

## Our Message

Census is a message of unity and consensus of all Iraqis. For the first time since two decades all Iraqis will be counted nationwide. UNFPA and other partners are helping Iraq to launch nationally endorsed & internationally recognized professional census.

**Ali Baban,**  
Minister of Planning  
Chairman of HCPHC



# Iraq Census News

## IPHC09 on the runway



Newsletter on Iraq Population and Housing Census (IPHC09), Issue II, June 2009

## IPHC09 Paves the way for new horizon in Iraq

### Coming Soon

- ICTAB meeting
- Pilot Census implementation
- Launching training in the governorates
- Completion training in CAPMAS



Iraq plans to conduct a national census to pave the way for a new era of planning and policy intervention and micro-management at the government level in Iraq. A lack of census data has fed rancorous disputes over the size of Iraq's socioeconomic and demographic structure. Minister Ali Baban said that the date of the census has been set to be in October 2009. The census

will include Kurdistan region in coordination with the regional government, Baban said. The last census in 1997, which estimated the population at 22 million, did not count the three Kurdish provinces. Census data provides the central and local governments with detailed databases for better planning and monitoring for public policies and opens an new era for good governance opportunities in all areas of Iraq. Mehdi Alalak, chairman of census operations room, said that census is conducted for legal, developmental and statistical purposes. IPHC09 will furnish the COSIT with the required

sampling frames for households, buildings, agricultural establishments specialized surveys. It will also help in establishing an information system at the government level and enhance the plans of the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation (MoPDC) towards establishing monitoring units and strengthening the local and governmental planning, added Baban.



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## From UNFPA's Top Management

Thoraya Obaid, the Executive Director of UNFPA has given the 2010 Round of Census very high priority. In order to enhance UNFPA's capacity to respond to country needs in the 2010 round, a *Special Census Initiative for the 2010 Round of Census* has been launched to enhance technical support through South-South to each out to neighboring countries (this is not clear), sub-regions, and

from one region to another, Obaid added. The UNFPA encourages the adoption of new technologies under a controlled environment (that ensures keeping down costs) by using cost effective approaches to avoid (and avoiding) serious mistakes. In the Arab States, UNFPA is leading a complex census activities in countries such as Sudan, Occupied Palestinian Territories, and Iraq, including management of the trust funds. Valuable experiences have been realized.



### UNFPA/Iraq and ASRO support



UNFPA Headquarters and the Arab State Regional Office (ASRO) provide overall guiding support to IPHC09. UNFPA/Iraq takes over the daily management of the ITF project to support IPHC09. Within the framework of ensuring quality assurance, UNFPA's CTA undertook a monitoring mission to CAPMAS and met the Iraqi trainees as well as Egyptian trainers and the top management of CAPMAS. A joint CAPMAS-UNFPA-COSIT-GET group meeting was organized to sort out some training coordination matters and an assessment of training quality was conducted by the CTA and the Egyptian training team.



UNFPA/Iraq Technical Support Unit (TSU) organized a two-day quality control technical meeting in Amman during the period 13-14 May 2009 to discuss IPHC09 quality control procedures and develop the QC manual. Three staff members of QC sector within the IPHC09 participated in the meeting. Theoretical and practical issues were discussed and a final QC manual for IPHC09 QC is in the pipeline to be produced both in Arabic and English. The manual has utilized the draft QC guidelines prepared by UNFPA CTA and was based on the quality control guidelines stipulated in the handbook on census management for population and housing censuses Rev.1 produced by the United Nations in 2000. In addition, the experts in the TSU Amman finalized the revision of the following:

- \* Numbering and listing manual
- \* Listing & editing rules
- \* Concepts and definitions manual
- \* Administrative manual
- \* Nationality coding manual
- \* Fieldwork manual
- \* Household questionnaire manual
- \* Output tables
- \* Population counting editing rules
- \* Manual of place of residency
- \* Workload distribution forms
- \* Questionnaire filling instructions



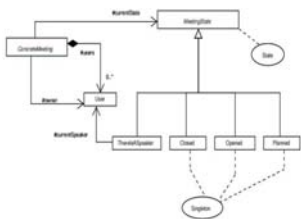
### More News From CTA Office



### IPHC09 International Recognition: ICTAB is Planned in the First week of July 2009



International Census Technical Advisory Board (ICTAB) has been activated, and its first meeting is planned in the first week of July. A number of knowledgeable experts from different parts of the world will meet to review and discuss the plans of IPHC09. ICTAB is co-chaired by UNSD and Iraq Government, UNFPA undertakes the technical and logistical preparations. A technical workshop will precede ICTAB's meeting to discuss all technical matters and prepare for ICTAB two-day meeting in Amman. ICTAB is an independent forum to be charged with an overall technical advice and expertise to Iraq census undertaking to ensure that census designs and methodologies are in compliance with the internationally established Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Census .



ICTAB will review and provide feedback to Iraqi census management regarding timeframe and timetables of the census to ensure that all significant activities have been included; Methodology and process of the different stages of the census including preparation, cartography, enumeration, processing, evaluation and dissemination; design of census questionnaires and manuals for the enumerators and supervisors, to ensure consistency of terminologies, concepts and definitions used throughout all documents and quality assurance plans and strategies as well as monitoring plans. ICTAB will perform duties and responsibilities through various modalities such as regular meetings, video and/or teleconferences; exchange reports, views and positions through the email as well as other means of communication.



On May 8th 2009, a teleconference meeting between Amman and New York took place to sort out some issues related to ICTAB meeting and to sort out timing, participants and other related matters. Paul Cheung, Hafedh Chekir, George Georgi, Luay Shabaneh, Jean-Michel Durr and Ramez Alakbarov participated in this meeting.

## IPHC09 in Progress: design-test-implement-manage-supervise-monitor-evaluate

### Technical Operations

Technical operations sector completed the coding classifications, geographic divisions, counting Bedouins plan, census questionnaires, pilot census plan and completion of fieldwork training for the pilot census interviewers and supervisors, in addition to forming technical committees in the governorates.

### Fieldwork Sector

The fieldwork sector prepared its plan and organizational structure, conducted the pretest in Baghdad, and completed the central training course for pilot census fieldworkers. The sector estimated the human resources, materials, and other facility and equipment needs for conducting the data collection and field editing.

### Cartography Sector

This sector was formed according to the ministerial decision no. 79. It is composed of representatives from different ministries. A plan was drawn and some committees were formed amongst numbering, networks and administrative (boarder's) borders' committees. Review of borders was completed in addition to editing locality (boarders) borders.



### TRAINING SECTOR

The training sector held four meetings in April. It has completed three training courses in Baghdad for 268 pretest fieldworkers, one course for 109 pilot census fieldworkers on questionnaires, listing, numbering, and field leadership skills, and one course in CAPMAS for 8 participants on scanning, ICR and encoding.

### DATA PROCESSING

This sector was formed according to the administrative order no 77/2009. The sector prepared a plan including scanning management, supervision and monitoring. The plan included testing for coverage, consistency checks and coding development. Data processors completed two-month training course in CAPMAS.

### IT & NETWORKS

This sector is mandated to prepare the hardware and software needed to manage data processing and networking at COSIT. The sector completed its analysis, design, and installation of networks in addition to regular maintenance activities. A number of activities are still pending for procurement completion.

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