Moldova: Information Management Working Group

Meeting Notes

Meeting Start Time: 03/08/2023, 11:00 AM
Location: Microsoft Teams (online).
Chaired by UNHCR and REACH Initiative
arnautov@unhcr.org; james.whitaker@impact-initiatives.org

Present:

Name	Email
Yurii Arnautov	arnautov@unhcr.org
Sofia Copacinschi	sofia.copacinschi@drc.ngo
Emmanuel Lawrence Otika	otika@unhcr.org
Elisabeth HOORENS	elisabeth.hoorens@impact-initiatives.org
Elif Saka	esaka@md.acfspain.org
Doina Costin	
Marcel Straton	Marcel.Straton@wearelumos.org
James WHITAKER	james.whitaker@impact-initiatives.org
Renata Rusu	renata.rusu@helpage.org
Kunze Martin	martin.kunze@horizont3000.org
Elena Laur	elaur@unicef.org
VERA GURIEVCHI	vera_gurievchi@wvi.org
Davide Campo INTERSOS	
Lilia Calugher	lilia_calugher@wvi.org
Igor Turchin	turchin@unhcr.org
Stas Dymkovskyy	sdymkovskyy@unicef.org
Khursanov Khurshed	khurshed.khursanov@peopleinneed.net
Rodica Pascali	rodica.pascali@weworld.it
Cemirtan, Ana	Ana.Cemirtan@plan-international.org
Aurelia Spataru_NBS	
Vasilisa FORSGREN	vasilisa.forsgren@acted.org
Natalia Cojocaru	natalia.cojocaru@un.org
Olesea Ungureanu	ungureao@unhcr.org
Dilnoza Niculescu	
Veronica PELIVAN	veronica.pelivan@tdh.org
Aizhan MAMATBEKOVA	aizhan.mamatbekova@wfp.org
Olivia Singer	olivia.singer@fcdo.gov.uk
John Ngong	john_ngong@wvi.org
Alexandra Vîlcu	Alexandra.Vilcu@helvetas.org
Teodora Zafiu	teodora.zafiu@undp.org
SARITAS Erhan	esaritas@iom.int

Agenda:

1. Update on the pilot census by National Bureau of Statistics
2. Activity Info reporting for July 2023
3. MSNA data collection has started on 14.08
4. Future capacity building workshops
5. Frequency and modality of future IMWG meetings

Meeting recording:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hKwPbx0XJSeIA30LBI5aZvrh2ijyFq-p/view?usp=drive_link

1. Update on the pilot census by National Bureau of Statistics

Aurelia Sparatu, Deputy General Director of the National Bureau of Statistics presented details of the upcoming pilot exercise in preparation for the 2024 Census.

The full presentation in English is available here.
To access the original Romanian slides, please click here.

The Census on Population and Housing

PILOT

National Bureau of Statistics
15.08.2023

The Census on Population and Housing

- A **Census on Population and Housing** (CPH) is the most extensive, complicated and costly statistical exercise, being a portrait of the country's population at a given point in time.
- **In 2024,** the Census on Population and Housing (hereinafter referred to as CPH or Census) will be carried out on the basis of the Law No. 231/2022 on the Population and Housing Census and the Government Decision No. 951/2022 on organizing and performing the Census on Population and Housing Census in the Republic of Moldova in 2024.
- The 2024 census will be the **third** population census since the declaration of Moldova's independence and will be part of the global round.
- A global census round should take place usually every 10 years, as recommended by the United Nations. During this period countries should conduct at least one population and housing census. The 2020 census covers the years 2015-2024. The organisation of censuses has been coordinated by the United Nations since 1958, due to the great importance and complexity of this exercise.

National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova 2

Census in the Republic of Moldova since the declaration of independence

The history of census organized in Moldova is linked to the first population census in **Russia in 1897**, as well as to the census in **Romania in 1930**.

In 1939 the population census was carried out, but the data were not processed because of the outbreak of the Second World War. In the post-war period, four population censuses were held in the territory of the Republic of Moldova as a part of the Soviet Union**: in 1959, 1970, 1979 and 1989**.

