

Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses

Geneva, 2–4 October 2024

CALL FOR PAPERS

- Inform secretariat of [intention to submit paper](#) as soon as possible, latest **31 May**
 - **Submit written paper** using [this template](#) by **30 June**
 - [Register](#) by **6 September**
 - **More information on the event on the [meeting webpage](#)**

I. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. The meeting of the Group of Experts will serve as a platform for statistical offices to exchange experience among countries; to increase knowledge of issues related to planning, conducting and disseminating data from population and housing censuses; and to promote the development and implementation of the CES Recommendations for the Censuses of Population and Housing.
2. The particular aim of the 2024 meeting is to engage the community of experts in developing the CES Recommendations for the 2030 round of censuses. Complete drafts of all chapters will be presented to the Group of Experts for discussion and feedback.
3. The principal target audience is census managers and experts responsible for all aspects of census planning and management in national statistical offices, as well as census experts in international organizations.
4. To make a contribution to the meeting of the Group of Experts, please inform the secretariat of your intention to submit a paper either by email to social.stats@un.org or using the [online form](#) as soon as possible and **no later than 31 May**. You may select the most relevant session or indicate if your proposed contribution does not fit in any of these sessions.

5. You can start preparing your paper straight away. Please use [the template](#) available on the [meeting webpage](#) and follow carefully all the instructions included in it. **Authors must ensure that any images you use in your papers are obtained in accordance with copyright regulations and must give credit where applicable.**
 6. Papers should be submitted to social.stats@un.org as soon as possible. Only those papers received by **30 June 2024** can be considered for official translation, on a first-come, first-served basis..
 7. **All the 13 Task Forces contributing to session 1 are required to submit their contributions by 21 June.**
 8. The working languages of the meeting are English and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages. Papers and presentations may be prepared in either of these languages. Papers submitted by the deadline of 30 June may also be submitted in French, although accompanying presentations must be delivered in English or Russian. Submitted papers and presentations will be translated within the limits of the translation capacity available and subject to adherence to deadlines.
 9. The UNECE Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses will review all submissions and, if need be, select the papers to be presented at the meeting. Instructions and deadlines for preparing presentation slides will be sent by email to the selected presenters in due course.
 10. Logistical information will be made available on the [meeting webpage](#) and emailed in due course to all participants who register by the deadline.
 11. Contributors are reminded that the success of the meeting depends upon the ability to translate materials in advance and the opportunity for discussants to study the papers. Therefore, all deadlines must be strictly adhered to.
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II. EXPLANATORY NOTES ON THE THEMATIC SESSIONS

Session 1. Revising the Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses for the 2030 round

The Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) has established 13 thematic task forces to develop the CES Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses for the 2030 round. Based on their analyses of findings from a detailed survey of countries' experiences and practices in the 2020 round, these task forces have now developed new and revised text for the Recommendations. They will present their drafts to the Group of Experts to gather feedback prior to submitting their final proposals to the Conference of European Statisticians for endorsement.

The session will include a contribution from each of the following task forces, as well as proposals for new and revised text on the aim and scope of the Recommendations and other parts of the Recommendations not covered by a task force:

- 1. Emergency preparedness and contingency planning*
- 2. Quality assessment and quality management*
- 3. Enumeration methods*
- 4. Technology*
- 5. Population concepts and related definitions*
- 6. Economic characteristics*
- 7. Migration and mobility (national and international)*
- 8. Household & family characteristics*
- 9. Sex and gender*
- 10. Housing topics*
- 11. Geospatial information and small area statistics for censuses*
- 12. Dissemination of disaggregated census data*
- 13. Communication and outreach.*

Session 2. Lessons learned from censuses of the 2020 round

The large majority of countries in the UNECE region have now completed their censuses of the 2020 round. This session will focus on learning points from the small number of countries whose censuses have taken place since the 2023 expert meeting, or whose census is yet to take place. Contributions are invited which reflect on what went well and which aspects offered opportunities for improvement. Submissions should focus on lessons learned that may have value for other countries or which may help shape future censuses.

Session 3. Innovations in dissemination and communication throughout the census lifecycle

The importance of communicating with all stakeholder groups before, during and after a census is becoming increasingly clear. Good communication is essential to secure public support to participate in a census, or public trust in the use of administrative data. Communication is also needed to tackle misinformation and disinformation, whether deliberate or inadvertent. Dissemination of census data must also go hand-in-hand with careful communication to ensure that data and data products are accessible, relevant and understandable. At the same time, the challenges to effective communication and dissemination are growing. Contributions are invited for this session which describe innovative ways to identify, reach and interact with stakeholders, including respondents, holders of administrative data sources, policymakers and data users. Contributions are also invited which demonstrate innovations in disseminating census data, such as new products, tools and services. Submissions may focus on any aspect of the census lifecycle and may describe experience with a recent census or plans for a future census.

Session 4. Transformations in population statistics

At the 2023 expert meeting, several countries shared ambitious plans for shifting from periodic censuses towards permanent integrated systems of population systems, combining multiple administrative and survey data sources. Since last year, other countries have conducted wide-ranging public consultations on the future of their censuses. Contributions are invited for this session which share the findings of such consultations or research aimed at determining the future course of population and migration statistics. Countries which have already embarked on such transformations are also invited to share their experiences, including both successes and challenges.