

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

By

Gambia Bureau of Statistics

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Background

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- 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

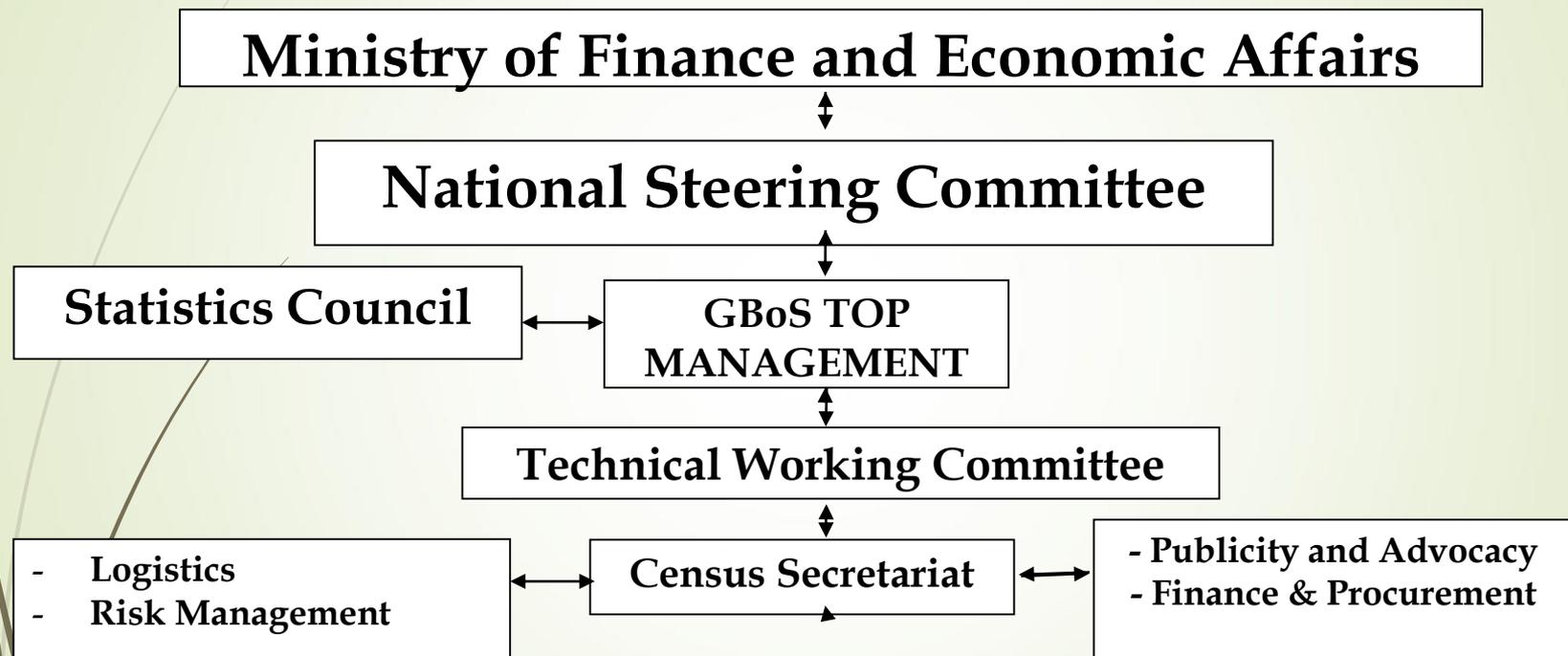
Census Planning Cont'

- 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 Management

- ➔ 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



Management Committees

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...

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➤ *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...

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► **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

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➤ 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

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- 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

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- 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