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The Census 2020 Newsletter reflects the main activities that the National Institute of Statistics of Albania (INSTAT) has undertaken and will undertake until the end of this project. This newsletter will be published on a quarterly basis. After the publication of the second edition in December 2018, the third edition of the newsletter will offer insights into the activities that have been carried out from January to March 2019 and what is expected to happen the following months.

POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 2020

INSTAT has planned to conduct the next Population and Housing Census (PHC) in 2020. The 2020 Albanian PHC will follow the method of universal direct enumeration based on field operations with compilation of questionnaires by enumerators, using new methods for the collection of data.

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The kickoff meeting on "Support for the Implementation of Population and Housing Census 2020 activities in Albania" project

The first meeting for the project "Support for Implementation of Population and Housing Census 2020 activities in Albania" was held at INSTAT on March 26th 2019, with the participation of the European Delegation, representatives of EUROSTAT, donors and all actors involved in this process. The aim of this meeting was to present an overview of the preparatory work for the implementation of Census 2020, the plans of activities for 2019, and to ensure the commitment of all partners in this important activity.

EU mission on Census of Population and Housing 2020

The first mission of "Support to Population and Housing Census 2020" project, contracted by the European Delegation to Albania, was held at the offices of INSTAT 4 - 13 February 2019. The purpose of this mission was to evaluate and monitor the preparatory work of Census 2020, as well as field activities (pilot, terrain and PES) to ensure the project's performance. Experts are contracted for 120 working days over a 2-year period.

Ad-hoc mission on IPA 2015, on the preparation of the activity plan for the Census Pilot

INSTAT organized a number of meetings between 11 and 15 March 2019 with an international expert regarding the plans of activities for the Census Pilot process. The expert worked closely with INSTAT staff to help set up a well prepared plan for the Census Pilot.

Mission funded by INSEE on the Census of Population and Housing 2020

On 27-29 March, INSTAT held a number of meetings with an expert of risk analysis, a mission funded by the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE). The purpose of this mission was to assist INSTAT in preparing the risk analysis for the Census of Population and Housing 2020 activities.

Consultative meeting on the Draft-Questionnaire of Census 2020

In January, INSTAT organized a consultative roundtable for the questionnaire of Census of Population and Housing 2020 with representatives of institutions responsible for issues related to the characteristics of buildings and dwellings.

During this roundtable questions about the building and dwelling questionnaire were discussed, and comments and suggestions related to them were made.



Finalization of Census 2020 Draft-Questionnaire

During January-March 2019, INSTAT has worked intensively on finalizing the draft questionnaire of Census 2020.

In the framework of pilot Census preparations, INSTAT has defined the criteria of the areas in which the pilot process will be tested.

To achieve this purpose, work has started on the preparation of the supporting materials (manuals) to conduct surveys on fieldwork by surveyors, controllers and supervisors.

Staff recruited for Census 2020



INSTAT announced job vacancies in support of the Census 2020 project. During January 2019, on the official website of INSTAT job positions for Technical Coordinator, Project Coordinator, and Administrative Coordinator were announced. Given the importance of these positions and the high interest expressed by the candidates, but also by the international partners, INSTAT decided to postpone the application deadline by 2 (two) weeks until March 11, 2019, in order to create space for applications from more interested candidates.

Meanwhile, INSTAT has announced on its official website the new hires: "Procurement Specialist", "Programming Specialist" and "Program Designing Specialist". During February, INSTAT announced the vacancies for "GIS Specialist - for Census of Population and Housing 2020", which will continue until a candidate is hired.

The Institute of Statistics is supervising the process of "Map updating". For this reason, in February, on the official website of INSTAT, vacancies for the positions "GIS Operator" and "Field Surveyor" were

announced. During this time recruitment procedures (collection of applications, review of documents, and interviews) were evaluated. The list of the persons hired is published on the official website of INSTAT.

In March, according to the calendar published on the official website with all district applicants, interviews were conducted for the purpose of recruiting "Field Surveyors". The recruiting procedure continues for enumerators who meet the required criteria.

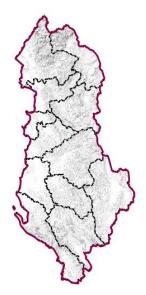
Procurement Procedures for Population and Housing Census 2020

In order to effectively implement the Census 2020 activities and taking into account the fact that the Census will be funded by various donors, INSTAT has prepared the manual procedures of procurement, which consist of the rules to be applied, the legal basis, the type of procedure according to the rules of each donor, as well as the procurement plan that was sent to the CFCU as the Contracting Authority.

During the first quarter 2019, based on the procurement plan, the following procedures were performed:

- a) Evaluation procedure for the tender "Support for implementation of Population and Housing Census 2020 in Albania" with the aim of selecting a company that will provide technical assistance for the implementation of Census 2020 activities.
- b) The procurement procedure for "Workstations and Computer desktop for GIS office specialists" was carried out, financed by the SIDA Direct Funding project. Contracts are signed and the equipment is delivered to INSTAT.
- c) On February 25th 2019, a donation contract was signed between INSTAT and IOM (International Organization for Migration), for "Purchase of Tablets" funded by GIZ for the migration survey, which will also be used for the process of map updating within Census 2020 activities.
- d) The procurement procedure for rental of two vehicles that will be used during the preparatory and field stage of the Population and Housing Census 2020 has started and is in process.
- e) Procurement procedure for office equipment for the new employers of Census 2020 has started and is still in process.

