



2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme

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UNSD reported to the 42nd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission on population and housing census activities

The 42nd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, which was held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 22 to 25 February 2011, took note of the *Report of the Secretary-General on population and housing censuses (E/CN.3/2011/21)* at its 5th meeting. As 2010 marked the mid-decade of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, the report presents an elaboration of the activities carried out by UNSD since 2005 in respect of the implementation of the 2010 World Programme. The activities include: the preparation and dissemination of international census guidelines, primarily, the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2, and handbooks and technical reports focusing on specific census topics; conduct of training workshops; provision of technical assistance; development of CensusInfo, a free software package for disseminating census data; setting up and maintenance of a website to serve as a Census Knowledge Base; and, publication of a web-based census newsletter.

The report also contains information on future activities related to the 2010 World Programme. In view of the fact that the vast majority of countries will have undertaken their 2010 round census by the end of 2011, the future UNSD work



42nd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, 22-25 February 2011

UNSD reported to the 42nd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission on population and housing census activities *(continued from page 1)*

programme will emphasize activities aimed at supporting census data analysis, dissemination and archiving. In this regard, UNSD will continue to conduct regional and national workshops on data analysis and dissemination. It will also hold an expert group meeting on national practices in census data dissemination and prepare a technical report on the topic. Furthermore, it will provide technical assistance to developing countries. Upon request by countries, the Commission requested a programme review of the 2010 World Programme as an agenda item for discussion during its forty-third session in 2012.

The full *Report of the Secretary-General on population and housing censuses* is available at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/doc11/2011-21-Censuses-E.pdf>

For more information on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses see: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>



42nd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, 22-25 February

Side events on population and housing censuses held during the 42nd Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

Two side events were organized on topics related to population and housing censuses during the meeting of the 42nd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (22-25 February 2011).

The objective of the first side event—[Learning Centre on Census Data Dissemination, including CensusInfo](#)—was to provide a forum for sharing national practices and experiences in the dissemination of census data, including through CensusInfo. The seminar reviewed innovative approaches as well as technologies employed in the dissemination of census data. The introductory presentation by Ms. Margaret Mbogoni, UNSD, highlighted some of the challenges in disseminating census data and described the activities undertaken by UNSD in assisting countries to disseminate their census results. A presentation was made by Mr. Anthony Kilele, Director General of the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, on the use of Short Message Service (SMS) in the dissemination of census data. Ms. Gillian Nicoll, Head Office of the Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics presented on census data dissemination strategies focused on interactive web-based dissemination tools. Progress in the use of CensusInfo for the dissemination of census data was featured in the presentations delivered by Mr. Abou-Bakr El-Gendy, President, Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMAS), Egypt and Mr. Charles Machnjili, Commissioner of Statistics, National Statistical Office, Malawi. The seminar reviewed some of the issues and challenges NSOs faced and the increasing demands and requirements of census data users. It positively appraised the potential of CensusInfo for disseminating census data.

More information on the side event including the presentations is available at: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/statcom_2011/Seminars/Learning_centres/PopulationandHousing/default.html

Side events on population and housing censuses held during the 42nd Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission *(continued from page 2)*

The second side event—**Seminar on New Technologies in Population and Housing Censuses: Country experiences**—provided a forum for discussion on the advantages and challenges of using new and existing technologies in census operations. By way of introduction Mr. Yacob Zewoldi, UNSD, made a presentation providing highlights from a



Learning Center on Census Data Dissemination

UNSD report on the results of a survey on census methods used by countries in the 2010 census round with regard to use of new technologies during census operations. Mr. Ali bin Mahboob Al-Raisi, Director General of Oman's 2010 census shared his country's experience in the use of satellite images as a basis for developing digital maps for demarcation of enumeration areas and use of Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) for data collection. Similarly, Mr. Eduardo Nunes, President, IBGE, Brazil, elaborated on the use of IT, particularly geo-coding, PDAs and the Internet, in census data collection. Mr. Sihar Lumbantobing, Deputy Chief Statistician, BPS-Statistics Indonesia, made a presentation on the use of Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) technology in census data capture. Mr. Hideaki Nakamura, Deputy Director, General Affairs Division, Statistics Bureau, Japan, presented on the use of a multi-modal data collection approach that involved self-enumeration by use of paper questionnaires and also via the Internet. The seminar afforded the opportunity to exchange national practices and experiences in the use of new and existing technologies in census operations as well as in identifying good practices and lessons learned in the application of technologies in conducting censuses.

