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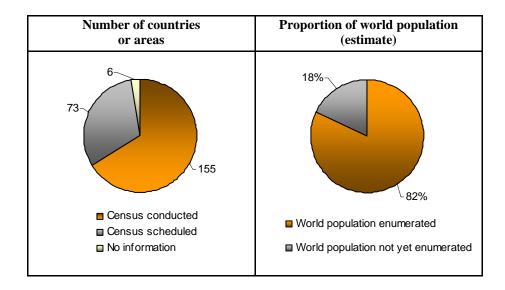
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# Update on implementation of the 2010 round of population and housing censuses

According to information available to UNSD as at the beginning of July 2011, 155 countries or areas have conducted a population and housing census in the 2010 round spanning the period 2005 to 2014. These censuses have enumerated an estimated 82 per cent of the world's population. By the end of 2011, another 34 countries or areas are expected to conduct a census, bringing the percentage of the world's population counted to about 91 per cent. In 2012, 25 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 monitors and publishes 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: <a href="http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm">http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm</a>

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# Regional seminars on census data dissemination and spatial analysis conducted for the Latin American, Caribbean and Arabic-speaking countries

UNSD organized two regional seminars on census data dissemination and spatial analysis for Arabic-speaking and for Latin American and Caribbean countries. The seminar for Arabic-speaking countries was carried out in Amman, Jordan, from 16 to 19 May 2011, in collaboration with the Department of Statistics of Jordan and the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS). The seminar brought together 29 participants from the national statistical offices (NSOs) of 13 Arabic-speaking countries and other relevant organizations. On the other hand, the seminar for Latin American and Caribbean countries was held in Santiago, Chile from 31 May to 3 June 2011. The regional seminar, which was organized in collaboration with UNECLAC and UNFPA, was attended by 32 representatives from 19 national statistical offices (NSOs) in the Latin America and Caribbean region.

The purpose of the regional seminars was to provide a forum for sharing national practices and experiences in the dissemination of census data. In addition, participants addressed the benefits and challenges of using modern technologies, including the use of ICT, Geographic Information System (GIS) and spatial analysis. The seminars reviewed emerging trends, innovative approaches and technological tools employed in the dissemination and use of census data. Furthermore, the seminars were aimed at providing a basis for: i) assessing existing national dissemination strategies as well as technologies used by national statistical offices; ii) taking stock of national capacities and challenges for meeting the increasing requirements of census data users; and, iii) identifying good practices and lessons learned in the dissemination and analysis of census data.

Among the conclusions and recommendations reached by the participants of the seminars include the following:

The census dissemination programme should be an integral part of the overall census process, based on a detailed analysis of existing and potential users' needs and requirements, and should include the list and timing of the main dissemination operations, their estimated costs and the human and technological resources that will be needed.



Regional seminar on census data dissemination and spatial analysis, Santiago, Chile, 31 May - June 2011

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# Regional seminars on census data dissemination and spatial analysis conducted for the Latin American, Caribbean and Arabic-speaking countries (continued from page 2)

• It was recognized that post-enumeration activities, in particular dissemination activities, usually suffer from lack of sufficient resources. Budget and human resources for dissemination need to be determined and protected from the beginning of the census project.

- While it was recognized that the use of new technology is speeding up the collection and processing of census
  data, it was also observed that this has increased pressure on NSOs to release results early. In order to manage
  that pressure it is important to develop a realistic and manageable schedule of data dissemination which should
  be made public, according to the needs of each country.
- NSOs should ensure transparency using a clear dissemination and data access policy, and guidelines for the conditions under which data will be provided.
- Enhancing statistical literacy of the general public, media and potential users was considered crucial for successful dissemination of census results. Statistical awareness and educational programs on the ways to access, interpret and use census information might be needed for effective outreach. In addition, functional partnerships with the media are necessary in order to improve the wider dissemination and understanding of statistical information from censuses.
- It is important to create opportunities to consult with various stakeholders and identify specific needs for data, and to develop appropriate products and related forms for their dissemination. NSOs should forge strategic partnerships with ministries and other relevant user and producer institutions to help build awareness about the use of census data and to demonstrate how the data can be used effectively in formulating plans, programmes and policies for improving living conditions of people.
- NSOs are encouraged to diversify the means of dissemination, taking advantage of existing as well as new information and communication technologies (e.g. GIS, interactive websites, social media networks) to enhance the dissemination process to reach a wider audience, including the media and general public.
- NSOs should regard a sustainable geography programme in support of census activities as a continuous process.
   Participants recognized that countries in the region face challenges in keeping abreast of advances in data dissemination technologies and urged for exchange of national experiences as well as training opportunities to enhance knowledge on new technological tools, especially in the areas of GIS and spatial analysis.
- Participants recommended that building and developing geospatial databases is a prerequisite for the creation of geographic information systems and a basis for spatial analysis which is an emerging trend in the presentation and visualization of census information. It is also noted that census organizations should be encouraged to embark on mobile technology (GPS, PDA, etc.) not only at the census preparatory and data collection stages, but also at the data dissemination stage as appropriate.

