

2021 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON CENSUS TOPICS

CLOSING REMARKS

VENUE: Ba Isago Convention Centre

Gaborone

Malebogo P. Kerekang
Deputy Statistician General
(Statistical and Technical Operations)

10th July 2019



Mpala, Ke Botlhokwa

Director of Ceremonies

All protocol is observed

Good afternoon Ladies and gentlemen

1. Ladies and gentlemen, let me also start by expressing my sincere gratitude for your attendance of this important workshop. Above all, I thank you for taking time-off from your busy schedules to spend time here with us today. This is an indication of your commitment to partner with Statistics Botswana and fully participate in statistical processes to strengthen the National Statistical System (NSS) for the country and ensure production and availability of official statistics.
2. Some of you are users of statistics, while others are both users and producers of official statistics, you are all collaborators with Statistics Botswana. Many of you are already part of the NSS, which seeks to strengthen strategies for data collection, processing, analysis, dissemination and usage of statistics for decision making.
3. Your input as stakeholders at the development stages of the 2021 Population and Housing Census instruments is critical in ensuring that relevant issues that address national, district and community developmental needs are included in this project. As was mentioned in the opening remarks, this workshop aims at providing an opportunity for census data users in different sectors, such as governmental organizations, research institutions, to contribute to broader areas of statistical data and information requirements.
4. I must however emphasize that, since census taking involves all inhabitants of the country at a particular point in time, it requires huge amount of resources and therefore can only collect baseline data. Any further data requirements will be followed up through inter-censal surveys and research projects.
5. Going forward, I would like to assure you that all the issues raised in this workshop shall be carefully considered together with contributions from other stakeholders in drafting the census questionnaire. Moreover, the draft questionnaire will also go various technical working groups before questionnaire finalization.
6. Following this workshop, there will be a follow-up process by which you will be expected to make written submissions of topics that your institution/organization would like included in the census. You shall be requested to also state development indicators for which the data will address, and/or with a brief description of the need for such data. This process will give you an opportunity to engage with colleagues and principals to ensure that the submission represents the data need for your organization.
7. After due considerations and consolidation of the census topics, Statistics Botswana will submit to the Cabinet, through the Census Central Committee (CCC), for approval processes.
8. Finally, on behalf of the Statistician General, and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to thank you all for your invaluable contributions in this enormous national exercise, the 2021 Population and Housing Census.
9. We look forward to your further participation in various census committees, to which you will be members.
10. With those few words, I wish to declare this workshop officially closed.

Thank you once again ladies and gentlemen.



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