

## REPORT

ON THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA PILOT AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2013  
(November 10-30, 2014)

(summarized as of 01.04.2014)

(Translated by UNDP)

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## P R E F A C E

Pursuant to the current international methodology<sup>1</sup>, **agricultural census** (hereinafter AC) is a **statistical function (collection, processing and dissemination)** about **comprehensive data on the structure of agriculture – agricultural lands, number of livestock, agricultural machinery and agricultural constructions, available resources (human, material),** and their use.

As per the guidelines defined by the United Nations (UN), the UN member states are obliged to carry out **agricultural censuses** at least once every decade.

**Conduct of an agricultural census** in the Republic of Armenia is important in the sense that the statistical data collected as a result of its implementation are used for the creation of systems of monitoring indices in the below-mentioned areas:

- 1) Poverty monitoring,
- 2) Food security monitoring,
- 3) Programming of agriculture and related policy development,
- 4) Management of gender statistics,
- 5) Quality improvement of current statistics,
- 6) Provision of more comprehensive information to consumers, etc.

**The importance of conducting an agricultural census** in the Republic of Armenia is also conditioned by the fact that agriculture is one of the most important sectors of the economy: the share of new value added in agriculture in the total gross domestic product has amounted to 16-20% in recent years, while the number of persons employed in this sector accounts for about 37% (about 437 thousand people) of the total employed population. There are numerous and diverse economic entities the majority of which are agricultural households (rural households).

Agricultural households produce around 90% of the gross agricultural product. These households are characterized by small sizes, absence of intra-farm accounting, low level of marketability (45% of the product is intended for own consumption, 20% - for in-kind payments and barter, and, in average, only 35% is monetized), low level of specialization, small and limited amounts of investments and incomes, high level of intra-sector variability of economic activity and business activities (including seasonal), etc.

Pursuant to Article 3 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On Agricultural Census” (adopted on November 27, 2008) objectives of the implementation of the agricultural census are as follows:

- 1) Information on the structure of agriculture – agricultural land, number of livestock, agricultural machinery, agricultural constructions, available resources (human, material), and the use at national, regional and community levels,
- 2) Creation of a complete system for the census of statistical data on agriculture,
- 3) Creation of statistical register of agricultural households,
- 4) Ensuring compatibility with international statistical data.

**The Agricultural Census will enable:**

- 1) To improve current statistics on the sector of agriculture,
- 2) To create a complete system of statistical data on agriculture,
- 3) To create statistical registers of entities engaged in agricultural activity,
- 4) To improve sampling tools of statistics and to ensure their compatibility with international criteria and indicators,
- 5) To identify the trends in changes of agricultural infrastructure,

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<sup>1</sup> FAO Statistical Development Series 11. A System of integrated agricultural censuses and surveys – Vol.1. World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2010, United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Rome, 2005, 198 pages.

6) To specify a more detailed composition and structure of agriculture as entrepreneurship (type of economic activity).

## 1. PREPARATORY AND ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF 2013 PILOT AC OF RA

In accordance with the requirements of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “**On Agricultural Census**,” the Republic of Armenia Government decree No. 402-N (dated April 25, 2013) “On the conduct of an agricultural census in 2014 in the Republic of Armenia, conduct of a pilot Agricultural census in 2013 and creation of national, Yerevan municipal and regional commissions on agricultural census to be conducted in 2014” stipulated that in the Republic of Armenia a comprehensive census of agriculture was to be carried out **from October 11 to 31, 2014**.

With the purpose of testing methodological and organizational principles of the Agricultural Census, software and processes of automated processing of materials, the same decree also stipulated to conduct pilot census of agriculture from October 11 through 31 inclusive, 2013, in Nor-Kharberd, Azatavan and Shahumyan rural communities of Ararat region, Nor Geghi rural community of Kotayk region, Gandzakar and Aygehovit rural communities and Berd urban community of Tavush region of the Republic of Armenia.

For the preparation and conduct of an Agricultural census in 2014 in the Republic of Armenia and implementation of data processing, by the Decision No. 02-N (dated May 3, 2013) of the Republic of Armenia State Council on Statistics (hereinafter RA SCS) an Agricultural Census operational unit with the status of a department (hereinafter AC Department) was established **in the month of May of 2013**. The main task of the Department is the preparation and conduct of an AC in the Republic of Armenia and implementation of aggregation of the obtained results.

**The Agricultural Census Department is comprised of five divisions:**

1. Agricultural census planning and program-methodological,
2. Data processing and classification,
3. Information technologies and programming,
4. Organizational activities,
5. Financial-economic and HR.

