



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova - Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government
Zyra e Kryeministrit - Ured Premijera - Office of the Prime Minister
Agjencia e Statistikave të Kosovës - Agencija za Statistiku Kosova – Kosovo Agency of Statistics

POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS IN KOSOVO 2021

Road map for population and housing census

Prishtina,
March 2018¹

¹ The document was updated in July 2020

List of Contents

1. The Census has a strong national and international dimension	5
2. The need for Census data	5
3. Population censuses apply international standards.....	6
4. Scope and extend of the Census in Kosovo	7
5. Preparatory work	8
MAIN ACTIVITIES, THE DEADLINE AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR A SUCCESSFUL CENSUS	9
6. Organizational structure	9
7. Law	9
8. Budget	9
9. Methodology / questionnaires.....	10
10. Collection of data in the field (IT)	11
11. Cartography / GIS.....	12
12. Logistics	13
13. Communication.....	13
14. Administration	14
15. Test prior to Census	15
16. Pilot Census.....	15
17. Census fieldwork enumeration.....	16
18. Post Enumeration Survey (PES).....	17
19. Analyzing and tabulation.....	18
20. Preliminary data.....	18
21. Final data	19
22. Other specific reports.....	19
23. Data delivery to local and international institutions / dissemination	20
24. Population Register / connection with other databases	20
25. Potential risks.....	21
26. Key conclusions and recommendations.....	21

Note:

The document was updated in July 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, that in Kosovo the first measures taken by the Government were in March 13, 2020 which had an impact on many activities related to the preparation of the Population Census.

The organization of the Pilot Census scheduled to take place in April 2020 has been postponed and the new plans for July 2020) are for the Pilot Census to take place from September to mid-October 2020.

Awareness and outreach areas could not be carried out according to plan (meetings with users and in the ground / field, especially in those municipalities that were selected in the Pilot Census) including some meetings with the central level of Ministries, Government and some international institutions.

Also, the update of the Enumeration Areas was postponed from March-June 2020 to June-September 2020. Due to the late budget allocation and then the Pandemic some payments for equipment were postponed for several months.

Given the current developments (end of July 2020) of the COVID-19 Pandemic with more cases in recent weeks it is almost unpredictable whether some processes (including Pilot Census) will take place at a time that will have an impact on the overall Census.

Despite the difficulties that may arise, the Kosovo Agency of Statistics plans that a more realistic census is to be carried out in September 2020 as it is the responsibility of the Government to determine the date of the Census.

Intrudion

Due to the complexity of the Census, KAS has developed this document as a basic source for the main activities, while other documents, such as the detailed activity plan and budget, need to be updated based on the situation in which the process will take place. This document was prepared at the end of 2018 then updated in May 2019 and the last update is July 2020.

The Population Census in 2021 for the institutions that organize and develop the Census is a very short time considering the engagement and the necessary preparations for such a major and important project.

Data obtained the Population Census have major implications in many socio-economic fields in the country including the political aspect, better organization of the distribution of funds to different levels, enables better data-based planning, and enables better predictions in the future.

Since the first Census in Kosovo has been conducted after independence in 2011 (a separate chapter), the 2021 Census in Kosovo is very important and specific as it serves as an instrument to see demographic and socio-economic developments during these years.

Given the technological developments that have taken place over this decade, KAS will implement some of the technology in several phases of activities by increasing the coverage, quality and shorter time for data publishing.

Population Census 2021 in Kosovo will be developed in harmony with the latest Census recommendations made by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe² and the needs of the country for the data.

The census in Kosovo will be conducted based on the country's needs for data and will be in line with the latest recommendations for Censuses made by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe³.

Today, data is considered as a public good and statistical institutions need to adapt to ever-increasing demand for data while respecting the new international standards - always more detailed - for the definitions to be applied and the methodologies to be followed.

² UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE: *Conference of European Statisticians, Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing*, UNITED NATIONS, New York and Geneva, 2015

1. The Census has a strong national and international dimension

Population censuses have the power to generate a broad profile of demographic, social and economic statistics across a country that is an important basis for good governance and decision-making.

Population and Housing Census is the most unique instrument for securing such a complete and profound profile. At the level of smaller aggregates (groups), Census is considered as a fundamental tool for policy promotion at the local and regional level, and in national terms it allows for a revolution and policy guidance, while at the international level it is essential for monitoring the agreements and multilateral political negotiations.

Worldwide, censuses are judged to be safer sources for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals adopted by the United Nations and other global processes.

Many views, analyzes and decision-making at the international level are based on census data taking into account the entire inclusion and comparison of data with other countries, as censuses are usually organized almost in the same decade at the global level.

According to the European Union Regulation 20174, the upcoming Population and Housing Census should be linked to the reference year 2021.

Such a lineup would provide Kosovo with a symbolic status of a nation among European countries, allowing comparison of data in the region, Europe and world level.

Thus, Kosovo's Census should not be seen as a solely national isolated task, but on the contrary, as a complex task fully embedded in a much broader international perspective and even in a broad geo-political perspective that should be taken into account.

2. The need for Census data

Global economic developments, the development of new markets, technology and the opening of new horizons are driving factors that the population of a country is increasingly moving. In addition to the natural factors of population movement (fertility rate and mortality rate) other mechanical factors such as migration (national and international) are the determining factors in a country's demographic trends. Due to these major developments in a short time, some countries (including European countries) practice to have two censuses within a decade.

During this decade, Kosovo has undergone significant changes in fertility, mortality and migration rates. Despite these changes due to the high budget cost, capacity and

⁴ COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2017/881, Done at Brussels, 23 May 2017

previous practices, Kosovo will implement or conduct the Population Census in every decade.

Population Census 2021 has another additional relevance for Kosovo, taking into account that in the last Census of 2011 a part of the Serb community (4 municipalities) did not participate in the Census. The Census of 2021 is expected to be comprehensive based on the general interest of all communities living in Kosovo.

Also, data from Population Census 2021 will be a good basis for analyzing demographic trends between two censuses, predictions, and a source for refreshing and updating data for the entire Kosovo statistical system.

After 2020 Kosovo will be aligned with European integrations and data from the Census will be crucial at that stage.

Thus, Census represents an important element of its statistical infrastructure as its results enables production of proportional samplings for any survey that takes into account household as a core unit.

Data derived from the Census as being detailed, comprehensive and disseminated at the smallest organizational level are multidimensional data for a country, region, municipality, settlement and international institutions.

3. Population censuses apply international standards

Considering the importance of having qualitative and comparable data that respects the fundamental principles of the official UN and EU statistics, Kosovo will apply international standards and recommendations regarding the principles and methodology for conducting the Census 2021.

EU countries as well as other nations that have expressed their willingness to EU structures must respect the regulatory framework described in the basic documents:

- (1) "European Statisticians' Recommendations for the 2020 Census of Population and Housing" prepared in 2015 by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe in cooperation with the Statistical Office of the European Communities⁵;
- (2) "European Commission Regulation No.1201 / 2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on Census of Population and Housing"⁶.
- (3) "European Commission Regulation No.1151 / 2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on Census of Population and Housing on

⁵ https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/publications/2015/ECECES41_EN, UNITED NATIONS New York and Geneva, 2015.

⁶ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/HR/TXT/?uri=celex:32009R1201>, Brussels 2009

the modalities and structure of quality reports and the technical format for the transmission of data”⁷.

- (4) “Principles and Recommendations for the Census, Third Version prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs’ Statistics”⁸.

Kosovo is committed to respect the recommendations of the UN and the European Commission, as the countries of the region will do.
--

4. Scope and extend of the Census in Kosovo

Like a large part of the states, Kosovo plans to develop the Population and Housing Census in a traditional manner by collecting data for all households present on its territory and by collecting information for each of its members, as well as on characteristics of households.