Innovative Approaches for CPH 2024

- **Method:**
  - *Computer-assisted* Personal Interviewing (CAPI)
- **Extended** data collection **period** (approx. 2 months in 2024 compared to 14 days in 2014)
- Use of **electronic devices**
- Use of **administrative data** at the data processing stage
- Use of **Geographical Information System** (GIS) at the stage of CPH preparation, data collection and dissemination of results .
  Inclusion of topics related to the **agricultural** activity of households .

Regulatory framework (1)

1. Law No 231 dated 28 July 2022 on the Population and Housing Censu s;
2. Law No. 334 dated 8 December 2022 on the amendment of some normative acts, which contributes to the proper functioning of the RPL (amendment of Law 93/2017 on official statistics);
3. Government Decision No. 951 dated 28 December 2022 on the organization and performing of the population and housing census in the Republic of Moldova in 2024;
4. Government Decision No. 604 dated 24 August 2022 on the approval of the Concept of the Information System "Demographic and Social Statistics", which includes the development of the sub -system "Population and Housing Census";
5. The draft Government Decision approving the Regulation on the use, administration and development of the Information System "Demographic and Social Statistics", in accordance with Government Decision No 604/2022 .

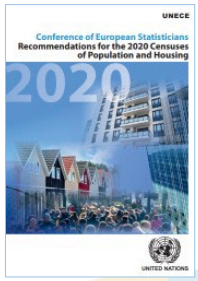
Regulatory framework (2)

Conducting the population and housing census complies with the provisions of other related legislation, such as :

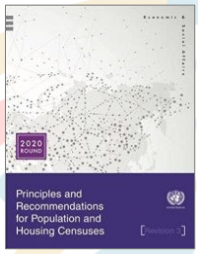
- Law no.93/2017 on official statistics;
- GD no.935/2018 on the organization and functioning of the National Bureau of Statistics;
- Law No 133/2011 on the protection of personal data.

According to Article 4 of the Law no. 231/2022, the population and housing census is the *process of planning, collecting, processing, evaluating, disseminating and analysing the data on persons (demographic, social and economic data), households and dwellings in the Republic of Moldova, with reference to a specific point in time;*

International recommendations for preparing and conducting CPH, 2020 round

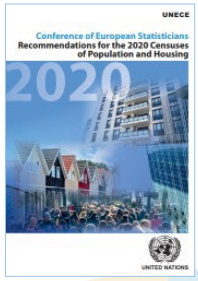


- Recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians on Population and Housing Census Round 2020, **UNECE**;
- Principles and Recommendations for the Census of Population and Housing, Revision 3, **UN**;
- REGULATION (EC) No. 763/2008 OF THE **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL** dated 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses and 4 other Regulations implementing this Regulation.

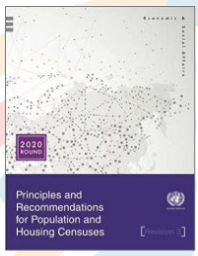


National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova

International recommendations for preparing and conducting CPH, 2020 round



- Recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians on Population and Housing Census Round 2020, **UNECE**;
- Principles and Recommendations for the Census of Population and Housing, Revision 3, **UN**;
- REGULATION (EC) No. 763/2008 OF THE **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL** dated 9 July 2008 on population and housing censuses and 4 other Regulations implementing this Regulation.



