Regional Workshop on the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: International Standards and Contemporary Technologies

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Census Planning and Management
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Presentation Structure

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Background

- Since 1881 Gambia conducted censuses at fairly regular intervals of 10 years.
- In 1941 it could not be conducted due to the WW II, deferred to 1944 and covered only Barthurst and KSMD, while the rest of the population was based on estimates.
- 1961 census was also deferred as a result of elections to 1963.
- After 1963 it was conducted on a decennial basis.
- The next census is scheduled for 2023.
Main Strategic Objectives

- Provide information on the size, distribution and characteristics of Gambia’s population for planning, policy formulation and monitoring at all levels

- Research and Development
  - Development of a Master Sampling Frame (Households)
  - Development of Geo-Spatial Database
  - Allocation of revenue to various units of LGA
  - Determination of labour force participation
Innovations/Investments

- Use of CAPI devices to undertake mapping, and census enumeration
- Use of satellite imageries for mapping
- Procurement of the CAPI gadgets
- Capacity building of staff in line with international standards and contemporary technologies
Census Planning

- Planning for 2023 PHC will start in early 2020
- Development of a census project proposal to give methodology, structure, outline the road map for implementing various census activities and budget is in progress
Census Planning Cont’d

- The proposal will also provide information on the implementation plan, management, expected deliverables at each stage, Methodology, cost implication and timelines
- Discussion of the proposal will be done at GBoS management level then later, the Statistics Council
- A cabinet memo will be prepared and forwarded to the Cabinet for discussion and approval
Census Planning Cont’

- Testing and piloting of cartographic mapping tools will be done around end of the year.
- Various census committees are about to be formed before the end of the year.
- Other planned preparatory activities:
  - Main GIS mapping starting next year.
  - Procurement of relevant census equipment.
  - Recruitment of additional staff to support mapping.
Census committees are planned to be formed this year.

The committees will be at 1 level of Government (National).

Engagement of census monitors/coordinators from mapping stage.
Census Management Structure

Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

National Steering Committee

Statistics Council

GBoS TOP
MANAGEMENT

Technical Working Committee

- Logistics
- Risk Management

Census Secretariat

- Publicity and Advocacy
- Finance & Procurement
Members of the various committees/offices and their functions are:

- **National Census Steering Committee (NCSC)**
  - The supreme organ in the census management structure
  - Members are drawn from Government, Private Sector & Development Partners
  - Guides the census process by giving policy direction on all census issues
  - Chaired by PS MoFEA
  - SG GBoS should be the Secretary
Management Committees...

- **National Census Coordinator**
  - Overall Coordination of all census activities

- **Technical Working Group (TWG)**
  - Responsible for all technical aspects of the census activities including development and review of census instruments
  - Oversees the recruitment and training of field personnel
  - Constitutes sub-committees to be assigned special tasks
    - Finance & Procurement
    - Logistics
    - Risk Management
    - Publicity & Advocacy
Management Committees...

Census Secretariat

- Provides technical, administrative and logistical support to all other committees & sub-committees
- Undertakes the day to day running of the census processes
Management Committees...

- **Publicity and Advocacy Sub-Committee**
  - Lobby leaders and general public to support and participate in census activities.

- **Procurement and Financial management**
  - Ensures that required census materials/equipment are procured at the right time
  - Develops procurement and financial flow guidelines

- **Logistics Sub-committee**
  - Develops all logistical management guidelines & implement them

- **Risk management sub-committee**
  - Develops a comprehensive risk matrix for the census process
  - Discusses the anticipated risks with various committees
  - Monitors how risks are addressed if they occur
Capacity Development

- **Intended Study visits for benchmarking**
  - Brazil, Cape Verde or Senegal (carto, ICT & demography) visits planned

- **Short Courses needed to enhance capacity**
  - Geospatial training
  - GIS training if the funds are available by US Census Bureau
  - Budgetary provisions made for capacity building
Collaborating partners

- In the frontline are 3 ministries:
  - Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs – implementation and funding
  - Ministry of Interior – Security
  - Ministry of Regional Administration and Lands - decentralisation of the census activities and support by regional authorities and structures

- UNFPA - capacity building, and resource mobilization from other development partners

- USAID

- UNICEF

- UNDP
Stakeholders forums

- Sensitization of leaders
- Sensitization of stakeholders – local and international – for questions/modules to be considered
- Sensitization of special groups – marginalized/minority
- Sensitization of the general public to participate in census activities
What is to be outsourced

- Provision of satellite imageries and Aerial photographs - procurement
- Publicity Firm
- Census trainers/enumerators/mapping assistants/supervisors
- Subject Matter Specialists for writing monographs
Adoption of Technologies

- Use of smartphones for mapping and data collection
- Use of satellite to cover rural imageries and Aerial photography for major urban
- Cloud storage
Milestones

- Cabinet Approval of Census
- Pre-test of tools
- Pilot (mapping and census)
- Successful mapping using smartphones
- Electronic data capture during enumeration
- Launch of census results
Possible Risks

- Loss of smartphones before data is transmitted to the server
- Delayed procurement and substandard materials/equipment
- Failure to receive and archive data in the server
- Large volume of data sent to the server causing congestion
- Inflation of numbers during enumeration
- Delay in amendment of the Statistics Act 2019
Contingency Plans

- Trackers installed on the Handheld devices
- Finance & Procurement committee in place
- Data sent to server once a HH is done
- Many servers for different LGAs
- Put in place data quality check mechanisms and regular spot checks
- Expedite the amendment of the Statistics Act 2019
Challenges

- In 2009 USAID funded census through US census Bureau to offer TA but it is unlikely this time.
- So far, we don’t have an institution for backstopping (for mapping & census).
- Slow start of the process.
THANK YOU