An operation of such a large scale requires mapping across the territory by compiling questionnaires to meet national and international data requirements, taking into account the local specificity, mobilization and training of a wave of surveyors, controllers and supervisors organized in a pyramid hierarchy scheme, collaborating with local administrations on logistics aspects, making a well-designed and multidimensional campaign, elaborating and implementing a sound consulting strategy for all participants and users of data, by collecting, compiling, analyzing and disseminating multiple data.

According to the latest estimates, organizing the population and housing Census in Kosovo would require the employment of about 2,500-2,600 active enumerators (after the update there will be real data), about 650-700 active supervisors; as well as about 40-50 trainers-instructors from the central office of KAS.

Also, the Municipal Census Commissions (MCCs) will be functional in each municipality and the number of MCC members will vary depending on the number of population and enumeration areas in that municipality.

Data processing will not be as in the previous census (2011) when a considerable number of staff were required for processing, supervision and a time of 7 months as during the 2021 Census the CAPI method (data collection) will be used via tablets) and the data will be sent / transmitted from the field to the database (database) in electronic form in a real time.

The total cost of Census is estimated at around € 12 million (or € 6.5 per person) which represents an approximate amount compared to the usual funds allocated for other statistical work (surveys).

In the second half of 2018, KAS together with other local institutions including the Government had organized an information conference with donors on the possibility of

⁷ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/HR/TXT/?uri=celex:32009R1201>, Brussels 2010

⁸ https://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/seriesM/Series_M67rev3en.pdf, United Nations New York, 2017

financial support. The purpose of that meeting was to inform about the project as well as financial support from donors.

KAS proposes that the population census project be financially supported by about 40% by the Government of Kosovo and 60% by donors.

The Census, being a financially costly and statistically complex operation, the Kosovo authorities should not allow its undertaking / realization if there is a risk that the Census will not be successful-not-realized (political, economic or social aspect).

5. Preparatory work

Kosovo - and especially the Statistical Agency should begin preparations as soon as possible for this complex and massive and nationwide operation. Since KAS will not have technical assistance as in the 2011 census and when we add to it the activities carried out in time during 2005-2008 (two pilot censuses carried out) as well as the engagement of a number of special staff that were engaged in the preparations for the census there is an urgent need and high priority that within a short time to form working groups within KAS that will be the core of the many activities that are expected and to be carried out.

1. **Time to complete the Census.** KAS plans for the field population census to be in the second half of 2021 with a proposal from September 15 to October 14, 2021. This for the fact as an optimal time for preparation takes into account the current developments of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Census in the second half of 2021 is an alternative applied by other countries as well as an optimal deadline by international institutions for the reference year.
2. **Structure of the Road Map Document.** Necessary actions to be implemented for a successful Census are presented activities by recommending the optimal date as well as those responsible for carrying out the activities.

MAIN ACTIVITIES, THE DEADLINE AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR A SUCCESSFUL CENSUS

6. Organizational structure

The Kosovo Agency of Statistics should, no later than the first part of 2018, form the main working groups, including working subgroups.

7. Law

In the Census 2011 Kosovo had a special law "ON POPULATION, AND HOUSING" (Law No. 03 / L-237, October 2010). Also, Kosovo will have a special law for the Census of 2021. Since the Law of 2010 in the majority was in line with the international recommendations for Census as a basis, the next Law needs to be amended taking into account the findings and challenges from the last Census (2011) as well as the latest international recommendations on the Census Legislation. KAS should prepare a plan for the finalization of the concept document and then the law on the census 2021.

