



The 2021 Census of Population and Housing

Modernization and Innovation

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20 May 2021

Outline

- **Key facts** about Malta
- **The Start:** Overview of the 2021 Census
- **Step Back:** Lessons Learnt from the 2011 Census
- **Moving Forward:** Modernising Data Collection
- **Operations:** An overview of the Census business process
- **Expectations:** Desired Outcomes

Key facts about Malta

- The 2021 Census - the 18th national census to be carried out in Malta since 1842
- Figures from the last Census in 2011:
 - Total population: 417k (now estimated at 550k)
 - Dwelling Stock: 224k (now estimated at over 250k)
 - 300 institutions
- Around 8000 streets spread across 985 Enumeration Areas
- Budget of around €3.1m
- Census night: 21 November 2021
- Slogan: “Everyone Matters”



EVERYONE MATTERS

Lessons learnt from 2011 and 2020

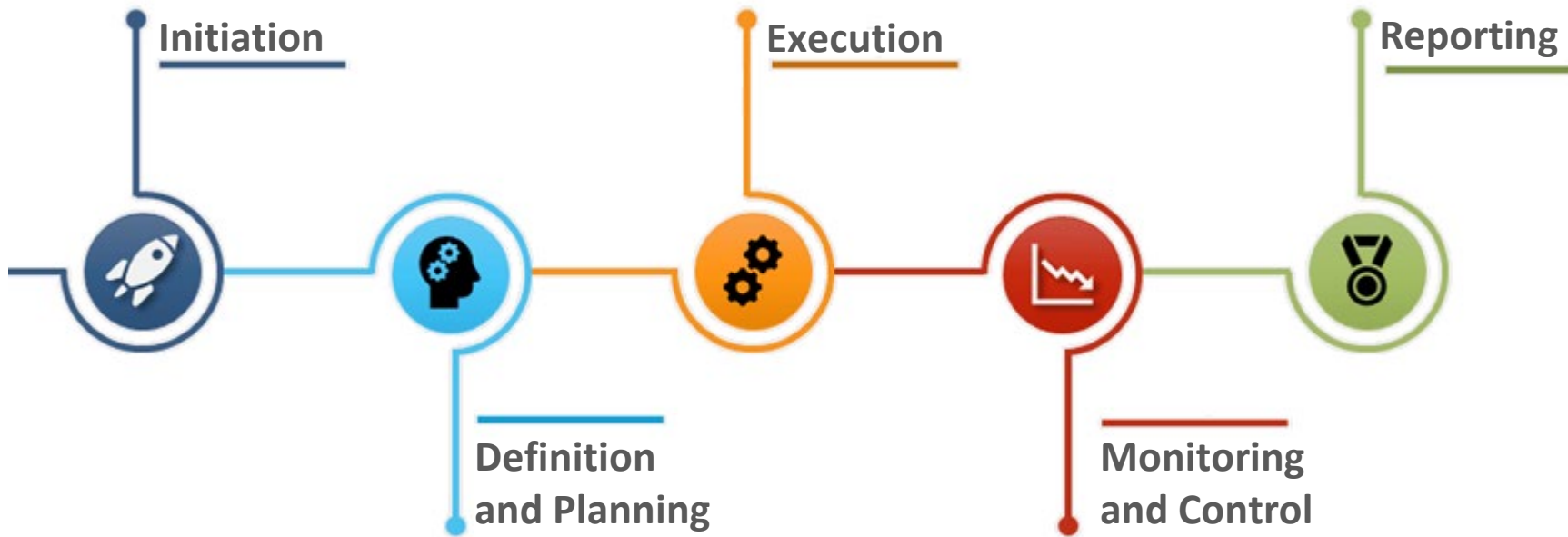


Lessons learnt from 2011 and 2020

- Public wellbeing: COVID-19
- Mobility and urbanisation
- More flexible data collection
- Smarter approach to achieving goals
- Specialised training and staff
- More use of geocoding
- Process automation
- Timeliness
- Thematic analyses



Operations



Census Officer
Two Deputies

Census Office
team [32]

Enumerators
[Nearly 1200]

NSO staff
[70]

NSO staff
[10]

Definition and Planning

- Public consultation process
- Census questionnaire



Topics at **Individual** level:

- Demographics and vital statistics
- Nationality, race and religion
- Health
- Education
- Labour and economic status