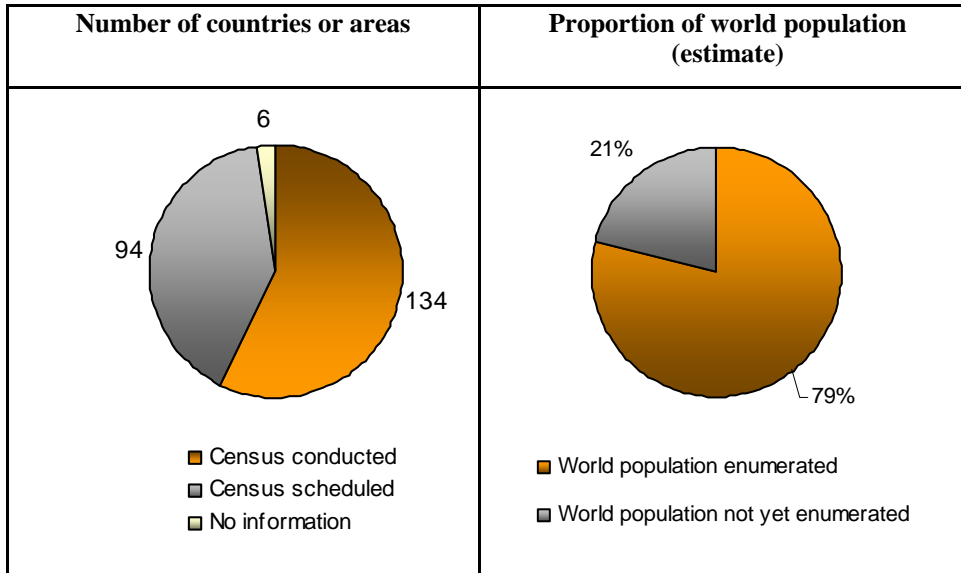
More information on the side event including the presentations is available at: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/statcom_2011/Seminars/NewTechnologies/default.html



Seminar on New Technologies in Population and Housing Censuses

Update on implementation of 2010 round of population and housing censuses

According to information available to UNSD as at the end of March 2011, 134 countries or areas have conducted a population census in the 2010 round. These censuses have enumerated an estimated 79 per cent of the world's population. By the end of 2011, another 63 countries or areas are expected to conduct a census, bringing the percentage of the world's population counted to about 93 per cent. In 2012, 18 countries or areas have scheduled to conduct a census. By the end of the census round in 2014, it is estimated that close to 98 per cent of the world's population would have been counted. A census has not been scheduled in 6 countries or areas for the 2010 round.



Under the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme, UNSD will continue to monitor and publish information on the progress being made by countries in conducting population and housing censuses in the 2010 round.

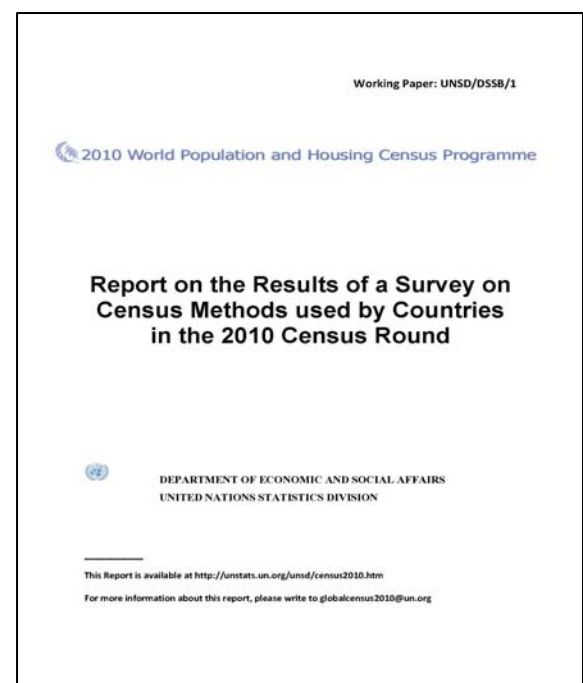
For more information on progress in implementation of the 2010 round of censuses see: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>

Report on the results of a survey on census methodologies published

UNSD published a report on the main results of a survey on census methodologies used by countries in the 2010 round. The *Report on the Results of a Survey on Census Methods used by Countries in the 2010 Census Round (Working Paper: UNSD/DSSB/1)* gives a mid-decade snap-shot of the practices and experiences of countries or areas in terms of the methods that they have used or plan to use for the various phases of the census.

Based on the information provided by 138 countries or areas, the 2010 census round is witnessing increased use of new and also improved technologies. Geographic Information Systems, handheld devices, Internet-based enumeration, mobile telephones for monitoring of field operations and data dissemination, optical data capture, and web-based interactive data dissemination tools are among the technologies used by countries in order to improve the quality and timeliness of census results. Alternative methodologies such as the use of registers to produce census-like data are also being used or considered by a growing number of countries. The report also provides information on the requirements of countries in terms of the expertise required from external sources and on countries that can provide technical support to others.

The full report is available at: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/census/2010_PHC/docs/ReportOnSurveyFor2010Census.pdf



Update on CensusInfo

CensusInfo is a software package developed by the United Nations Statistics Division, in partnership with UNICEF and UNFPA, to help countries disseminate their census data on CD-ROM and on the web. It was officially launched at the United Nations Statistical Commission on 23 February 2009 and is distributed royalty-free.

CensusInfo combines a set of features which can not be found in most other software solutions. To help users understand the quality and comparative advantages of CensusInfo, UNSD and the DevInfo Support Group have compiled a table comparing CensusInfo with other software packages (CsPro, Redatam, SPSS, SAS) in the context of data dissemination. The table compares software characteristics in the areas of data management, data presentation, import and export of data, publishing utilities, and training and support.