- **Activity name:** Law on Population and Housing Census 2021
- **Activity provider:** KAS-OPM
- **Additional activity:** Special planning document on processing of the Law (KAS)
- **Activity start time:** March 2019
- **Activity perform time:** The second part of 2019 or the first part of 2020
- **Responsible:** Assembly of Kosovo
- **Results:** The final version of the approved Law on Census

KAS should propose members of the working group that will work on finalizing the concept document no later than the end of November 2019 until the law working group should be operational by mid-2020 and draft the law by the end of 2020 sending it to the Government for approval. KAS during 2019 (May 2019) must officially notify the Government of Kosovo in time for the introduction of the law in the legislature of 2020 for approval or at the beginning of 2021.

8. Budget

Based on the experience from the Census of 2011 where the cost of Population Census per person was 6.8 euros, it is estimated that the cost of Population Census in 2021 will be around 6.5-7 euros per person due to the fact of the increase of the cost and standard compared to 2011.

KAS should prepare the draft budget no later than October 2018 until the preparation of the final budget by mid-June 2019 and send it to the Government.

Based on the importance of data for international institutions, KAS estimates that Kosovo's financial capacities, as in previous practices, as well as during the meetings with international institutions where the EU will support some Balkan countries, it is hoped that the Population Census will largely be supported by donors. It is proposed that the budget should be provided: 60% by donors and 40% from Kosovo.

In order to be supported, the KAS and the Government should organize discussions and debates on: budget management, optimal funding time and other operational issues.

- **Activity name:** Budget for Population Census 2021
- **Activity provider:** KAS-OPM
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS
- **Activity start time:** Draft – October 2018
- **Final budget:** May 2019
- **Responsible:** Government, MoF and Assembly of Kosovo (December 2019)
- **Results:** Available budget for activities

KAS should appoint one or more responsible persons (coordination and budget office in KAS with officials from OPM) who will lobby local and international institutions to ensure timely budgeting including detailed planning by activities, cost and time of realization. In the second half of 2018 (November) KAS together with other local institutions had organized an information conference with donors on the possibility of financial support and then in December 2020 a consultative meeting. KAS and the Government should have priority to clearly define the source of funding no later than the second half of the year (October) 2020.

9. Methodology / questionnaires

KAS will respect the international standards and recommendations for the 2021 census in order for the data from Kosovo to be comparable, acceptable and in line with the previous census (2011). In addition to the main topics (questions / points) that will be implemented according to international recommendations, it will also implement questions that are of national interest with a focus on migration and demographics.

At the end of 2018 and throughout 2019, KAS should establish a working group that will deal with the harmonization of the questionnaire until the questionnaire as draft should be ready no later than June 2019. Once the questionnaire has been drafted it will be in consultation with users including local and central institutions. Also, KAS should prepare the necessary guidelines.

- **Activity name:** Questionnaires and guidelines on Population Census 2021
- **Activity provider:** KAS - demography – working group
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS
- **Activity start time:** March 2019
- **Draft questionnaire:** June 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS
- **Results:** Finalized questionnaire (April 2020)

The working group for the finalization of the questionnaires is called to make the plan that will also contain: time for finalization, participants-stakeholders, to hold discussions and to propose the time of preliminary publications, publication of final data and other thematic reports to be published.

10. Collection of data in the field (IT)

Despite technological developments and Internet access to the vast majority of Kosovo (over 88.8% of households⁹) Kosovo plans to develop the Population and Housing Census in a traditional manner (door to door) by collecting data for all households present in its territory and by collecting information for each of its members and by collecting information on the characteristics of households.

The difference between the Census of 2011 and planned Census of 2021 is that the data collection will not be done through forms but through tablets (CAPI). Application this method will be a special challenge for KAS and in general for the Census itself. KAS is underway regarding the application of this method that is to be used for the first time in May 2018 in the EU-SILC survey.

KAS plans to extend / apply this method to other surveys during this year as well while next year almost all surveys will collect data through this method - CAPI. This is a special case for KAS (switching from traditional forms to electronic one) very important and in a good time and a good experience for the 2021 census project.

