook – content (continued)
 - Pre-enumeration operations
 - Mapping
 - Questionnaire content and design
 - Testing and evaluating census questions and procedures
 - Instruction manuals
 - Recruitment and payment
 - Field staff training
 - Logistics of census materials
 - Distribution and return of materials
 - Field enumeration
 - Enumeration
 - Monitoring and management of field enumeration
 - Quality assurance
 - Type of technology



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- Revised UNSD handbook – content (continued)
 - Data processing
 - Processing strategies
 - Location of processing centers
 - Establishing the workforce structure and recruiting staff
 - Processing operations
 - Technology for processing
 - Quality assurance
 - Census products, dissemination and utilization
 - Dissemination strategy
 - User consultation process
 - Broad product strategy
 - Product development
 - Product dissemination and promotion



Managing censuses in 2020 round

- Revised UNSD handbook – content (continued)
 - Evaluation
 - Planning and implementation
 - Basic measurements of overall quality
 - Methods of evaluation
 - Communicating data quality issues
 - Documentation
 - Type of documentation
 - Archiving individual census data
 - Glossary, index



Technical report

- Simultaneously, UNSD is working on the *Technical Report on Quality Assurance for Population and Housing Censuses*
 - One extra day of the expert group meeting in December
 - Reviewing the outline
 - Setting up the way forward
 - Quality targets – starting point
 - Relevance
 - Accuracy
 - Timeliness and punctuality
 - Accessibility
 - Coherence and comparability
 - Interpretability



Technical report

- Simultaneously, UNSD is working on the *Technical Report on Quality Assurance for Population and Housing Censuses*
 - Content
 - Planning a quality assurance programme for census operations
 - Implementation of the quality assurance programme
 - Assessment of product quality and reporting
 - Introduction to the statistical process and outputs
 - Relevance
 - Accuracy
 - Timeliness and punctuality
 - Coherence and comparability
 - Interpretability
 - Trade-offs between quality components (such as trade-offs between relevance and accuracy, between relevance and timeliness, between accuracy and timeliness)
 - Cost, performance, respondent burden
 - Confidentiality, transparency and security
 - Conclusion – recommendations for quality improvements