

Progress to date

Training for the registrars

Between 28th and 30th of April, Goscomstat with the support of UNFPA, organized a series of trainings for the registrars in all Pilot census districts.

On the second day of the training, Mr Yu Yu, the Representative of UNFPA in Uzbekistan and the deputy chairman of the State Committee on Statistics Mr Mahmudjon Ziyadullaev visited the Yashnabad region and familiarized themselves with the training process for registrars. Mr Yu and Mr Ziyadullaev gave detailed answers to the registrars' questions.



As part of the training, UNFPA also organized an online session for the registrars with the involvement of an international census expert Ms Galina Shcherbakova, who has the practice of conducting a number of major and pilot censuses in the Russian Federation, as well as socio-demographic surveys (micro-censuses) of the population.

During the online training, Ms Shcherbakova made a presentation on the topic "Compilation by registrars of lists of houses and residential premises in settlements for the preparation and conduct of a pilot population census in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2021". Online training allowed to unite participants from all regions and provided a heated discussion.



Progress to date

Registrars work in the field

As per the Governmental Resolution from 11.11.2020, the Pilot census of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been set to run between 1st and 25th of November, 2021. The Pilot census will be carried out in Yukorichirchik district of Tashkent region, Khujaobod district of Andijan region, Khiva city of Khorezm region and Yashnabad district of Tashkent city i.e. in two rural and two urban areas in very different parts of the country. It will cover 594,000 individuals, which is 1,8% of the total population of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

As part of the preparation, from the 3rd of May to the 1st of June, 175 registrars (Yukorichirchik district – 37, Khujaobod district – 35, Khiva city – 22 and Yashnabad district – 81) worked in the field. Each registrar was contracted on a civil basis for the whole period of work. The salaries for this temporary staff were comparable with specialist level of regular Statistics Committee staff. The uniform with census logo and stationery for the registrars to conduct field work were provided by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).



The main scope of the registrars' work was to compile a list of residential and non-residential premises, verify the schematic plan and the previously compiled list of housing with the actual situation in the assigned territory, and draw up an updated list check. The registrars checked for street name signs on every street and the number of houses located on it, and if a house was absent, this was marked on changes to the schematic plans and the number of individuals at each house was specified. All changes were submitted to the cadastral authorities for amendments. At the end of the process, the staff of the regional Departments of Statistics accepted the work on compiling the lists of housing, and the corresponding changes have been made to the maps together with the staff of the Cadastral Agency. Also, the estimated population size will serve as a basis for drawing up the organizational plans of the census.



Progress to date

Census methodological documents

The State Committee on Statistics with the support of the UNFPA developed the following methodological documents:

1. Classifier of languages;
2. Guidelines for disassembling and checking questionnaire of the Pilot census in 2021 in Uzbekistan;
3. Methodology for training personnel on the preparation and conduct of the Pilot census in 2021;
4. Samples of a fixed-term employment contract, a civil law contract and an employment agreement for the preparation of cartographic materials for conducting the Pilot census.

The language classifier consists of codes designed to encode the names of the languages used in the collection, calculation and processing of population statistics data and various information processing systems.

Guidelines for disassembling and checking the questionnaires of the Pilot census in 2021 includes rules and time frames of disassembling and checking the questionnaires at every stage.

Methodology for training personnel on the preparation and conduct of the Pilot census in 2021 includes the procedure of compiling lists of mentees, providing them with materials for training, conducting training and determining the degree of readiness for work based on the results of training (testing).

The Uzbek translation of the UNECE’s [“Recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians on the Census of Population and Housing 2020”](#) which was translated and printed with the support of UNFPA last year, was posted on the official site of UNECE.



Meetings with the Chairperson of CIS Stat Mr Vladimir Sokolin

In April the Chairman of the Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS and the Member of the Council of Heads of Statistical Services of the CIS Member States Mr Vladimir Sokolin visited Uzbekistan to study the preparations to the Pilot census and to share international best practices for successful conduct of this important milestone exercise on 1-25 November 2021. The Pilot census is important for testing all systems, staff capacities for lessons learned to be used in the main Population and Housing Census in 2023.

Progress to date

During his visit to Uzbekistan Mr Sokolin visited the central office of the Statistics Committee, the Pilot census district in Tashkent region, and participated in a seminar for census staff. On 8th of April, 2021 UNFPA, Statistics Committee management and staff had a joint meeting with Mr Sokolin to discuss preparations, and key actions and milestones to be achieved before the Pilot census starts.

Mr. Sokolin noted the importance of coordinated support by international partners to the Statistics Committee, and committed CIS-Stat support to this end. There was an emphasis on the importance of collaboration on the development of the internet-based questionnaire, and technical assistance for the development of the data management system.



Coverage of Census issues during the summer school

Between 7th and 11th of June, 2021 UNFPA, in collaboration with the Research Institute “Mahalla and Family”, under the Ministry of Mahalla and Family and the regional program “CISPop: Better Data for Better Policies” which is funded by the Russian Federation, organized a summer school for young demographers. 25 young specialists participated in training, adding to the country's capacity in population matters. 3 sessions were organized on census issues.

International expert Ms Galina Sherbakova made a presentation on the topic “Population census as the main information source of population data”, the Head of the census department of Goscomstat Mr Kobil Berdikulov on "Methodological aspects of the population census of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2023" and the Head of the division Mr Sherzod Dusnayevev trained the participants on population census questionnaire forms and rules for filling them out. This was especially important as the country prepares for the first nationwide census in last three decades.