- **Activity name:** Methodology of data collection for the Population Census of 2021
- **Activity provider:** KAS-IT, engaged staff
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS, March 2019 – June 2020).
- **Activity start time:** Development of application – February 2020
- **Activity perform time:** Finalized application – May 2021
- **Responsible:** KAS
- **Results:** Ready application for pilot and full Census

⁹ Information Technology Survey: Kosovo Agency of Statistics:
<http://ask.rks-gov.net/media/3828/tik-2017.pdf>

KAS IT group should prepare a part of the documents that contain: application development time, necessary equipment, equipment possession time, data security, confidentiality and other important aspects.

11. Cartography / GIS

Cartography will be a fundamental part of the comprehensiveness and data quality. During the second part of 2019 and the first part of 2020, KAS will update the Enumeration Areas (EAs) for its entire territory.

The first discussions and recommendations are: two (2) EAs as a statistical unit to be merged into just one EA. This will have an impact on new division of the EAs and their number will be half of the number of EAs in 2011, or out of about 5,000 existing EAs will be 2,500 EAs.

Such division will also affect the number of staff engaged and the duration of the Census field enumeration. Expectations are that staff engaged in 2021 Census will be halved. The update and unification of the EAs will be a challenge in itself about the preparations for 2021 Census, including the provision of new orthophotos by the Kosovo Cadastral Agency.

- **Activity Name:** 2021 Population Census Maps
- **Activity provider:** Cartography / GIS
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** November 2018
- **Draft document:** March 2020
- **Final document:** June 2020
- **Field work:** October-November-December 2019 and June –September 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS
- **Results:** Ready Maps (March 2020)

12. Logistics

Application of CAPI method during data collection despite new challenges will be a great assistance in terms of logistics for distribution and collection of data from the field compared to 2011 Census. Logistics should be focused on areas necessary for training, necessary equipment's including their distribution and collection, other materials (with focus on communication materials) as well as other logistics aspects

- **Activity name:** 2021 Population Census Logistics
- **Activity provider:** KAS
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** January 2019
- **Draft document:** June 2019
- **Final document:** October 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS
- **Results:** Logistics plan ready

The logistics plan will be drafted in collaboration with all working groups taking into account the interrelation of the process. The plan will be updated all the time depending on activities and the time.

13. Communication

A special focus will be given to the communication campaign as well as the instruments to be applied during the census. Communication will be focused on sensitive (resident) questions including: ethnicity, religion, language and personal number. An important issue is also the inclusion of non-resident residents who will have to be part of the activity (collection) of the data.

It is recommended to apply a special form for the non-resident population by increasing the number of questions. The communication campaign should start no later than the beginning of 2019 with a lower intensity (Phase I) as well as the preparation of the strategic draft document by June 2020 and finalization by the end of 2020.

From the beginning of 2021 (April – October), a communication strategy should be implemented with a well-informed and comprehensive campaign with multiple meetings, communications, debates, advertisements, etc.

At the beginning of 2021 it will be an intensive communication phase using special instruments for participation of the entire Kosovo population. The approximate cost for the communication campaign will be around 4% of the total budget.

- **Activity name:** 2021 Population Census communication campaign
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ communication
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS
- **Activity start time:** January 2019
- **Draft document:** June 2020
- **Final document:** November 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS
- **Results:** Communication plan ready (in December 2020) and implementation

KAS should establish a special working group, will prepare a communication strategy and implementation of the campaign. KAS should also include in the communication campaign, influential people in communities during intensive advertising campaign and direct communication. The particular challenge remains the communication.

14. Administration

After defining "the Census Fund", KAS should define the budget management. The respect and implementation of laws, regulations or other legislative guidelines in the administration will depend on the agreement that will be reached between local institutions and the donors.

The administration should be focused on providing timely funds, managing them, announcing contracts and more importantly, their timely completion, signing contracts, engaging personnel, etc. The challenge will be to supply the equipment in a timely manner.

