

REPORT
TO THE REGIONAL CENSUS COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**17TH MEETING,
GROS ISLET, ST. LUCIA
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General Bureau of Statistics of Suriname (GBS)

**Iwan A. Sno, Director/ National Census Officer
Eartha M. Groenfelt, Manager Census Office of the GBS**

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I. PROJECT DETAILS

1.1 Title:

Eighth General Population and Housing Census (Abbreviated AVT-8)

1.2 Immediate objectives:

- a- Plan and execute a General Population and Housing Census of Suriname and Process, analyze and disseminate its results within 2¼ years of enumeration.
- b- Provide means to verify the adequacy of the continuous Population Register of the Civil Registry Office.

1.3 Intermediate/Long term objectives:

- c- To provide the Surinamese government, private sector and scientific and research community with up to date, accurate and comprehensive demographic, social, economic and cultural data which can be used for national and regional planning, as well as for research purposes.
- d- To strengthen the national capacity in collecting, processing and analyzing data resulting from Population and Housing Censuses.

1.4 Executing Agency:

Census Office of the General Bureau of Statistics (GBS / ABS), under the direction of the National Census Officer, also the Director of the GBS.

1.5 Duration of the project:

01 March 2009 – 31 December 2013

(Actually, preparations started in October 2008 with updating of existing mapping and listing information. The Internal Census Planning Committee (ICPC) was installed on March 9, 2009 but for administrative purposes 01 March 2009 is the designated starting date).

1.6 Enumeration method:

Comprehensive Method, i.e. resulting in both a “De Facto” and a “De Jure” count of the population. A de facto count of all persons in Suriname at the census reference moment will be provided, while tabulations will be based on the “De Jure” population count.

II. STATUS OF THE PREPARATORY WORK RELATIVE TO THE CONDUCT OF THE 2011 CENSUS IN SURINAME

2.1 Census geography:

Establishment of a Listing and Mapping Committee (LMC) in October 2008, by the director of the GBS. This is an internal working group, that tracks the progress of listing and mapping activities in preparation to the 2011 Census, as well as giving advice and guidelines. The official start of listing and GIS mapping activities/updating of the Census Enumeration Areas also started in October 2008. Most fieldwork activities with regard to updating of enumeration areas from the Seventh Census (2004) have been completed in 8 of the 10 districts of Suriname.

2.2 Census management and organization:

Establishment of an Internal Census planning Committee (ICPC) in March 2009, by the director of the GBS. The ICPC holds meetings on a regular basis, to discuss various census preparatory activities. The ICPC is also responsible for preparation of draft materials (such as project plans, budgets, questionnaires, manuals, concepts and definitions, advice on editing and data processing) for the census management team that will be established in 2010.

2.3 Census workshops and meetings:

- Organization of the workshop “Geographic Divisions in Suriname for various purposes” in April 2009 by the GBS. The participants to the workshop were government and semi-government stakeholders. The purpose of the workshop was identification and discussion of the various geographic subdivisions that are in use by the different agencies, in order to come to a consensus with regard to their nomenclature and boundaries. The workshop also served as the formal announcement of the start of preparatory activities towards the Eighth Population and Housing Census.
- Participation of GBS staff and personnel in regional workshops for the 2010 census round, namely on Census planning and organization (May 2009), Census methodology (May 2009), Census data processing (October 2009), Census info (October 2009).

2.4 Census planning and budget:

In August 2009, the GBS presented its first draft budget and project plan to the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MinPLOS). Based on this budget, the necessary funds for preparatory activities in 2011 have been submitted to the National Assembly, as part of the MinPLOS-budget, for approval of annual spending.

2.5 Census questionnaire

The proposed CARICOM core and non-core census questions have been reviewed by the ICPC. Agreement has been reached on the questions that will either be included, excluded or modified (without doing harm to the UN concepts and definitions). Working groups within the committee are in the process of meetings with key stakeholders on the various census-questionnaire topics (eg. education, disabilities and health, crime) as well as literature study. A CARICOM consultant is also expected to visit the GBS from the 22nd till the 23rd of October 2009, specifically to give technical assistance concerning the CARICOM common census questionnaire. Based on these discussions, a first draft questionnaire will be produced by November 2009.

III. EXPECTED COST OF THE 2011 SURINAME CENSUS

Census Budget¹:

The Census budget currently stands at **3,700,000 USD** of which **2,700,000 USD** might be borrowed from a donor, while **1,000,000 USD** would be local contribution.

The budget (draft nr 3) is drafted under the assumption that conditions of funding will be similar to those of the Seventh Census. As such, the government inputs are expected to consist mainly of:

- staffing,
- accommodation,
- logistics and exemptions on duties, taxes, ect.
- and miscellaneous contributions in cash and in kind

As regards **Staffing** it is a matter of seconding or assigning people to the Census Office of the GBS, of allowances and remuneration for Government personnel in the Census team and members of the Advisory Census Council. It is imperative to guarantee the success of the census operations, that the Government guarantees that people will receive their normal salaries, plus a remuneration (compensation) for special duties linked with Census preparation, execution and evaluation.

As regards **Accommodation**, since a permanent Census Office is situated within GBS, this item has been dealt with. However, it is important to note, that adequate additional accommodation may need to be sought or created for:

- part-time Census personnel,
- logistical activities (preparation of packages of fieldwork materials) and
- well organized storage of materials and equipment shortly before, during and after census and PES fieldwork operations. If office space is not available at the GBS, an option would be to rent part of a building in the direct vicinity of the main premises of the GBS, at least for preparation and storage of packages of fieldwork materials and for the management and distribution thereof.