Progress to date

Census issues were raised in International Forum on Interparliamentary Global Cooperation in the Implementation of the SDG

UNFPA invited Mr. Sokolin, Chairperson of CIS-Stat to deliver a presentation at the Interparliamentary Conference on the implementation SDGs held between 23rd and 24th of June in Bukhara.

He made a presentation on the topic "Population census of Uzbekistan: information basis for monitoring the SDGs", listed key SDG indicators which will be based on the census data with disaggregation at sub-regional level to better identify vulnerable populations.

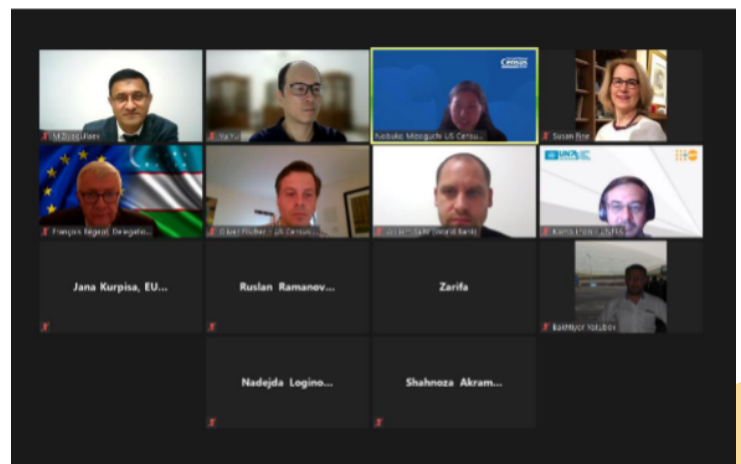


Discussion of the budget of the Pilot and the main census

On 25th of March, 2021 UNFPA facilitated the organization of a roundtable for informal exchange of information on census amongst organizations who are interested in direct financing of the Population and Housing census. The representatives of the Delegation of the EU, World Bank, USAID and US Census Bureau took part. Deputy chair of Goscomstat, Mr Ziyadullaev Makhmudjon made a presentation of the proposed budget; the event was followed by Q&A and discussion.

The following issues were discussed:

- An understanding of the overall financial envelop of the census and the government vision about domestic financing vs. external financing.
- Better understanding of the potential areas of cooperation between the government and partners, and where resources are most needed or better utilized in accordance with the government priorities and plans as well as funding policies of partners.



Progress to date

As a follow up action of the meeting, the Census budget was developed by the UNFPA team in consultation with the State Statistics Committee, based on the Resolution #710. It must be noted that the budget is an estimate to the best of knowledge currently available, key assumptions which could change as the preparations progress.

The Resolution #710 and the budget estimate developed by the State Statistics Committee did not make provisions for technical assistance, local and international consultancies, and procurement of equipment which had to be procured quickly to equip the newly established Census department and its regional units.

The total estimated cost of the PHC is \$92.8 million which translates to approximately \$2.6 per person. This is higher than some of the estimated costs of CIS countries (Kyrgyzstan - \$1.2, Azerbaijan - \$1.44), but lower than in Russia at \$3.6. The largest cost is the salaries of the census staff, followed by printing costs, office supplies, and technical assistance.

Official web site on PHC in Uzbekistan

Official web site on PHC is now active at the link <https://aholi.stat.uz>. It is updated with all related information on PHC in Uzbekistan: official documents, news, publications, methodological documents. Recently a quiz with several multiple-choice questions was posted on the Uzbek version of the site to test the knowledge about census. There are 30 questions on the Annex 1 of the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan #710 "On measures to prepare and conduct the population census in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2023". 30 seconds are given to answer each of the questions.

The State Committee on Statistics is working on:

- Continuing to prepare the main methodological documents;
- Manual on the organizational plan of the Pilot census;
- Regulation on the procedure for processing and protecting personal data of the population census in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2021 for the Pilot census;
- The economic description for data entry, processing of materials and obtaining the final data of the Pilot census;
- Instruction on occupational safety for the instructors, the enumeration area managers, assistant heads of the enumeration area and the enumerators of the stationary enumeration area;
- Instruction of occupational safety for the enumerators.
- Working closely with local authorities and Cadaster agency to incorporate changes to the maps on the basis of registrars' observations;
- Coordinating the development of the data management system;
- Preparing training packages for the training of the Pilot census temporary staff, recruitment census staff;
- Procuring ICT, supplies, ensuring availability of transport, storage and other services, office premises (contribution of local authorities mandated) in Pilot census districts, and their respective regions;
- Raising awareness of the population on the Pilot and main population census.



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NEWSLETTER

January - June 2021

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Key issues to be discussed in Q3 2021

- Preparation to the Pilot census
- Organizational plan for the Pilot census
- Data management system
- Recruitment and training of census staff
- Development of a Communications Strategy to raise awareness of the public on the Pilot and the main census
- International conference of users of census data.
- Preparation of joint expert mission for the pilot census from development partners

Resource mobilization

- UNFPA allocated \$195,500 to support census preparation activities during 2021 for the trainings of the temporary Pilot census staff, support to awareness raising campaign and other activities.
- The Government of Russian Federation is supporting UNFPA's activity on technical assistance on the census in Uzbekistan through the regional programme "CISPop: Better Data for Better Policies" in the total amount of \$159,704.
- UNHCR approached UNFPA expressing a possibility to provide support for the census preparation process during 2021-2022 in the total amount \$70,000.
- World Bank loan for census is being discussed with Government of Uzbekistan.

