



The 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

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2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

❖ A long history of international cooperation

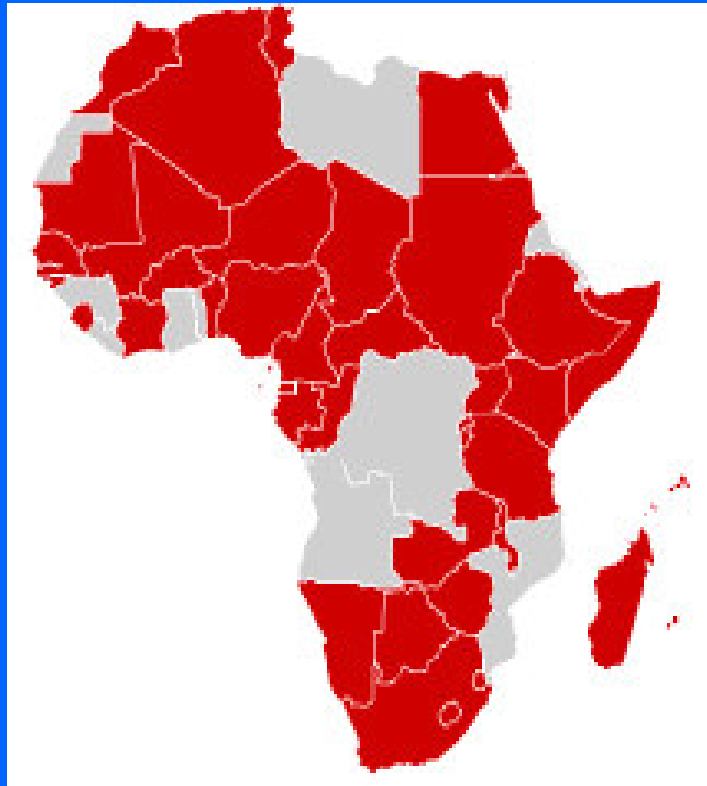
- 1958 – The first UN Programme on Population and Housing Censuses
- Followed by five rounds (one per decade)



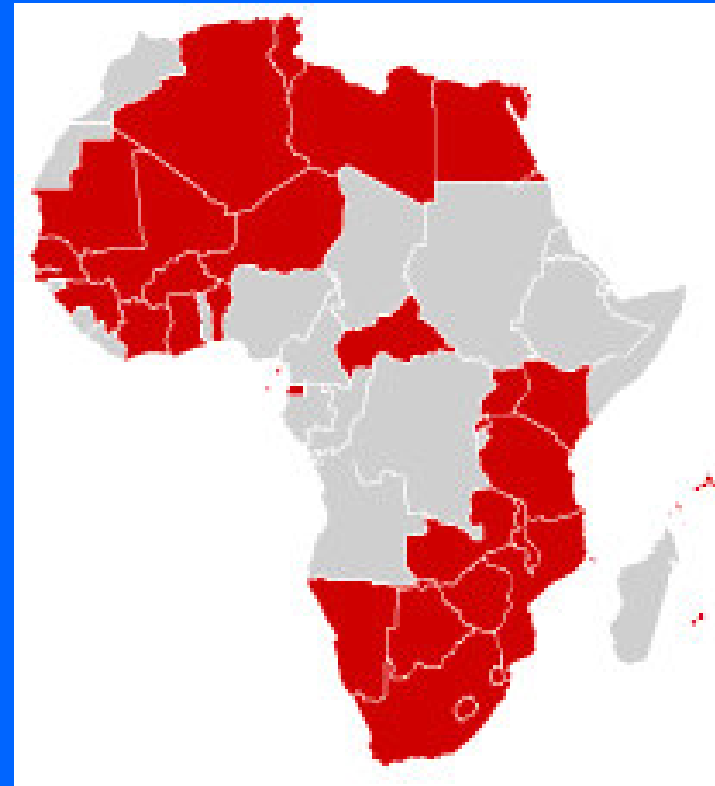
The 2000 round of Population Census

- ❖ 201 out of 230 countries/areas conducted a census during the 2000 round
- ❖ 91% of the world's population
- ❖ 57% of African population
- ❖ 80% of Latin American population
- ❖ National commitment and financial resources – key for success

Africa – 1990 and 2000 round of censuses



1990 round



2000 round

 No census conducted



2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

- ❖ **At its 36th session in March 2005, the UN Statistical Commission recommends to ECOSOC a resolution on the implementation of the 2010 World Population Census Programme.**



2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: ECOSOC Resolution

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“Considering the importance of the population and housing census to the preparation of a meaningful core set of national data and information necessary for socio-economic planning and governance,

“Stressing that, for a country as a whole and for each administrative area therein, periodic population and housing censuses are one of the primary sources of data needed for effective development planning and for the monitoring of population issues and socio-economic and environmental trends, policies and programmes,



2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: ECOSOC Resolution

“1. *Supports* the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme,

“2. *Urges* Member States to carry out a population and housing census and to disseminate census results as an essential source of information for small-area, national, regional and international planning and development and to provide census results to national stakeholders as well as the United Nations and other appropriate intergovernmental organizations to assist in studies on population, environment and socio-economic development issues and programmes;

“3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme for socio-economic planning, and requests increased support for this Programme;

“4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme.



