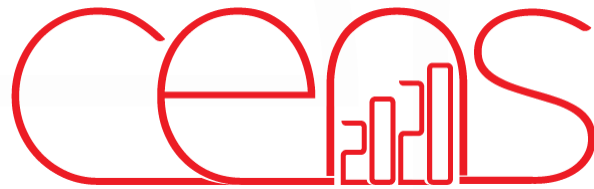


# NEWSLETTER



NO. 6 | OCTOBER– DECEMBER 2019 |



The Census 2020 Newsletter reflects the main activities that the National Institute of Statistics of Albania (INSTAT) has undertaken and will continue to undertake until the end of project. This newsletter is being published on a quarterly basis. The sixth edition of the newsletter will offer insights info. on activities that have been implemented from October to December 2019 and planned forthcoming activities for following months.

## POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS 2020

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

### CONTACTS:

**FREE PHONE NUMBER: 0800 22 44**

**E-MAIL: CENS2020@INSTAT.GOV.AL**

## CONTENT

### CENSUS' 2020 Activities for October-November-December 2019

- Conducting pilot Census
- Communication campaign for pilot Census
- Round-tables with municipalities
- Communication Strategy for Census 2020
- Preparation of geo-spatial data on building and dwellings maps for Census 2020
- Development of application and monitoring systems for data collection
- Training of field work staff
- Study visits in the framework of Census 2020
- Monitoring process for pilot data collection
- Activities planned for period January-March 2020



## Conducting pilot Census



Pilot field enumeration of population and housing began on 21<sup>st</sup> October. For this phase, 10 municipalities were selected, which allows testing of methodology and technology of data collection as well as all procedures planned to be followed for Census 2020.

Pilot was conducted in following municipalities: Tirana, Durrës, Vlorë, Himarë, Shkodër, Malësi e Madhe, Kukës, Maliq, Pustec and Kolonja. It were 100 enumeration areas, of which 52 urban and 48 rural areas, for a total of 7,000 households and two collective institutions.

During the field work, the enumeration staff was continuously supported by information technology support staff on problems faced during the work with handheld devices (tablets), as well as INSTAT staff for the process of filling-in and validation of questionnaire.

The pilot field enumeration continued until 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2019. The process of data collection was realized through using the electronic devices, tablets.

## Communication campaign for pilot Census

During the period October - November 2019, INSTAT finalized and disseminated information materials for the pilot Census.

In this framework, the enumerators were provided with badges, bags, INSTAT and Census 2020 logos, as well as leaflets, which were distributed to the enumerated families. The leaflets contain detailed information through answering four main questions: What is the Census of Population and Housing, What is pilot Census and When will take place, Why it is important and How the data are protected.



---

## **Round-tables with municipalities**

Throughout October and at the beginning of November, the responsible Census units of INSTAT organized round-tables with the representatives of municipalities in which the pilot Census was taking place. The aim of these meetings was to support and acknowledge the importance of Census 2020 implementation. During the meetings, the Municipalities were informed on current phase of pilot Census and the follow up steps.

---

## **Communication Strategy for Census 2020**

During the last quarter of 2019, a Communication Strategy for Census 2020 was developed by the EU Technical Assistance expert. The communication strategy defines various aspects in relation to implementation of communication campaign and structure the plan of activities i.e modulation and duration of the campaign, the schedule and frequency of radio and television broadcasts, the publication of newspaper inserts, message content, etc.

---

## **Preparation of geo-spatial data on building and dwellings maps for Census 2020**

The geo-information unit has support pilot Census, from preparation of geo-database to preparation of maps and providing assistance to Census pilot enumerators. The 100 pilot areas were selected and updated with priority by field GIS staff. After fieldwork, the Census enumeration areas were checked (in field and office), were cleaned and then coded in the office according to results collected from the field.

Maps of Census areas for pilot enumerators were prepared and uploaded into tablets. Also, the GIS unit assisted and supported the pilot enumerators for their orientation in field during pilot registration phase as per their requirements. In parallel, the work continued on map updating all over the Republic of Albania.