Pursuant to Article 4 of the Law of the Republic of Armenia “**On Agricultural Census**” with the purpose of supporting AC preparatory and implementation activities, national, Yerevan municipal and regional commissions have been set up in accordance with the RA Government decree No. 402-N (dated April 25, 2014) for the preparation and conduct of an Agricultural Census 2014 in the Republic of Armenia.

On May 7, 2013, during the **inaugural session** of the national commission on agricultural census to be conducted in 2014 in the Republic of Armenia, chaired by Mr. Armen Gevorgyan, RA Deputy Prime Minister, RA Minister of Territorial Administration, the “Cost estimate for the preparation and implementation of the Agricultural census to be carried out in 2014 in the Republic of Armenia and processing of materials” (hereinafter, **estimate**) **was approved**. Simultaneously, the AC program (question guide) was presented to the commission members for their opinion; the questionnaires prepared on the basis of thereof were tested during 2013 pilot AC of RA.

The Republic of Armenia 2013 State Budget envisaged to allocate 91,463.0 thousand Armenian Drams (actual expenditure amounted to AMD 72,476.9 thousand). The balance amount, as per prior agreement, should have been provided by the World Bank and Austrian Development Agency. Moreover, the management of the funds provided by the Austrian Development Agency was implemented by the United Nations Development Programme Armenia Country Office, and those of the World Bank – by the Project Implementation Unit of RA Ministry of Finance.

Taking into consideration the fact that an Agreement on Co-financing between the United Nations Development Programme Armenia Country Office and the Austrian Development Agency was signed with over a one month delay (on 19.09.2013), until 01.10.2013 the RA NSS was not able to

carry out activities with regard to recruitment of temporary employees (coordinators of pilot agricultural census activities in regional agencies of the NSS, heads of census areas, assistants to heads of census areas, instructor-controllers, enumerators) for the organization and conduct of the Agricultural Census fieldwork and other activities. Due to this it became impossible to carry out a pilot Agricultural Census within the period stipulated by RA Government Decree N 402-N of 25 April 2013, therefore, following the suggestion of RA NSS by Decree N 1054-N of 26 September 2013 RA Government established a new period – **November 10-30, 2013** – for the implementation of the pilot AC.

The methodology of organization and conduct of the Agricultural Census in RA as well as the 2014 AC question guide of RA and the questionnaires prepared on the basis thereof have been developed in accordance with the guidelines of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization with the support of Michael Steiner, Expert of the United States Department of Agriculture, Thomas Bie, Resident Twinning Adviser of the European Union’s Twinning Project “Support to the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia”, Rolf Selander, Senior Adviser of Statistics Sweden, Kristian Hulsager, Head of Agricultural Statistics Department of Denmark Statistics, Karsten Larsen, Head of Agricultural Statistics Division of Denmark Statistics, Giorgi Kvinikadze, Statistician at the headquarters of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, as well as the staff of RA Ministry of Agriculture.

Preparatory activities of RA 2013 pilot AC were carried out in accordance with the timetable of activities on “Preparation and conduct of, automated data processing and generation of output datasheets for the RA 2013 pilot Agricultural Census (November 10-30 inclusive)” (hereinafter **timetable**, see Annex 1).

As per the timetable, in 2013 by 21 separate decisions adopted by the State Council on Statistics of RA 38 titles of methodological documents (directives, instructions, forms, questionnaires, summary bulletins, report forms on current oversight activities, etc., see Annex 2), as well as a booklet containing information regarding the agricultural census and an advertising poster were approved and published.

During the preparatory activities (in accordance with the timetable), lists of **households possessing homestead and/or agricultural lands** were prepared which served as a basis for the formation of points for the pilot AC. The community leaders provided RA NSS with draft lists of census points which were finally verified based on sketch-maps as a result of cataloguing.

According to the lists of households possessing homestead and/or agricultural lands, a total number of 9,433 households was envisaged to register within the pilot AC. Particularly, 854 households in Azatavan, 1,011 in Shahumyan, 2,172 in Nor Kharberd rural communities of Ararat region of the Republic of Armenia, 2,221 households in Nor Geghi rural community of Kotayk region, 1,267 and 1,352 in Aygehovit and Gandzakar rural communities respectively, and 556 in Berd urban community of Tavush region of RA (including around 20% of all households in Berd urban community by sampling principle).

Based on the prepared list of households, and taking as a base the average rate of workload established for temporarily recruited employees (for enumerators average 100 households possessing homestead and/or agricultural land was set) for the implementation of pilot AC fieldwork, organizational plans for the preparation and implementation of the pilot AC were prepared, a key component of which is **census zoning** – delineation of the territory per Agricultural Census, instruction and enumeration areas. Relevant temporary employees were hired for the performance of activities in census, instruction and enumeration areas and supervision of those activities.