Also, working conditions should be ensured during preparatory activities. By the end of 2019, KAS / Administration should provide at least one working space (20-30 persons), while during the beginning of 2021 there should be at least two rooms-offices especially for the needs of population census, which should include: the working meetings office for the people involved in the census, meetings with media users, discussions, presentations, storage of materials.

Meetings from the beginning of 2019 should be regular (daily) and weekly meetings.

- **Activity name:** 2021 Population Census Administration
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ Administration
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** January 2019
- **Draft document:** June 2020
- **Final document:** September 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS
- **Results:** Administration plan ready as well as the implementation

Given compliance with the legal procedures for purchase / supply of equipment and staff engagement (expert, civil servants, part of the staff as well as from other public institutions) and when we add to this the fact that activities are interdependent with the other activities, the administration should make the detailed plan, presenting the risk that may be real obstacle for 2021 Census process. Securing and distributing the budget on time (purchasing equipment) by activities will be a particular challenge.

15. Test prior to Census

Because in 2021 Census will be applied CAPI method, KAS plans to conduct several (3-5) preliminary tests focusing on CAPI method on the field, data transmission and monitoring. It is recommended two tests to be conducted during 2019, when the database (Application) is finalized. It is recommended before the pilot census to test again the census instruments. Other tests can be carried out by working groups (cartography, training method, communication etc.) depending on the need but no later than mid-2020.

Due to the postponement of the Pilot Census from April to September 2020, it is more than necessary to conduct a massive Test that includes field work in April 2021.

- **Activity name:** 2021 Population Census Tests
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ working groups
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** January 2019
- **Draft document:** June 2019
- **Final document:** December 2019 and undated in 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Results:** Tests' plan ready as well as the implementation

The importance of preliminary tests is vital for a successful census, therefore for each test conducted a specific (intern) report on the findings and recommendations should be drafted. Tests prior the census must end no later than in April 2021.

16. Pilot Census

For 2011 Population Census, KAS had developed three (3) pilots taking into account the method and that 2011 Population Census was conducted for the first time. For 2021 Population Census, KAS plans to conduct only one pilot, where will be tested all instruments as in the overall census.

It is proposed the pilot to take place in the first half of 2020 (recommended for April 01-30). Due to the Pandemic COVID-KAS has postponed the Pilot Census which is proposed to be September-October 2020 if developments with the Pandemic would allow.

Due to this delay and other impacts on the General Census process that is proposed to take place in September 2021, it is recommended that a mini-pilot or a mass test be conducted in April 2021.

Special report (Intern) should be prepared on the findings and recommendations for their improvement. The sample is proposed to be around 1.5 of the population or about 25.000 inhabitants (September 2020).

17. Census fieldwork enumeration

The optimal time of the enumeration will be recommended to be April 2021. For the purpose of comprehensiveness, data quality including logistics and administrative aspects, as well as the experience of 2011 Population Census¹⁰ the fieldwork data collection will last a month (1 month).

This optimal time for fieldwork data collection will make possible for the staff engaged on the ground to have a better approach both in terms of orientation, comprehensiveness and increase of the data quality.

From previous practices the first days (2-3 days) were difficult for the enumerators even for supervisors. Staff engagement for more than a month will be encouraged for the fieldwork.

Also, the logistical and administrative aspect will be halved, compared to the 2011 Census on distribution of materials, training facilities, distribution / collection of materials / equipment. An important aspect is the financial one, where the cost of engaging about 50% of the staff means saving budget for equipment and activities at about 50%. In statistical terms it does not represent any statistical deviation based on that many countries have applied and apply such a duration, and at the same time it is an international recommendation. It is estimated that the number of engaged enumerators ranges between 2500-2700 (2700 including the reserve) as well as 650-700 supervisors.

Also, from KAS and other central institutions will be engaged around 40-50 trainers-instructors).

