



# 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme Newsletter

## 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme Website

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The census website is a resource centre for promoting international exchange and sharing of census-related knowledge and information, and also for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Programme. The website provides Census News on activities related to census taking in the 2010 census round, and includes dates of national censuses as well as questionnaires used in the censuses. It also presents information on census meetings and workshops organized by the United Nations Statistics Division and other relevant organizations. A vital component of this resource centre is the Census Knowledge Base that is a repository of documents on census methodology, as well as documents on best practices in census taking. To date, the Census Knowledge Base has about 226 articles.

Proposals for information for the Census News, and papers for the Census Knowledge Base should be sent by e-mail to [globalcensus2010@un.org](mailto:globalcensus2010@un.org). For more information on the website and on the Census Knowledge Base, visit

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>

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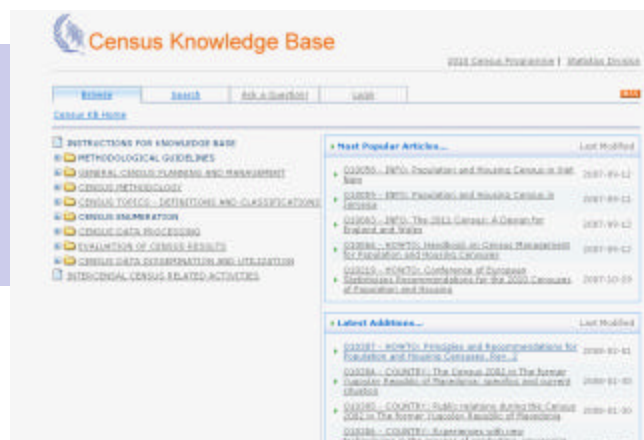
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The *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2* is available at :  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>

"The United Nations recommends that all countries or areas of the world produce detailed population and housing statistics for small area domains at least once in the period 2005-2014, around the year 2010. For most nations that means conducting a traditional census, and the present revision of the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* thus focuses on the traditional census while also describing other approaches for generating reliable statistics on population and housing."

The Census Knowledge Base is a resource centre for census managers. Visit <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/censuskb/> for information on country best practices and international guidelines in census taking.





# 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme Newsletter

## 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: Sub-regional Workshops on Census Management and Mapping with GIS

The United Nations Statistics Division has organized four regional workshops on census mapping with use of GIS: two in Africa and one each for the Caribbean region and for the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) region. An important aspect of the workshops was to facilitate the sharing of experiences and practices among participating countries on census mapping with GIS, and also practical exercises on how to use the GIS software. The training workshops covered concepts related to GIS, geo-coding and census geography and their definitions; data collection and conversion to digital format; and GIS-based data analysis and dissemination. For the ESCAP region, the workshop also discussed meeting the needs for statistics in case of emergencies as well as for disaster management.

Participants recognized the advantages of using GIS in all phases of a census although it was acknowledged that the use of GIS entails a significant investment in hardware, software as well as human capital.



“... it was recommended that census managers consider cartography as an integral part of the census project and not as a stand-alone activity. It was also recommended that national statistical offices should have a programme to develop GIS as a long-term project, although it was acknowledged that use of GIS entails a significant long-term investment in hardware, software as well as human capital. Given the different approaches and national experiences, it was pointed out that there is no universal GIS solution that fits all and that in deciding what approach to adopt, countries should be guided by their needs and availability of resources.”

For more information on the workshops, visit:

[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Zambia\\_8Oct07/default.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Zambia_8Oct07/default.htm)

[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Thailand\\_15Oct07/default.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Thailand_15Oct07/default.htm)

[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Trinidad\\_22Oct07/default.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Trinidad_22Oct07/default.htm)

[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Morocco\\_12Nov07/default.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/wshops/Morocco_12Nov07/default.htm)



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## 3rd Africa Symposium on Statistical Development, Accra, Ghana, 3-7 December 2007

The theme of the Symposium was “Best Practices & Exchanging Experience: Africa 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses”. The symposium provided an opportunity to share experiences particularly for countries that have already undertaken censuses during the 2010 census decade, and to also hear the experience of countries that have recently emerged from conflict and that are preparing to carry out censuses.

The discussions covered a wide range of topics including, methods used in planning and carrying out national censuses during the 2010 census decade; use of contemporary technology, such as the use of GIS and scanning; major technical challenges; data analysis; advocacy for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses; UNSD 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses; core and non-core questions for censuses in Africa; managing political will and public opinion in census taking as well as enumerating nomadic populations; whether Africa is on track to meeting the MDGs by 2015; and on engendering the 2010 round of censuses.

The Symposium came up with a series of recommendations aimed at ensuring that all countries conduct a census and that Africa achieves a complete count in the 2010 round. These recommendations are addressed to three categories of audiences: (i) African Governments which are called upon, among other things, to prioritize the provision of adequate resources for undertaking censuses in their countries; (ii) the United Nations and the African Development Bank which are requested, among other things, to maintain and strengthen support to African countries undertaking a census in the 2010 round; and (iii) the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development to, among other things, support countries' adherence to international standards in census-taking, drawing from the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, in particular the Africa addendum to these global recommendations.

For more information on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Africa Symposium on Statistical Development visit [http://www.statssa.gov.za/assd\\_dec2007/](http://www.statssa.gov.za/assd_dec2007/).

*“A regional effort is therefore underway to increase the participation of African countries in the 2010 round of population and housing cen-*



**Participants at the 3rd  
Africa Symposium on  
Statistical Development**





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## 2008 United Nations Census Workshops

The United Nations Statistics Division conducted a Workshop on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: International Standards, Contemporary Technologies and Regional Cooperation in **Noumea, New Caledonia, 4 - 8 February 2008**. Visit <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm>.

For 2008, the Division is planning regional workshops on data processing and data editing. These workshops will be conducted in collaboration with other relevant international and regional organizations in order to promote harmonization in provision of technical assistance aimed at improving national statistical capacity in census taking. More information on the workshops will soon be posted on the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme website.



## Expert Group Meeting on the Handbook on Geographic Information Systems and Digital Mapping

The United Nations Statistics Division is organizing an expert group meeting to review and approve the revised Handbook on Geographic Information Systems Digital Mapping. The expert group meeting will take place at the United Nations in **New York from 7-10 April 2008**. More information on the expert group meeting is available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm>.



## Seminar on Recent Experiences in Population and Housing Censuses

The United Nations Statistics Division and the UNFPA organized a Seminar on Recent Experiences in Population Census for the 2007 population and housing censuses in Ethiopia and Mozambique. The Seminar was held on **28 February 2008**, during the time of the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission which took place in New York from 26<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> February 2009. The Seminar provided an opportunity for invited countries to present on their recent experiences with their 2010 censuses and also for an international discussion and sharing of knowledge on census practices. For more information on the presentations, visit:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm>.  
One of the documents of the Statistical Commission is an information paper on Population and Housing Censuses which presents activities completed by the United Nations Statistics Division in respect of the implementation of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses. More information on the 39<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission is available at [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/commission\\_current\\_session.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/commission_current_session.htm).



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