As per the organizational plan, in the framework of preparatory and organizational activities of pilot AC, training (instruction) of the census staff was conducted to which end the staff of AC department organized a seminar-workshop in the RA NSS and work trips were made to regional

agencies. During the training (instruction) the employees involved in the AC fieldwork were familiarised with the methodological peculiarities of completing the census questionnaire, all their job responsibilities and the guidelines of logical verification of aggregate data during the census.

In the framework of preparatory and organizational activities of the pilot Agricultural Census in October 2013, the President of RA NSS and members of the RA State Council on Statistics visited regional administrations of Ararat, Kotayk and Tavush regions of Armenia with staff members of the Department of Agricultural Statistics of RA NSS and the AC Department. The purpose of the visit was to familiarize them with the goal, necessity, urgency and challenges of comprehensive agricultural census in RA, the current situation of agriculture, expected outcomes, census questionnaires, etc.

Implementation of all the above-mentioned activities enabled commencement of census fieldwork from November 10, 2013.

## 2. FIELDWORK FOR 2013 PILOT AGRICULTURAL CENSUS OF RA

Preparatory activities were followed by the conduct of a pilot AC.

Prior to commencing the fieldwork for census, managers of census areas familiarized instructor-controllers with the borders of instruction areas, and instructor-controllers familiarized enumerators with the borders of enumeration areas. Prior to beginning the census, on November 7-9 each enumerator paid an initial visit to the households included in their enumeration areas with the purpose of informing them about the conduct of the upcoming census and arranging the day and time of visiting the household.

Pilot AC fieldwork was carried out on November 10-30 inclusive, during which enumerators filled out census questionnaires by visiting the households. In particular, by means of questionnaires information regarding the size of agricultural lands per their operational purpose belonging to the households (private, rented, leased), number of land plots, sown area of agricultural crops, availability of hotbeds/greenhouses, ploughed lands, idle arable, perennial plantations, size of nurseries, sources of water of actually irrigated lands and methods of irrigation, used inputs and pesticides, number of agricultural livestock and poultry, availability of agricultural machinery, workforce, use and processing of agricultural produce and more was collected.

With the purpose of resuming census fieldwork Mr. Michael Steiner, Expert of the US Department of Agriculture, during his visit to RA NSS in November 2013, together with the staff members of RA NSS and AC department familiarized himself with the progress of fieldwork in Nor Geghi rural community of Kotayk region and Azatavan rural community of Ararat region of the Republic of Armenia, visited the households with the enumerators and participated in completing questionnaires by enumerators.

Mr. Oleg Kara, Expert of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, also visited RA NSS with a similar mission who as well participated in fieldwork in Shahumyan rural community of RA Ararat region.

As a result of the visits, the mentioned experts gave positive assessment of the census process.

In the meantime, during the census data were collected also from the communities – community leaders completed and provided to RA NSS “Questionnaire 4-AC of comprehensive agricultural census in rural and urban communities during RA 2013 pilot agricultural census” on the structure of agricultural land of community ownership, the size of cultivated and non-cultivated lands of households who are registered in but absent from the community, cultivated and non-cultivated lands belonging to households who are not residents of the community but own land there, agricultural buildings and constructions of community ownership, availability of agricultural equipment and machinery, as well as availability of sales outlets of fertilizers, pesticides and seeds, irrespective of their form of ownership, and provision of veterinary services for agricultural animals.

Highlighting the necessity of the integrity of the agricultural census, the RA NSS, beyond the scope of the implementation of the pilot Agricultural Census, tested also “Questionnaire 3-AC of comprehensive agricultural census in commercial organizations” intended for commercial organizations engaged in agricultural activities (as per the timetable).

Collection of data via completion of questionnaires by enumerators was followed by the organization of a random follow-up visit which aimed at overview of the quality of work performed by the enumerators. From the perspective of supervising the process of census it was highly important to implement it per superiority of coordinators of the activities, i.e. according to the chain of **instructor-controller → head of census district → AC activity coordinators in RA NSS regional agencies → heads of RA NSS regional agencies → AC department of RA NSS**. The purpose of the latter was to identify existing drawbacks, omissions, inaccurate records and, where necessary, make relevant corrections in the questionnaire.

With the purpose of summing up the preliminary operation data of census results, implementers of census activities filled out relevant **summary bulletins** regarding the size of agricultural lands of households and number of agricultural animals which, as preliminary operation data, together with the rest of all census documents were submitted in folders to AC department of RA NSS.