The update on buildings and dwellings activity for the entire country was planned to be finalized by the end of December 2019. Due to earthquake situation and damages caused by the earthquake, there was a need to continue updating of buildings and dwellings in 2020 for the affected areas. The process of updating for those areas will be a second phase during 2020, upon the official assessment on the earthquake-affected areas.

---

## **Development of application and monitoring systems for data collection**

In October, INSTAT in conjunction with EU Technical Assistance experts, finalized the CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) application for data collection using the Survey Solution platform, a platform built by the World Bank to develop data collection applications electronically. The same platform was used for monitoring application for controller. This application serves for controlling during the field data collection process and consists of several reporting forms:

- Report which monitors the enumerators interviewing progress;
- Report that allows quality analyzes of the interviews conducted by enumerators.

If the interview conducted by enumerator is completed correctly, the controller approves it; otherwise, the controller returns the interview to enumerator for necessary corrections.

- Report on the length of interviews
- Report the number of conducted interviews by days.

Meanwhile, it was developed monitoring applications for supervisors and INSTAT staff.

In October, also was finalized the implementation of information technology infrastructure, which serves to synchronize the data collected in the field. Data collection through the CAPI system allows data transmission over the internet from field to main INSTAT data server.

### **Training of field work staff for pilot Census**



INSTAT trained the pilot field staff according to cascade method. Thus, on 7 - 11 October 2019, were organized the Training of the Trainers (INSTAT staff), supervisors and controllers, whom then trained the enumerators.

During the first phase of the training, INSTAT staff, supervisors and controllers were informed on Census terminology and methodology, on use of tablets as well as filling in the electronic questionnaires. Also, work with maps, logistics and work structure during data collection, communication, ethics, statistical confidentiality and data protection were subjects of training

sessions.

The second phase of the training followed on 15-18 October 2019, consisting at training of enumerators. The enumerators were trained by their supervisors and controllers under the supervision of INSTAT staff.

### **Study visits in the framework of Census 2020**



In December, two study visits were organised in the framework of Census 2020.

During 8 - 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2019, the Communication Unit, composed of four members, conducted a study visit to Czech Institute of Statistics. The purpose of this visit was to exchange views and discuss implementation of the communication plan for the Population and Housing Census.

Another study visit on grant management, reporting and audit procedures took place in Ireland during 16-18<sup>th</sup> December 2019. The study visit aimed at getting knowledge on best practices and experiences of European countries.

### **Monitoring process for pilot data collection**

The data collection by enumerators and field staff during pilot Census was monitored on daily basis by regional statistics offices staff of districts where the pilot Census took place, as well as by the INSTAT headquarters staff. For the monitoring process, INSTAT engaged 40 employees. In October 24<sup>th</sup>, EU Technical Assistance experts organized a monitoring field visit in Vlora. The focus of visit was discussions with field staff and exchange of experiences on field activities, the performance of tablets during data collection, communication with interviewees and reporting of fieldwork problems.

European Commission Monitoring Mission experts were also present in this process, by means of direct monitoring the enumerators' interviews in the following municipalities: Tirana, Durres, Vlora, Himara, Kukes, Pustec during 21- 31 October, and 4 -9 November, as well as monitoring the organizational aspects of pilot fieldwork.

This pilot was also monitored by donors. Representatives of the European Commission Delegation in Tirana participated during the interviews in the municipalities of Shkodra, Malesi e Madhe and Tirana.

A dedicated e-mail address was set up for the pilot phase, which served for reporting purposes, through which the field work staff reported the progress made and problems faced on a daily basis. Toll free number was installed and was available for citizens in providing information to all inquiries during the pilot phase.

---

### **Activities planned for period January-March 2020**

For the first quarter of 2020 the following activities are planned:

- Analysis of pilot findings for all processes, information technology, methodology, trainings, GIS, communication, logistics and human resources;
  - Planning and improving data collection system through CAPI application;
  - Controlling and digitizing of georeferencing data collected in the field, preparatory work in framework of Census 2020 activities;
  - Preparation of main tables with pilot Census data for testing purposes.
-