Due to the changes that had occurred with the COVID-19 Pandemic, KAS was not able to carry out the Pilot Census scheduled for April 2020. Also many activities were

postponed including: updating, communication and awareness, purchasing equipment, workspace, engagement of staff and Government decisions (budget allocation, legislation, etc.) that make it almost impossible a successful Census planned for April 2021.

KAS has discussed with the Government and has proposed as the best alternative that the general census be in September-October 2021 emphasizing the advantages and disadvantages and steps to be taken by the Government in time (KAS has prepared a document on possible dates with recommendations) while the Government of Kosovo must take a DECISION on the date of the Census in advance.

- **Activity name:** 2021 Population Census fieldwork
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ other institutions, municipalities and engaged staff
- **Additional activity:** special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** April 2019
- **Draft document:** November 2019
- **Final document:** December 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Decision on the Date of Census:** Government and Assembly of Kosovo
- **Results:** Census fieldwork enumeration plan

The fieldwork implementation time will have direct impact on: the engaged staff, budgets, trainings, equipment and many other activities. Therefore, timely definition of the duration of the census on the ground is crucial to be taken no later than the end of 2020.

18. Post Enumeration Survey (PES)

During 2011, KAS has implemented a post enumeration survey known as PES to assess the coverage and quality of data. At the same time it is an international recommendation to conduct PES in such projects. The experience from 2011 suggests us that the sample should be bigger in order to produce representative results. Therefore, it is suggested that the sample should be 1-1.3% of the population.

- **Activity name:** Post Enumeration Survey, 2021
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ methodology
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** April 2019
- **Draft document:** November 2019
- **Final document:** December 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Results:** PES plan

19. Analyzing and tabulation

The challenge of data analysis will be one of the important components that should be taken care of during the planning. It is estimated that data collection by the CAPI method will greatly increase the data quality, but the challenge remains their analysis given the large number of indicators that will be part of the data collection. Harmonization, imputation, cleaning, analyzing, tabulation and preparation of final reports will be the main challenge after the census. To this should be also added data delivery to EUROSTAT according to the standards (Census HUB table, as well as disaggregated data up to the level of 1km²)

- **Activity name:** Analyzing and tabulation from the Census 2021.
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ all engaged staff
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** April 2020
- **Draft document:** November 2020
- **Final document:** December 2020
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Results:** Analyzing and tabulation plan

Based on the 2011 Census experience KAS should prepare as well the “Quality report” which is an international standard and important for KAS / users. The particular focus of KAS should be on analyzing and tabulating on time. The database should be launched on KAS's website no later than two (2) years after the census.

20. Preliminary data

Preliminary data with some basic indicators should be published no later than three (3) months from the last date of enumeration on the ground. Although the preliminary report contains only some tabular data, it is a particular challenge since the database for the indicators to be published should be cleaned almost two months after the census.

- **Activity name:** Census 2021 Preliminary Data.
- **Activity provider:** KAS / all working groups
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** April 2020
- **Draft document:** May 2021
- **Final document:** June 2021
- **Publication/conference:** December 2021
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Results:** Detailed plan on publication of preliminary data

Preparing preliminary data is a challenge that needs to be planned in details as public expectation (pressure) is too large and the data should be almost identical to those that will be published as final data. In addition to cleaning and analyzing, the tabulation, preparation of the report, also translation, design and proofreading in optimal time are challenging as well.

21. Final data

The final data must be published no later than six (6) months after the Census. It is proposed that the first final data to be published in the first part of October 2021. The final data includes a report with basic data focusing at country level.

- **Activity name:** Census 2021 Final Data
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ all working groups
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** April 2020
- **Data base cleaning:** May-July 2021
- **Draft document:** September 2021
- **Final document:** September 2021
- **Publication/conference:** April 2022
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Results:** Detailed plan on publication of final data

The same challenges as on preliminary data will also be encountered with the release of the final data taking into account the short time to produce final reports. A detailed and monitoring plan is needed to produce a timely report.