Country adaptations of CensusInfo by Egypt (release 2, last updated December 2010), Malawi (release 1, last updated December 2010) and Indonesia (release 1, last updated March 2011) are available at the website dedicated to promote CensusInfo: <http://www.censusinfo.net>. The website presents highlights on CensusInfo related activities across the world, and links to the websites of national statistical organizations that have adapted CensusInfo for disseminating census results.

Training workshops conducted on the implementation of CensusInfo

In order to facilitate the use of CensusInfo, UNSD organizes regional as well as national training workshops, offering census data-managers hands-on experience with the software. Two national training workshops were conducted in Blantyre, Malawi from 29 November to 3 December 2010 and Jakarta, Indonesia from 14 to 18 March 2011. The



main objective of the workshops was to develop the capacity of the staff of the National Statistics Offices to adapt CensusInfo with a view to using it as a platform for disseminating census data. The workshops provided conceptual and technical knowledge to implement the CensusInfo application for disseminating census results. The sessions included hands-on training on using the User Interface and Database Administration applications of CensusInfo. The trainings were provided by Mr. Jan Beise, UNSD and Mr. Kamal Gaur, DevInfo Support Group.

More information on the training workshop is available at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm>

CensusInfo training in Jakarta, 14-18 March 2011

Workshop on census data editing conducted for the CARICOM region

Held in St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda from 6 to 11 December 2010, the regional workshop on census data editing was organized by the CARICOM Secretariat in collaboration with UNSD. Attended by 27 participants from 16 CARICOM member countries, the workshop was aimed at developing the capacity of the staff of the National Statistical Offices of those countries in the techniques and procedures used in editing population and housing census data. The training developed a set of standard census data edits, which could then be customized and used as part of the reference for good practices in census editing. The workshop: enhanced data editing skills using the CSPro software; improved knowledge-base in census data editing; improved capabilities to customize and use the standard census data edits; and, strengthened capacity in general in producing better quality and timely census data for decision-making. The workshop was well-timed as most of the CARICOM member countries were expected to conduct their censuses in 2010 and 2011.

More information on the training workshop is available at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm>

National seminar held on in-depth analyses of Ethiopia's population and housing census

As a part of the Regional Project to Strengthen National Capacity to Analyse, Present and Disseminate Census Data funded by the Government of Italy, and within the framework of the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme, UNSD is supporting the Central Statistical Agency (CSA) of Ethiopia in conducting in-depth analyses of its 2007 Population and Housing Census. In this regard, two seminars were organized: (i) Preparatory seminar; and (ii) In-depth analysis seminar.

In the preparatory training, organized from 14 to 18 March 2011, about 40 staff of the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia (CSA) were trained in report writing and research methods. This was followed by lectures for fewer CSA staff who will conduct a study on one of the four topics of high relevance to the country - namely, fertility, mortality, housing and the situation of the elderly. The participants enhanced their knowledge and acquired advanced techniques necessary for the in-depth census data analysis.

Four teams comprising the staff of the CSA, national and international experts started preparing monographs on the four selected topics on 11 April 2011. Each team is expected to produce an analytical report on the assigned topic by 6 May 2011. UNSD undertook a mission to Ethiopia, from 9 to 14 April to: ensure a smooth start of the national project; discuss the monitoring of work progress and assessment of quality of final outputs; work with national, international experts and CSA's IT experts to lay out a plan on data processing and tabulations; assess and make recommendations on the work of each team; and, agree on milestones and deliverables to be achieved and deadlines to be observed by each team.

Monitoring of the 2011 Kosovo Census

UNSD's Inter-regional Advisor on censuses participated in the international monitoring of enumeration activities of the 2011 population and housing census conducted in Kosovo from 1 to 15 April 2011. An International Monitoring Operation (IMO) closely followed census preparations. The Management Group of IMO, of which UNSD is a member, monitors all methodological aspects and provides guidance for the census. International observers were selected by the Management Group to monitor census activities to ensure that census data are collected in line with international standards and recommendations.

Announcement of upcoming UNSD events on population and housing censuses

Regional seminars on census data dissemination and spatial analysis

UNSD is organizing regional seminars on census data dissemination and spatial analysis for Arabic-speaking countries in Amman, Jordan from 16 to 19 May 2011 and for Latin American and Caribbean countries in Santiago, Chile from 31 May to 3 June 2011. The regional seminars will provide a forum for sharing national practices and experiences in the dissemination and use of census data. The seminars will aid in taking stock of national capacities and challenges for meeting the increasing requirements of census data users as well as review emerging trends, innovative approaches and technological tools employed in the dissemination of census data. Furthermore, the seminars are expected to help in identifying good practices and lessons learned in the dissemination and analysis of census data. It is expected that 25 participants from 13 countries will attend the seminar planned in Amman and 35 participants from 23 countries that in Santiago. More information on the regional seminars is available at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm>

For more information on upcoming UNSD events, see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm>



42nd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, 22-25 February 2011

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