Topics at **Dwelling** level:

- Building structure
- Tenure status
- Facilities
- Secondary dwellings
- Vacant dwellings

Definition and Planning

- Thorough procurement process
 - Branding and design
 - IT hardware, software and consultancy services
 - Merchandising
 - Venues for training of field officers
 - Website development [<https://census2021.gov.mt/>]

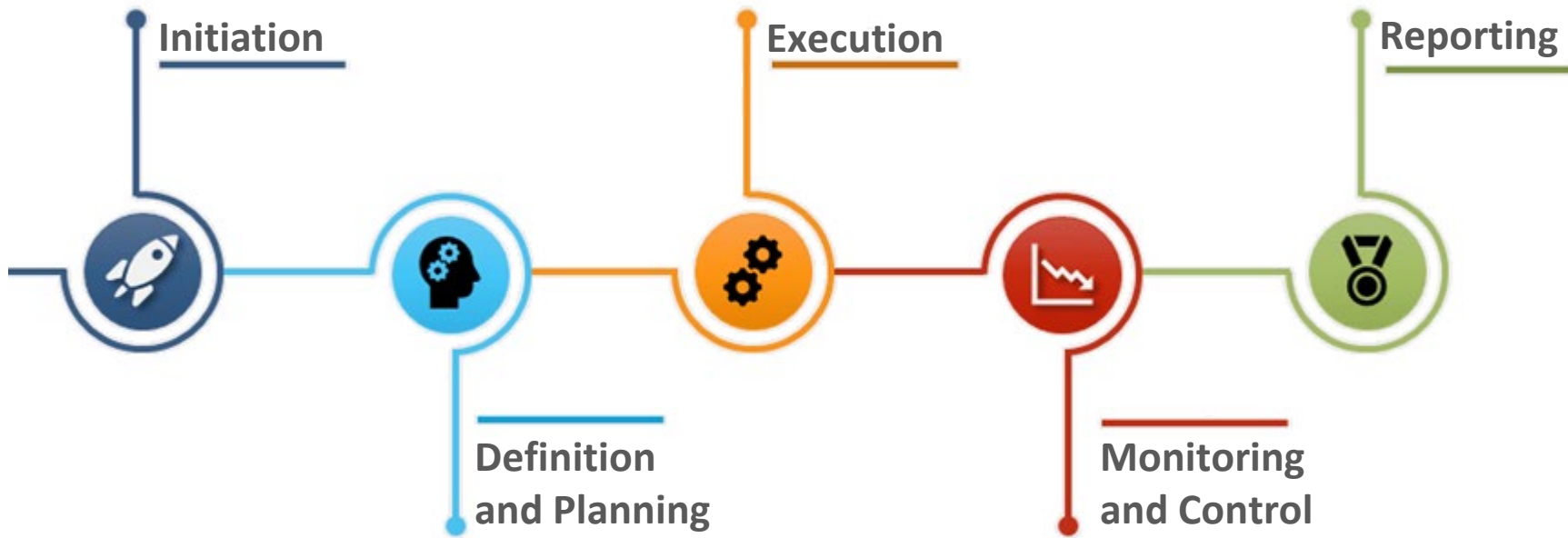
Definition and Planning

- Thorough procurement process
 - Branding and design
 - IT hardware, software and consultancy services
 - Merchandising
 - Venues for training of field officers
 - Website development [<https://census2021.gov.mt/>]
 - Translation services
 - Promotional campaign
 - Freephone customer care service
 - Creation of the 2021 Census mailing register
 - Formation of all Enumeration Areas

Definition and Planning

- First pilot study
 - November 2018
 - Testing of online form
 - Among 1200 dwellings
- Second pilot study
 - June 2021
 - Testing of questionnaire, field operations and IT tools
 - Among 200 dwellings
 - Spread over 6 localities
- Fine tuning of questionnaire

Operations



Execution

- Recruitment of over 1200 staff (July/August 2021)
- Training of staff
- Enumeration of over 10k persons residing in institutional dwellings and other non-conventional dwellings
- Distribution of Enumeration Areas
- Constant support through the freephone service
- Data collection among private dwellings through:
 - An online self-response form
 - Telephone
 - Enumerator visits
 - Traditional paper self-response form

Execution

Mailing of Census letters

- To over 220k dwellings
- Combination of multiple registers
- Basic Census details
- Credentials to access online form

First week of October

Freephone service

- Assistance at all levels
- Mon to Sun (8am-10pm)

1 October – 30 November

Online form

- Quick and easy
- Multilingual, including Italian and French
- Developed in Blaise 5.9.4

1-31 October

Enumerator assistance and Canvassing

- Interviews through:
 - Telephone
 - Tablet
 - Paper questionnaire
- Canvassing

8-28 November



2021 Census Online Questionnaire

In order to access and fill-in the Census questionnaire, you need to refer to the details included in the official notification letter that was mailed to your address. In this letter you will find the Reference Number and Password assigned to your dwelling.