National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova

The period and locations of the trial CPH

Period of data collection in the field:

- **28 August - 10 October 2023**

Region	Municipality/Region	Location	Selection arguments
Chisinau Municipality	Chisinau	mun. Chisinau	people reluctant to participate in CPH
		v. Colonița	discrepancy in numbers of NBS and LPA regarding the population
Centre Region	Anenii Noi	com. Varnița	is near the Transnistrian region
	Orhei	v. Butuceni	high housing density
	Causeni	v. Copanca	listing carried out from the office
North Region	Balti	mun. Balti	the second largest urban location
	Falesti	v. Glinjeni	difficulties in organising CPH in 2014
	Soroca	mun. Soroca	location with Roma people
South Region	UTA Gagauzia	mun. Comrat	location with ethnic Gagauz people
	Cahul	v. Crihana Veche	listing carried out from the office
	Taraclia	city Taraclia	location with ethnic Bulgarians

The period and locations of the trial CPH

Period of data collection in the field:

- **28 August - 10 October 2023**

Region	Municipality/Region	Location	Selection arguments
Chisinau Municipality	Chisinau	mun. Chisinau	people reluctant to participate in CPH
		v. Colonița	discrepancy in numbers of NBS and LPA regarding the population
Centre Region	Anenii Noi	com. Varnița	is near the Transnistrian region
	Orhei	v. Butuceni	high housing density
	Causeni	v. Copanca	listing carried out from the office
North Region	Balti	mun. Balti	the second largest urban location
	Falesti	v. Glinjeni	difficulties in organising CPH in 2014
	Soroca	mun. Soroca	location with Roma people
South Region	UTA Gagauzia	mun. Comrat	location with ethnic Gagauz people
	Cahul	v. Crihana Veche	listing carried out from the office
	Taraclia	city Taraclia	location with ethnic Bulgarians

Clothing, ID card

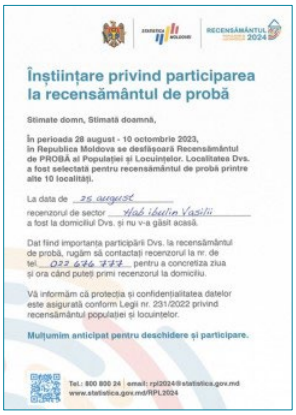
T-shirt

Cap

badge

(must be presented at time of presentation)

Notification



Înștiințare privind participarea la recensământul de probă

Stimate domn, Stimată doamnă,

În perioada 28 august - 10 octombrie 2023, în Republica Moldova se desfășoară Recensământul de PROBĂ al Populației și Locuințelor. Localitatea Dvs. a fost selectată pentru recensământul de probă printre alte 10 localități.

La data de 25 august recenzorul de sector Vlad Ibadin Vasilii a fost la domiciliul Dvs. și nu v-a găsit acasă.

Dat fiind importanța participării Dvs. la recensământul de probă, rugăm să contactați recenzorul la nr. de tel. 022 676 777 pentru a concretiza ziua și ora când puteți primi recenzorul la domiciliu.

Vă informăm că protecția și confidențialitatea datelor este asigurată conform Legii nr. 231/2022 privind recensământul populației și locuințelor.

Mulțumim anticipat pentru deschidere și participare.

Tel.: 800 800 24 | email: rpl2024@statistica.gov.md
www.statistica.gov.md/RPL2024

! *It is left in the door when you don't find anyone at home*

Promotional badges

Laptop Bag Sticker

Rectangular on bag

Tablet Sticker

Round on the tablet

Promotional materials for the census taker

A3/A4 FOLDER

NOTEBOOK

PEN

Leaflets for the census population

Leaflet to hang on the door

*Hang on the door handle of **each household/apartment** 2 days before the start of the census*

A5 Leaflet

*It is offered **to each respondent**:*

- *at the **end of** the interview*
- *if necessary, it can also be offered at the **beginning of** the interview*
- *can be distributed to **others** for information*

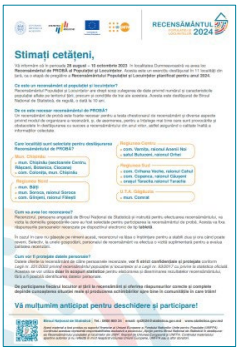
Information posters

Poster A3

They will be posted at the entrance to public places with a high population flow (e.g. town hall, post office, library, shop, OTS, etc.).

Poster A4

*They will be posted at the entrance to all **apartment blocks** 2 days before the start of the census*



A4 poster (rus.)