Start of map updating process



INSTAT, in the framework of preparations for Census 2020, after completing the work on building the necessary infrastructure for conducting the process of census map update and discussions, together with the draft of the working plan for the pilot Census process, is starting the process of map updating on 1st of April 2019 across the country.

The survey of the census map updating is one of the first and key activities of the pre-Census process. It will serve as a preliminary basis for the largest statistical work of INSTAT, which is the Census 2020.

During January-March 2019, a number of tasks were carried out, such as the preparation of a geodatabase for field work, finalization of the questionnaire for buildings and dwellings, preparation of a specific application for updating maps in the field, preparation of working manuals, (field survey manual, manual of GIS operators, GIS application manual), recruitment of GIS operators who will be work on the field for map updating survey, recruitment of GIS surveyors who will work on the field for map updating surveys, the recruitment of a GIS specialist to assist in the geoinformation sector, preparation and implementation of training GIS operators and field enumerators.

INSTAT prepares a draft application for data collection on the field

INSTAT, in order to fulfill the tasks of the Census 2020 process, will start preparing a draft application for data collection on the field, based on the defined criteria of the areas in which the pilot Census process will be conducted.

Open logo design contest on Census 2020

INSTAT has launched an open logo design contest for the Census of Population and Housing 2020.

The competition is divided into two phases:

- a) The first phase will take place between March 11th and April 3rd, when all applicants will send their works.
- b) The second phase will take place between April 4th and April 9th, when the first three winners will be selected.

So far there has been high interest, not only by students of Fine Arts and Architecture, but also by students of the Artistic Lyceum.



All the works will be evaluated by a jury of professionals. INSTAT will have ownership over the winning logo, which will be announced on the official website on April 10, 2019.

Council of Ministers proposes the new Census 2020 Law



In the framework of preparing the legal basis for the Census 2020, the Council of Ministers has proposed to the Parliament the new draft Law on Population and Housing Census 2020.

The main effect expected from this draft law is the production of statistical indicators that provide an updated and realistic overview of the demographic and social situation in the country.

The draft law aims at achieving the following objectives:

First, the production of population and housing statistics by well-defined law:

- a) The role of INSTAT as the institution responsible for the successful conduct of the process;
- b) The supporting role played by executive and local government institutions;
- c) The role of personnel engaged in data collection, processing and publication processes;
- ç) Preservation and administration of collected information;
- d) Obligations of subjects to provide the required information through Census questionnaires;
- dh) Obligation of persons to guarantee statistical confidentiality;
- e) Produce professional and credible official population and housing statistics.

Second, carrying out the Population and Housing Census in accordance with the new international recommendations and standards by:

- a) Defining statistical terminology in line with those used by Eurostat;
- b) Meeting the recommendations of the competent national and international institutions regarding the development of the future population and housing census, particularly those derived from the Conference of European Statisticians (CES 2020) for Population and Housing Censuses.

Third, harmonizing the legal basis with other documents regulating the statistical activity in the country, taking into account:

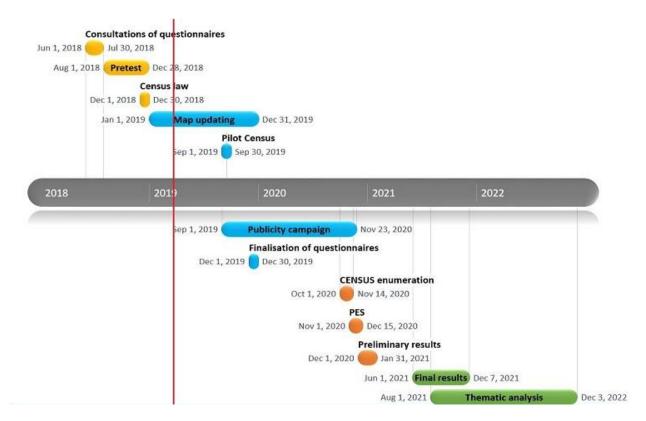
- a) The new standards established by law no. 17/2018 "On official statistics";
- b) The strategy and plan for the development of Population and Housing Census 2020 in Albania;
- c) The support of local self-government, as defined by the legislation on administrative and territorial division.

The draft law was drafted by INSTAT in cooperation with a group of international experts provided with the support of the Swiss government and the Federal Statistical Office of Switzerland through the SALSTAT project. Also, the project has taken into account opinions from ongoing communications, roundtables and meetings with representatives of public institutions, interest groups, media, international institutions, etc.

Compliance with the *Acquis Communautaire* is related to terminology and statistical definitions, particularly regarding Regulation 763/2008, which is the basic directive for censuses in member countries.

During the first quarter of this year, INSTAT presented the draft law to the Parliamentary Committee for European Integration. The draft law is expected to be discussed in the commissions covering legal, economic and producer activities.

Performance of the activity plan



INSTAT has arrived at this stage