Reference Number	CPH1234
Password	abcd123

Whilst thanking you in advance for your time to participate in the 2021 Census, the Office assures that all information is being requested in accordance with the Malta Census Act of 1948 and the Data Protection Act – Cap 588 of the Laws of Malta implementing the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). All information provided shall remain confidential and used for statistical purposes only.

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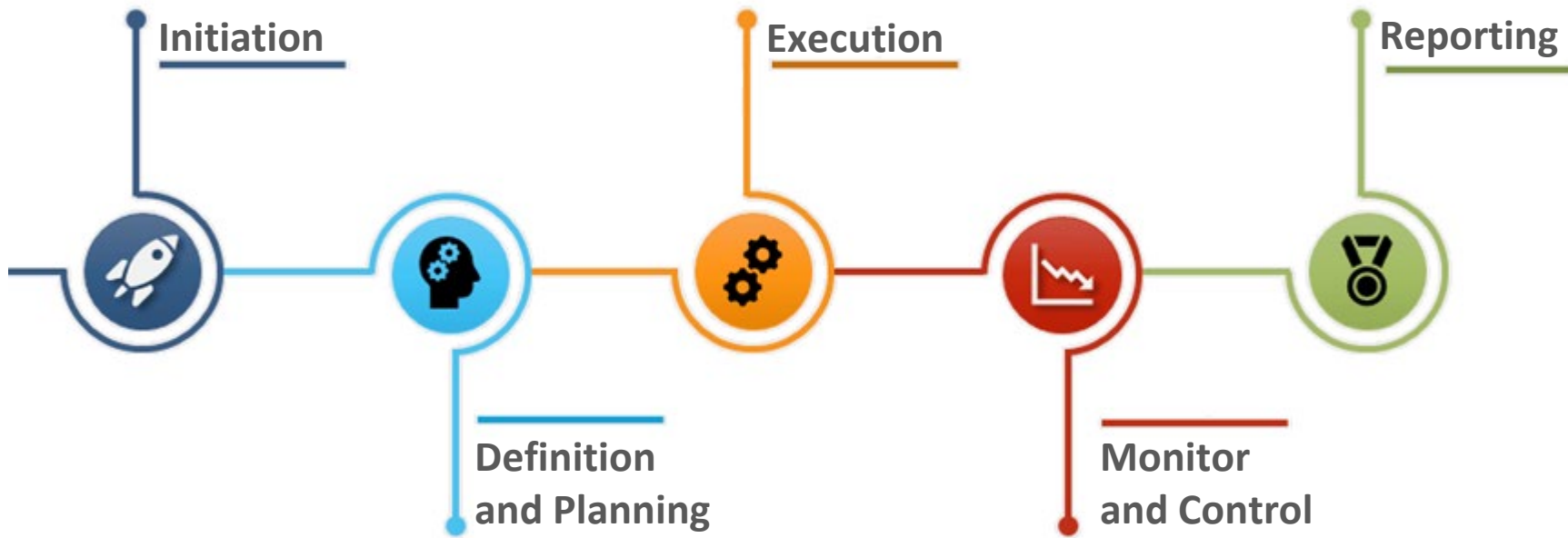
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Monitoring and Control

Operations



Reporting

March 2022	Preliminary population count
April 2022	Preliminary report
July-Sept 2022	Post-enumeration process
Nov 2022	Final population count
Dec 2022	First data transmission to Eurostat
Jan-Dec 2023	Publication of thematic reports
March 2024	Final data transmission to Eurostat

Expectations



- Enhanced data security
- People support and wellbeing
- Low environmental impact
- Pragmatic approach that encourages public participation
- Real time data capture leading to faster results
- Better data quality
- Minimal burden on respondents

**Thank you
for your attention**

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