As regards **Logistics**, this comprises: parts of local costs for advertisement; cost for dealing with procurement, distribution, maintenance and replacement of selected material; cost for documenting and archiving; selected cost for the transportation of personnel; selected cost for meetings with local dignitaries and various liaison duties.

As regards **Exemptions**, it is expected that all equipment (including software) acquired within the framework of this project will be exempted of all taxes, duties and the likes.

¹ These amounts are based on the second draft of the Census budget. Budget preparation is at present still an iterative exercise, which still requires input adjustments i.a. based on adjustments in the number of enumeration areas. As such, the budget is not final yet at present.

BUDGET BY INVESTMENT CATEGORY (draft 3)

Code	Category	Donor	GOS	Total
1	Program Administration	126,000	78,000	204,000
1.1	External auditors	31,000	-	31,000
1.2	Bank Charges	-	1,000	1,000
1.3	Secretarial staff	45,000	24,500	69,500
1.4	Telecommunication	20,000	-	20,000
1.5	Census head quarters and utilities (excl. telecommunication)	-	51,500	51,500
1.6	Fees and stipends of local dignitaries	30,000	1,000	31,000
2	Direct cost	2,079,000	594,500	2,673,500
2.1	Census management, other professional staff and other staff	930,000	207,500	1,137,500
2.2	Consultants	20,000	-	20,000
2.3	Travel and per diem census staff	353,000	135,000	488,000
2.4	Equipment	180,000	30,000	210,000
2.5	Fieldwork materials	150,000	-	150,000
2.6	Field test (pilot census), Dress Rehearsal and PES	26,000	200,000	226,000
2.7	Transportation services (rent of cars & boats, plane charters and the like)	370,000	-	370,000
2.8	Insurance (donor), maintenance, fuel and lubricants (GOS)	20,000	22,000	42,000
2.9	Publication of census results	30,000	-	30,000
3	Technical assistance	375,000	48,800	423,800
3.1	Training sessions	105,000	-	105,000
3.2	Post census strengthening	75,000	3,800	78,800
3.3	Census publicity	195,000	45,000	240,000
4	Unallocated expenses	120,000	30,000	150,000
4.1	Contingencies	120,000	30,000	150,000
5	Financial expenses	-	248,700	248,700
5.1	Interest	-	236,700	236,700
5.2	Credit Commission	-	12,000	12,000
5.3	Credit Supervision	-	-	-
	Grand total	2,700,000	1,000,000	3,700,000
	In % of total	73%	27%	100%

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT TAKEN A DECISION YET ON HOW TO FINANCE THE 2011 CENSUS

IV. Priority areas of assistance required:

- Cartography/Mapping
- Funding sources
- Data processing
- Data dissemination strategy

V. Proposed Census Day:
1 August 2011.

The Census reference moment will be **1 August 2011, 00.00** hour

ANNEX: STATUS REPORT IN CARICOM TABLE FORMAT

AREA OF STATISTICS SURINAME	KEY RESULTS ACHIEVED/ MAJOR OUTCOMES SUSTAINED SURINAME 2011 CENSUS	DATA GAPS/ PROBLEMS SURINAME 2011 CENSUS	BEST PRACTICES/ CHALLENGES SURINAME 2011 CENSUS	TRAINING/ TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INTERVENTIONS REQUIRED SURINAME 2011 CENSUS	USE OF TECHNOLOGY SURINAME 2011 CENSUS	REMARKS SURINAME
Planning and Preparation	The production and use of a detailed Project Plan, inclusive of a logical framework, to Plan the Census and to monitor Progress Project Plan template to be used for subsequent Censuses					Census 2011 planned for august 2011 Provisional Census 2011 budget (draft 3): US Dollars 3,700,000
Field operations (including Listing and Publicity)	Listing and mapping field operations executed in 7 of the 10 districts of Suriname, with the use of GPS equipment. Updating of enumeration blocks in progress in order to produce Census Enumeration Blocks with GIS.		Use of GPS equipment for updating of census enumeration blocks. Production of Census Enumeration Blocks with ArcGIS.	Advanced GIS training required	Use of GPS and ArcGIS. Canvasser data collection method; interviewers using paper questionnaires and pens	
Data Processing				Training in data editing required. Suggestion: that a standardized editing program for the suggested CARICOM questionnaire be made available, as the basis for production of a country specific CSPro editing program. Training in making the output layout ready and in producing tables reckoning with the problem of inadvertent disclosure (Redatam and Xplan)	Data entry by keyers. Use of CSPro program for data entry, batch editing and tabulation purposes Use of Redatam for data analysis and dissemination	
Dissemination				Training in targeting stakeholders with different levels of statistical sophistication.	Dissemination of results using: Press conferences, hard copies, soft copies, summaries on the GBS website, Censusinfo (Devinfo specifically for Census data dissemination).	People are not only interested in De Jure tables but also in de Facto tables.
Evaluation				Quality assurance for Censuses and Surveys as well as additional survey sampling training required.	Use of a battery of Evaluation methods (Demographic analysis, comparison with administrative sources) execution of a Post Enumeration Survey. Production of a Census Administrative Report	