PAKISTAN

Highlights of national experiences and practices related to innovations and developments in economic, social and population related statistics

*Shifting from paper based data collection to electronic data collection has been the key initiative taken by PBS during the last two years.*

a. **Population related statistics:** 7th Population and Housing Census is historic, as this largest digitization exercise of South Asia was planned in shortest span of time i.e., just 18 months. Further, for the first time Population of Pakistan was counted digitally using Tablets. For the first time facility of Self Enumeration was provided to the citizens of Pakistan. This Census has also provided Economic Frame to determine the size of Economic clusters across the country. All the structures have been Geo Tagged. Online monitoring dashboards were provided to stakeholders. All abovementioned achievements make the First Digital Census a significant milestone and a huge leap towards digitization.

b. **Economic and social Statistics:** Following initiatives have been taken in the field of economic and social statistics.
   a. **Quarterly National Accounts.** After the completion of 2015-16 rebasing of national accounts in January 2022, PBS took an initiative to compile Quarterly National Accounts (QNA). With the technical support of the World Bank, complete series of QNA has been developed from 2015-16 onwards and PBS will be disseminating QNA during the financial year 2023-24. First Quarter numbers will be disseminated by the end of November 2023.
   b. **Backward Series of National Accounts.** In June 2023, PBS compiled and released revised series of national accounts from 1999-2000 to 2014-15 on 2015-16 base year. This series will meet the consistent and growing demand for a longer time series on a common base year by policymakers, planners, academicians, researchers and other data users, while incorporating the concepts of the 2008 SNA.
   c. **Natural Capital Account (NCA).** In 2023, PBS took a new initiative for the compilation of Natural Capital Accounts (NCA). NCA refers to all types of environmental assets existing in the environment. Natural capital is essential for economic growth, employment, and, ultimately, prosperity. PBS has established a designated section for the compilation of NCA, which will cover all natural resources available in Pakistan. The NCA will be compiled in accordance with international recommendations and standards e.g. SNA-2008 and System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) - Central Framework.
   d. **Rebasing of National Accounts from 2015-16 to 2024-25.** PBS has initiated new project to change the base year of the economy from 2015-16 to 2024-25. The updated frame of establishments, through recently completed digital census, will be used to conduct census/surveys/studies for the new rebasing.
   e. **Task Team on data as an asset in the 2025 SNA.** Pakistan has volunteered itself to work in the Task Team on data as an asset in the 2025 SNA.
   f. **Shifting the Trade Statistics from BEC- Rev-4 to BEC-Rev-V.** Shifting the basis of economic categories from BEC-Rev-4 to BEC-Rev-5 which is more comprehensive as compared to earlier version. The Broad Economic Category Rev-5 actually presents a high level of aggregation of product category which is based on the detailed commodity classifications in the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), the Harmonized Commodity and Coding System (HS) and the Central Product Classification (CPC). BEC Rev-5 will be helpful in developing policies for industrial growth of Pakistan.