22. Other specific reports

KAS should prepare a specific report plan including the publication calendar of these reports. Also should be determined in time the staff who will be engaged by other institutions depending on the report's topic.

- **Activity name:** Census 2021 Thematic reports
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ all working groups
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** June 2021
- **Draft document:** July 2021
- **Final document:** October 2021-December 2023
- **Thematic reports:** 2021-2023
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Results:** Calendar of publication and other thematic reports

23. Data delivery to local and international institutions / dissemination

KAS should prepare a detailed plan for disseminating and data delivery to other local and international institutions in accordance with the applicable legislation as well as with the pre-defined format. A special group should prepare a plan on which data will be available to the general public, which data will be provided to specific institutions as well as on sending data to Eurostat.

- **Activity name:** Data delivery to other institutions
- **Activity provider:** KAS/ all working groups
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** June 2021
- **Draft document:** July 2021
- **Final document:** October 2021-December 2023
- **Thematic reports:** 2021-2023
- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups
- **Results:** Data delivery in a certain format and time

24. Population Register / connection with other databases

Particular importance of population census 2021 is that KAS estimates that this will be the last census in which will be applied the traditional data collection on the ground (door to door).

KAS estimates that in future censuses, thanks to the development of technology and development of integration processes, the census data enumeration will be based on administrative data / registers.

A special group should work parallel starting from 2019 in harmonizing of existing data in other Kosovo institutions.

It would be important the existing bases to be harmonized at the beginning of 2021 and the population census 2021 would be used as an instrument to populate the Population Register and inputation of that base.

- **Activity name:** Drafting of Population Census
- **Activity provider:** KAS / all working groups, other relevant institutions as well as great political support
- **Additional activity:** Special document prepared by KAS.
- **Activity start time:** Second part of 2018
- **Draft document:** March 2019
- **Final document:** May 2019
- **Implementation:** 2019-2022

- **Responsible:** KAS and working groups, other relevant institutions as well as great political support
- **Results:** Functional Population census (2021)

25. Potential risks

There are several external factors that can have a direct impact on the Census project.

Political situation: based on the experience so far when the Government has not completed its full mandate and based on the current political situation (discussions with Serbia / final phase) KAS is not sure that after the next elections (early elections in autumn 2019) the new Government will have a full period of 4 years as it is in the constitution of Kosovo.

Also, in the spring of 2021 a new President must be elected (currently by parliament) and if he cannot be elected the country must go to new elections. Discussions with Serbia may also have an impact on the full participation of the Serb community living in Kosovo.

Budget: The Government of Kosovo has signed a Memorandum with UNOPS to manage the Census budget. Found in the current situation (early elections) it will be difficult for the agreement for 2019 to be realized with UNOPS.

In November 2019, based on some developments and recommendations from the MoF, KAS extended / canceled the MoU with UNOPS which was the agreement in question that presents a challenge in carrying out all activities on time.

KAS has planned to have the next conference with donors and the optimal month would be October-November 2020.

If the Government cannot provide the required budget for 2020-2023 in time (KAS is in discussions with the Government), the Census project would be in jeopardy and KAS would assess in time (by the end of 2020) whether the census should be done in September 2021 or postponed for a certain time.

26. Key conclusions and recommendations

Based on the importance and complexity of the project, the Government of Kosovo should provide high support to the project in all activities (on time) focused on: legislation, budget, provide the necessary working conditions (additional working space) and human capacity building.

If the budget is to be managed by KAS based on current legislation (administrative procedures and procurement), the government should make a separate Census

decision in order to simplify the procedures. KAS should continue to work based on plans and activities and if there are any difficulties / challenges (non-provision of basic conditions: budget, staff and workspace) should inform the government in time and some international organizations (Eurostat).