2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses

❖ Components:

- ❖ Update and implement methodological standards
- ❖ Assist countries to conduct at least one census during the ten-year period (2005-2014)
- ❖ Facilitate exchange of knowledge, technical assistance and data dissemination



2010 WPC Programme: Revision of Principles and Recommendations

March 2005: In the process of implementing the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme, the UN Statistical Commission requested that the United Nations Statistics Division:

- ❖ act as the umbrella organization for setting standards, providing technical expertise and training and setting priorities as needed;
- ❖ proceed with its work on the revision and update of the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* through the United Nations Expert Group on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses and its working groups and technical subgroups



2010 WPC Programme: Revision of Principles and Recommendations

- ❖ EG established 3 working groups and 6 technical sub-groups to revise the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*:

1. Working Group on Standards, Frameworks and a Core Set of Outputs
2. Working Group on Census Planning and Management
3. Working Group on Promotion of Censuses: Making Value Visible



2010 WPC Programme: Revision of Principles and Recommendations

❖ Process:

1. The working groups make recommendations on the technical matters;
2. The working groups report to the Expert Group, which in turn will reach conclusions and provide specific recommendations for action to the Commission;
3. The EG ensures transparency and cooperation in all phases of the working groups, taking in consideration developments in different regions of the world and seeking feedback from countries;
4. Consider the outcome of the working groups and decide which recommendations will be incorporated in the revision and updating of the Principles.



2010 WPC Programme: Revision of Principles and Recommendations

❖ Timing:

1. The draft update of Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses will be submitted for approval by the Statistical Commission at its thirty-eighth session (March 2007).
2. The updating of the Principles and recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses will be finalized, in all United Nations languages, no later than 2008.



Measurement of maternal mortality

- ❖ *Working Group on “Standards, Frameworks and a Core Set of Outputs”* recommends to include the text on the measurement of mortality by broad causes of death, of which pregnancy-related causes represents one
- ❖ The text would be included under the topic “Household deaths in the past 12 months”,
- ❖ The text presented in the handout was reviewed and finally adopted in July 2006 by the EG **(see handout)**

Maternal Mortality (handout)

Text adopted by the *Expert Group on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses* that will be presented to the 38th session of the UN Statistical Commission in February 2007

When information is collected on household deaths in the past 12 months (or some other reference period), countries may wish to ask a pair of follow-up questions concerning cause of death. After ascertaining the name, age and sex of the deceased person and date of death, two additional questions could be asked: (a) Was the death due to an accident, violence, homicide or suicide?, and (b) If the deceased was a woman aged 15 to 49, did the death occur while she was pregnant or during childbirth or during the six weeks after the end of pregnancy? Ideally, both of these questions should elicit a simple “yes/no” answer, although in some cases the only available answer may be “unknown” or “not sure.”

Data derived from such questions could be used to better understand trends in levels and some causes of adult mortality. At the processing stage, reported deaths would be tabulated according to broad categories of cause of death: external, pregnancy-related, other, and unknown. Ignoring the "unknown" responses, both external and pregnancy-related deaths could provide valuable information in countries where no other sources of information to systematically obtain causes of death are available. Of course, such information is approximate and must be interpreted with caution after careful evaluation and often adjustment. Nevertheless, using these simple questions should make it possible to derive some useful information about major trends in mortality which are otherwise difficult to obtain.

There is no universal agreement about the feasibility of collecting reliable cause-of-death information as part of a population and housing census. The approach described here has been advocated by at least one group of experts and has been incorporated into at least one national census (that of South Africa in 2001). A key motivating factor in both cases has been the desire to gain a better understanding of trends and levels of adult mortality, particularly in the context of HIV/AIDS. Although deaths due to AIDS would fall into the residual (or “other”) category, major changes in this category between successive censuses (or between censuses and sample surveys) might be indicative of trends in AIDS mortality. Of course, such information would require careful interpretation, taking into account the overall epidemiological situation of a country.