More information on the regional seminars is available at: <a href="http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm">http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/sources/cwp2010/docs.htm</a>



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## National training workshop on CensusInfo held for the staff of Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI) of Mexico

The national training workshop on CensusInfo was held for the staff of Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI) in Aguascalientes, Mexico from 18 to 22 July 2011. The workshop was intended to develop the capacity of INEGI to adapt CensusInfo to its full potential as a platform for disseminating census data. The workshop was attended by twenty staff members of the Technical Division of INEGI with responsibility in different areas of the census operation.



National training workshop on CensusInfo, Aguascalientes, Mexico, 18-22 July 2011

Over the course of the workshop the participants learned the various processes involved in the adaptation of CensusInfo. The sessions included hands-on training on using the CensusInfo User Interface and Database Administration applications as well as an introduction to the process of web-enabling the CensusInfo database. Topics of the Administrator application covered during the workshop included the following areas: steps for creating a CensusInfo template and database, integrating maps into the database using shape files, different methods of data entry, entry and management of metadata, import and export tools, the language translation tool, customization of the database for country specific context, and other administrative functions. The workshop involved numerous hands-on activities and an intensive briefing on the web application of CensusInfo for a small group of IT and web specialists.

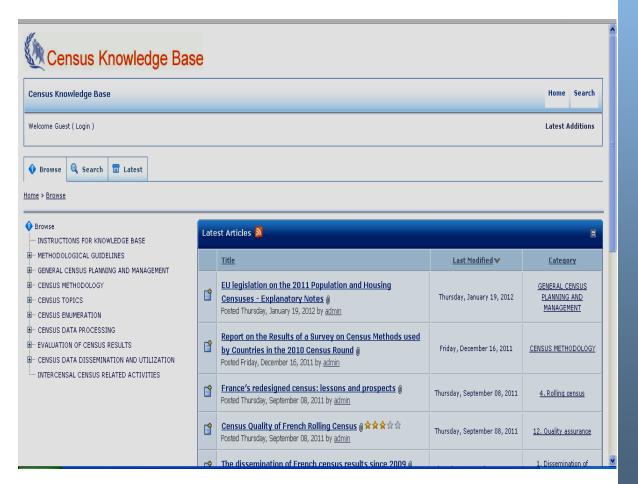
An expected outcome of the training was the creation of the first version of a Mexico CensusInfo application including maps and a subset of data/indicators based on the 2005 and 2010 censuses. INEGI is set to continue working on their CensusInfo application following the training workshop with a view to developing a dissemination product presenting data at the national, state and municipality levels.

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. More information on CensusInfo is available at the website dedicated to its promotion: <a href="http://www.censusinfo.net">http://www.censusinfo.net</a>

#### **UNSD's Census Knowledge Base**

The Census Knowledge Base is an integral part of the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses website which serves as a central point for sharing census experiences and knowledge and for promoting census activities worldwide. The Census Knowledge Base is a repository of documents relevant to the field of population and housing census taking. The knowledge database contains documents on international census methodological guidelines and best practices in census taking. Information in the knowledge base is organized according to major census activity topics including, general planning and management, methodology, topics for data collection, enumeration, data processing, evaluation of results, and data dissemination and utilization. The knowledge base can be browsed by topic or searched using full-text searching.

The Census Knowledge Base is one of the means by which UNSD continues to make available technical documents on different aspects of the census process as part of its effort to provide technical assistance to countries in planning and conducting population and housing censuses. More information on the Census Knowledge Base can be found at: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/censuskb20/Knowledgebase.aspx





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our website at: http://unstats.un.org/unsd/census2010.htm