

Meeting on Data Revolution: 2020 Census Round in Africa

United Nations Statistical Commission 46th session, New York, 3-6 March 2015

Concept Note

The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) has been participating in initiatives of international technical cooperation in the context of the South-South Cooperation, which highlights the loan of PDAs and the corresponding technical support in the associated activities of training, logistics, systems design, critique and counting for the use in the census activities carried out by the National Statistical Offices of Africa and South America, in the 2010 Census Round. Among the countries covered by this cooperation, we mention Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Paraguay and Uruguay

In a recent meeting held in Pretoria, South Africa, which was attended by representatives of IBGE and NSOs of South Africa and Senegal, as well as the representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), it was agreed to undertake a joint effort of the NSOs of these three countries and UNFPA, for the adoption of a strategy to facilitate the implementation of the use of Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) equipped with GPS, in the holding of the 2020 Population Census Round for African countries that so wish. This is an important initiative of Data Revolution among these countries, with the use of PDAs in the census activities of the African countries in the activities of the 2020 Round that will contribute to the advancement in the monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and implementation of agenda post 2015 in the region.

The project will start with the principal statistical survey held by the countries and will create an infrastructure that could be used for other surveys.

Our goal is to define initiatives for enhancing and strengthening the capacity of the NSOs of these countries by the use of an important technological tool to better enable them, so that they can impart the know-how to other African countries. Therefore, it is necessary to define and implement a series of actions, among which, it can be highlighted the support of UNSD and UNFPA and the mobilization of institutions that can build partnerships to make possible this initiative, particularly, with reference to the funding for training of the NSOs to the acquisition and transportation of the equipments, whose management would be under the responsibility of the NSOs of South Africa and Senegal. It is proposed to be also included a NSO of a Portuguese-speaking country.

Therefore, we believe timely the holding of this meeting, as a parallel activity to the 46th Session of the UNSC, so that we can deal with this issue with representatives of NSOs of the African countries, UNSD, UNFPA and development institutions such as the World Bank and the African Development Bank and other interested parties.

Participants:

Coordination: Mr. Roberto Luis Olinto Ramos – Director of Surveys of IBGE

Panelists: Representatives of the NSOs of South Africa and Senegal and UNSC

Participants: NSOs of South Africa, World Bank, African Development Bank, UNFPA, UNSD and Agencies (FAO, ILO etc.)