*They will be posted at the entrance to all **apartment blocks in Comrat, Taraclia , Balti***

Gift for the census population

calendar 100x100mm

! *It will be offered free of charge* ***to each person*** *who will be interviewed at the end of the interview.*
One per household.

Contacts for the public

- **National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova**
- **Greenline 0 800 800 24**
- **Official website of the NBS www.statistica.gov.md**
- **RPL dedicated page www.statistica.gov.md/RPL2024**
- **Email: rpl2024@statistica.gov.md**
- **QR code** *(scanned using the camera in your phone)*

James Whitaker, IMWG: Thanks NBS for presenting, highlighting that data from the NBS is used often by IMWG members. *Is the plan to survey every household in the 11 mentioned locations as part of the pilot or just a subset?*

Aurelia, NBS: In the 11 locations, we have selected enumeration areas – not the whole locality will be covered. The enumeration areas are limited to a certain number of dwellings which can be covered during the pilot period.

James Whitaker, IMWG: *When will the data collection instrument be available for viewing?*

Aurelia, NBS: The tool for the pilot is ready and publicly available **<ADD LINK>**, after revision in the last half year with consultations, and testing with some particular population groups including people with disabilities and refugees residing in centres. The pilot process will in turn inform the design of the whole 2024 census exercise. At the moment we cannot say with certainty when the tool will be available.

Aurelia, NBS: The 2024 census will include not only dwellings, but also residential institutions including prisons, the army, student buildings, diplomats, and refugee centers. It is still a stage to be passed, we are now collecting necessary information on refugee centers, and developing the process for the application of the enumeration for the collective dwellings. There will be a second pilot of these dwellings in the next three months. In this stage, I will be looking to seek support from all of you for approximate estimations of the number of refugees that are residing in collective centers.

Yurii Arnautov, IMWG: The questionnaire on the website is only in Romanian, is this the only available language?

Aurelia, NBS: It is available in Romainian and Russian. We have been speaking to OHCHR, asking for their support to translate to additional languages (Ukrainian, Gagauzian, Bulgarian, and Romani). When we get these translations they will be on the website. Once we get to the next stage where we will develop more promotional and information materials for the census, we could also produce the videos with subtitles in these languages, but for this, support would be welcome as our communication budget is limited. We can ensure the minimum but do not have funds for more. Thank you for the invitation, this was a good opportunity for us to share this information with you, and we count on you as supporters and promoters of this information. Please talk to the population about the census – we can provide promotional materials for you to share with them if this is a possibility. As the local elections are coming up, please do not connect the census with the local elections – the census is completely separate from the local

elections, and we want to avoid misinformation that there is in any way a connection.

Elena Laur, UNICEF: A big thanks and congratulations on the progress so far. As a message to UNHR and other agencies, we need to ensure this coordination and technical support and funding continue. We need to act very quickly in terms of communication and other support, and we need to know how we can help. UNICEF signed a workplan with NBS where we planned some funds to support post-enumeration survey and information campaigns, but we need more clarity from NBS on exactly what is needed and when so that we can support. Congratulations again and good luck.

