Briefing on ESCAP Census-related initiatives

Second UN Expert Group Meeting on the Revision of the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses

13-15 December 2023

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Context

Collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community endorsed by the Committee on Statistics at its fifth session in 2016 under Action areas C (Integrated statistics for integrated analysis) and D (Modernizing statistical business processes), advocates the integration of different data sources to improve the availability of disaggregated data and official statistics. ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/3

Regional Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics at its third meeting in 2021, recognised the significance of modernising census-taking and expressed the need for regional capacity-building activities on register-based censuses.

MAIN CENSUS METHOD IN 2020 CENSUS ROUND, ACCORDING TO UNSD SURVEY





Knowledge products

Emerging trends in census approaches in Asia and the Pacific (with country examples)

- Stats Brief, April 2022 (Issue no. 31): Tapping into administrative data in census-taking: an emerging trend in Asia and the Pacific
- Stats Brief: Population Registers: A Key Resource for Producing Vital Statistics (in collaboration with SPC)
- Stats Brief: Are population censuses in Asia and the Pacific evolving?





Capacity building

- Regional Training Workshop on Transition to Register-based Approaches for Population and Housing Censuses, Ankara, Türkiye, 12-15 June 2023, co-organized by ECE, SIAP, UNFPA, UNSD plus ECO, SESRIC and TurkStat
- Virtual training on Moving Towards Register-based Population and Housing Censuses (PHC), October 2022, co-organized by the SIAP and ECO, with contributions from ESCAP, ECE and UNSD.
- Stats Café and DI-CoP sessions on the census





Self-assessment questionnaire on the readiness to use administrative data for census purposes

- Consists of two parts for the NSO office and Admin data holders.
- Includes a set of questions on different topics related to the current statistical capacity of countries for the use of administrative data for census purposes.
- Multiple choice ("yes", "no", "partially", "don't know") with the option to include comments or explanations Consists

NSOs (50 questions)

- Political support and legal framework
- Collaboration with administrative data holders
- Availability of administrative data sources
- Unified identification system
- Human and IT Resources
- Methodological matters

Admin Data holders (28 questions)

- Institutional arrangements
- Data sharing
- Unique identifier
- Data quality
- Coverage
- Consistency and comparability

Way forward



- Adapt Ankara workshop and study tour and conduct for other regions/sub-regions
- Offer in-country capacity-building activities and technical assistance to enhance the capacity of target countries to develop and implement a roadmap for increased use of administrative data for census purposes, tailored to their country context



- Further develop and introduce the self-assessment tool
- Contribute to UNFPA's support of census-taking in countries as required (e.g., 2025 census in Lao PDR, involvement in the shift towards a register-based census in Iran in 2026).



Thank you 🗐



- Training workshop on the transition to register-based approaches for population and housing censuses:
 - Lectures
 - Study tour to TurkStat
 - Country success stories (Estonia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, UK)
 - Presentations and group discussions by participating countries
 - A self-assessment tool on readiness to use administrative data for census purposes
 - Propose a scenario for their country's transition to increased use of registers for censuses

- Knowledge products
 - Stats Brief: Population Registers: A Key Resource for Producing Vital Statistics (in collaboration with SPC)
 - Stats Brief: Are population censuses in Asia and the Pacific evolving?
- Sharing of knowledge and experience
 - Stats Café: Accessing and using subnational population estimates in Asia and the Pacific
 - Stats Café: Conducting a census during the COVID-19 pandemic: challenges and approaches
 - Stats Café: Producing Population Statistics from Population Registers
 - MCCRVS Side event on <u>Register-based Censuses</u>
 - > 63rd ISI World Statistics Congress, presentation on population censuses in Asia and the Pacific
 - > DI-CoP meetings and page