STATS CAFÉ

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ASIA-PACIFIC STATS CAFE SERIES:

Conducting a census during the Covid-19 pandemic: challenges and approaches

Monday, 29 June 2020 at 12:00-13:00 p.m. (Bangkok Time)

As the world grapples with the spread of COVID-19, many countries are dealing with the implications of the outbreak on preparations and implementation of the 2020 census round. The COVID-19 pandemic will threaten the successful conduct of censuses in many countries through delays, interruptions that compromise quality, or complete cancellation of census projects.The potential disruption of the 2020 census round could be particularly significant for those who have census planned for this or next year. Many Countries and territories in the Asia-Pacific region with a census planned for 2020 or 2021 representing nearly 4 billion people, more than half the world's population. Even countries planning censuses at a later date may be impacted by the pandemic at different stages of the census cycle. UNFPA has published a guidance note on population censuses in the time of COVID-19 at unfpa.org/resources/technical-brief-implications-covid-19-census.

Objectives:

1. Discuss impact of COVID19 on 2020 Census round in the region
2. Share country experiences in managing censuses planned for 2020, including both traditional and register-based censuses



Agenda:

- Opening and introduction: Gemma Van Halderen, Director, Statistics Division, ESCAP
- Overview of the 2020 Census Round in Asia and the Pacific: Christophe Lefranc, Regional Population and Development Technical Adviser, UNFPA
- Country experience 1: Singapore - Seet Chia Sing, Director of Census Office, Dept. of Statistics
- Country experience 2: Philippines - Minerva Eloisa P. Esquivias, Assistant National Statistician, PSA
- Country experience 3: Indonesia - M.Nashrul Wajdi, Statistician and Researcher, BPS
- Q and A: Moderator - Petra Nahmias Chief, Population and Social Statistics Section, ESCAP



Opening and introduction by
Gemma Van Halderen
Director, Statistics Division
ESCAP

Q&A moderator
Petra Nahmias
Chief, Population and Social Statistics Section
ESCAP



UNITED NATIONS ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

SPEAKERS



Christophe Lefranc

Christophe Lefranc is currently a Technical Adviser on Population and Development at the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), supporting production, dissemination, analysis and use of population data in the region. In this capacity, he has been supporting several Asian countries with their population census processes of the 2010 and 2020 census rounds. Prior to moving to Asia-Pacific, he supported the development of statistical capacities in sub-Saharan Africa and worked on projects related to social and demographic statistics in France. Christophe Lefranc holds a PhD in Demography from the University of California, Berkeley, USA and Master's Degrees in Statistics and Development Economics from France.



Minerva Eloisa Esquivias

Minerva Eloisa Esquivias is the Assistant National Statistician for National Censuses Service of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). She has more than 32 years of progressively responsible positions at PSA. Minerva graduated from the University of the Philippines - Diliman with the degree on Bachelor of Science in Statistics. She obtained her Master in Public Management at the Development Academy of the Philippines. She has presented and published papers about population and housing census. She has also attended various trainings, seminars and workshops locally and internationally on population and housing census.



SEET Chia Sing

Chia Sing oversees the Census of Population 2020 in Singapore. As Census Director, Chia Sing manages the development and set-up of the Census Data Collection and Processing system, resource planning and operations implementation. She graduated with a Bachelor of Social Science in Sociology from the National University of Singapore and attended the Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques with the University of Michigan. She has been involved in the planning and execution of various household surveys in Singapore, including the Population Censuses, General Household Surveys and Household Expenditure Surveys since 2004.



Nashrul Wajdi

Nashrul Wajdi also known as 'Acul' began his career as a Civil Servant in BPS - Statistics Indonesia of Bima Regency, NTB Province, since graduating from the Institute of Statistics in 2001. His interest in population and employment issues led him to continue his education in the Population and Labour Studies Master degree and graduated in 2010. In 2011, Acul continued his career BPS Head Quarter Office at the Population and Labor Statistics Directorate. In 2012-2013, Acul served as Chief of the Labor Statistics Processing Section. In 2017, Acul completed his doctoral studies in Demography, Population Research Center, at FSS-RuG, the Netherlands. The research theme is interregional migration in Indonesia. Several scientific articles from his study have been published, namely 'Interregional Migration Flows in Indonesia' (Sojourn, 2015), 'Gravity Models of Interregional Migration in Indonesia (Bulletin of Indonesian Economic Studies, 2017) and' Interregional Migration in Indonesia: A Micro Approach '(Journal of Population Research, 2017). Currently Acul serves as the Head of Demographic Statistics Division at BPS - Statistics Indonesia.