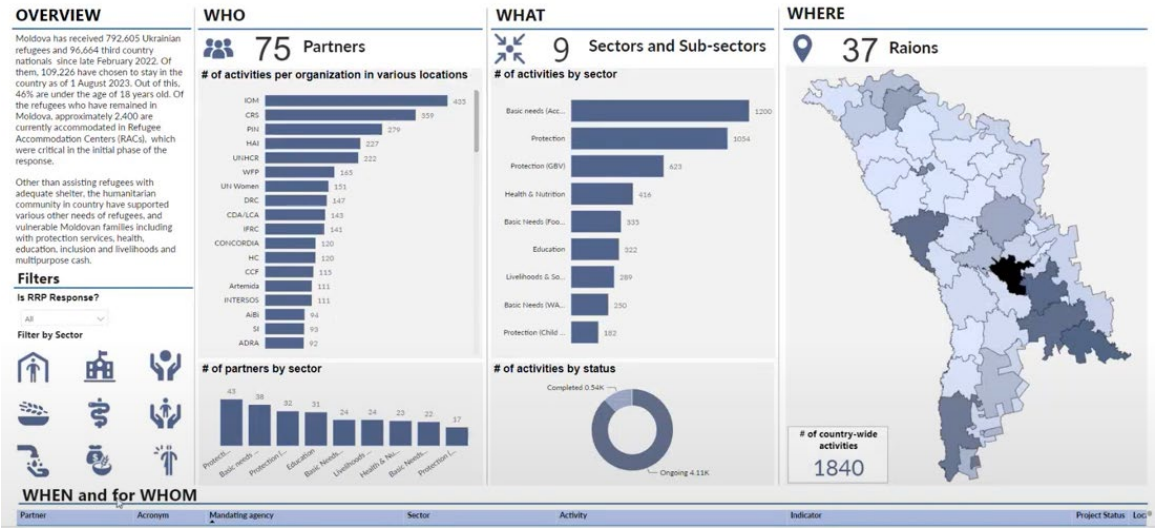
Yurii Arnautov, IMWG: As a follow-up we will request from Aurelia an update on current needs, as of today, and then as the process starts, and then from time to time during the process, and we can share with the group these needs to see if any support can be provided. Aurelia is welcome and invited to share future findings and technical aspects with the IMWG.

Useful Links
About the 2023 Pilot
Pilot Census (gov.md)

About the 2024 Census
Population and Housing Census 2024 (gov.md)

2. Activity Info reporting for July 2023

We have finished the mid-year reporting cycle. The 5Ws Dashboard has now been updated with the new data received.



- Partners: Those who are implementing partners or who direct implementation
- Selecting a specific sector on the bar chart below Partners will update the rest of the visuals by that sector
- Clicking on a specific sector logo on the left sidebar will take you to a dedicated page for that sector with further information, including the number of people reached by indicator (the indicators agreed at sector level for the RRP in the country)
- Activities: You can now see mandating agencies and donors separately from implementing agencies on sector pages. This should be clearer to show impact, and be better for organisation visibility
- Map: In each Raion, the figure is the maximum people reached by any activity due to a technical constraint, and so will not be very accurate
- Number of people reached by indicator: This requires some manual cleaning and therefore the figures will not be quite accurate yet.

We will open next week the reporting for July. We will be asking for updates from July, and for those who have missed previous months, this will be the opportunity to submit. The deadline for submission will be announced in the future. If you have any difficulties, reach out to Yurii and the IM team (arnautov@unhcr.org and CC mdachim@unhcr.org).

Elena Laur, UNICEF: The dashboard says Raions but it appears to be administrative-territorial units. Also the number of people reached by indicator doesn't dsound clear.

Yurii Arnautov, IMWG: Noted, we will change from Raion to administrative units. For the number of people reached by indicator, this will remain to be cohesive with other similar dashboards.

3. MSNA data collection has started

Data collection for the 2023 Multi-Sector Needs Assessment commenced this Monday 14th August. Between Monday and Wednesday, 158 of a target total of 855 surveys have been conducted. Data collection is expected to be completed up to a week before the 9th October.

4. Future capacity building workshops

Vasilisa Forsgren, ACTED: Is there a schedule or timeline for upcoming capacity building workshops?

Yurii Arnautov, IMWG: Future workshops are not yet scheduled, but we will prepare a schedule. In the meantime, if any IMWG members would like to deliver a session, they are very welcome to suggest it and we can arrange that.

Vasilisa Forsgren, ACTED: What was the result of the survey that IMWG members completed, requesting details on what training partners could provide? Were they contacted to arrange them?

James Whitaker, IMWG: Not yet, but this should happen and will soon.

5. Frequency and modality of future IMWG meetings

Members were consulted on their preference for meeting frequency and modality.

It was agreed that the IMWG would shift to **a once-monthly meeting, and in hybrid (online and in-person) modality**. An email will come shortly before the next meeting with details.