### 3. ACCEPTANCE OF RA 2013 PILOT AGRICULTURAL CENSUS DOCUMENTS AND PROCESSING OF COLLECTED INFORMATION

Upon completion of census activities and follow-up visit, the process of acceptance of all pilot AC documents was carried out per superiority of activity coordinators (see **Annex 3**).

As per the **timetable**, on January 20, 2014 the enumerators' bags with questionnaires and the rest of census documents were moved to the Agricultural census Department of the RA NSS for the organization of the process of further processing of the documents.

The process of further processing of the data collected from agricultural households and communities includes logical and other ways of verification, encoding and entry of the questionnaires.

For the implementation of those activities temporary employees – data verifier/encoders and data entry operators – were hired for a period of one business month.

As of 01.04.2014 the processes of questionnaire entry and database creation were completed; in parallel the processes of database verification and generation of processed output datasheets are underway which, as per the **timetable**, are due to be completed at the end of July 2014.

In accordance with international practice and international expert recommendations involved in the activities, a complete publication of the results of information collected during the pilot census is not envisaged due to the following reasons:

1. It is inappropriate to consider pilot census as a source of data acquisition for practical use;
2. Summary and publication of information collected through the pilot census does not meet the primary objective of the implementation of a pilot census, i.e. testing of questionnaires, documents and set of tools towards preparation for the full census.

#### 4. PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF 2013 PILOT AGRICULTURAL CENSUS OF RA AND PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED (REVEALED) DURING CENSUS

During 2013 pilot Agricultural Census of the Republic of Armenia, 7,812 questionnaires were collected (instead of planned 9,433)<sup>1</sup>. In Azatavan, Shahumyan, Nor Kharberd rural communities of RA Ararat region – 678, 914, 1548 questionnaires respectively, Nor Geghi rural community of RA Kotayk region – 1,984 questionnaires, Aygehovit and Gandzakar rural communities of RA Tavush region – 1,159 and 1,041 respectively, and Berd urban community where census was conducted by sampling (20% coverage) – 488 questionnaires.

Data on household-owned lands collected by enumerators during the pilot Agricultural census are summarized in the table below:

**Summary of questionnaire results on agricultural lands belonging to households with the right of ownership, by their operational purpose, size and communities**

(ha)

| Region | Community    | Belonging to households with the right of ownership |                         |          |          |         |             |                         |
|--------|--------------|---|-------------------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|-------------------------|
|        |              | Arable  | Fruit and berry orchard | Vineyard | Hayfield | Pasture | Other lands | Total agricultural land |
| Ararat | Azatavan     | 118.22  | 23.17                   | 28.75    | 0.00     | 0.00    | 0.00        | 170.14                  |
|        | Shahumyan    | 145.16  | 33.06                   | 177.26   | 0.00     | 15.05   | 1.87        | 372.40                  |
|        | Nor Kharberd | 132.74  | 31.50                   | 12.42    | 0.00     | 7.86    | 0.42        | 184.94                  |
| Kotayk | Nor Geghi    | 308.76  | 231.36                  | 0.00     | 1.32     | 0.18    | 1.07        | 542.69                  |
| Tavush | Aygehovit    | 404.82  | 0.85                    | 140.02   | 110.94   | 0.30    | 0.30        | 657.23                  |
|        | Gandzakar    | 333.28  | 0.17                    | 1.25     | 430.58   | 0.00    | 0.00        | 765.28                  |

Currently activities for the generation of all output tables are underway.

With the purpose of summarizing pilot AC results and discussing problems arisen during the census, on February 27-28, 2014, with the financial support of Austrian Development Agency a seminar-workshop was organized with the participation of the RA NSS President, members of SCS RA, Head of NSS Staff, staff members of Agricultural Statistics Department of RA NSS staff and AC department, Heads of RA NSS regional agencies, representatives of the RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and the Ministry of Agriculture, State Committee of Real Estate Cadastre adjunct to RA Government, UN Food and Agriculture Organization, World Bank, US Agency for International Development, Austrian Development Agency, UN Development Programme.

**Problems identified (revealed) during the pilot Agricultural census are as follows:**

<sup>1</sup> The difference between the number of households who possess homestead and/or agricultural lands, as census units, which were initially included during compilation of the list of households (listing) and the number of questionnaires completed during census per household is due to the following:

1. During the census one questionnaire was filled out for households having more than one homestead land plot who managed the farm together (in accordance with applied methodology),
2. No questionnaire was filled out by enumerators with regard to the households who own lands in the community but are not a resident of that community, as well as the **lands** belonging to households who are a resident of the community but are away from the community. Summary information about the lands of the mentioned households was provided by the community leader in questionnaire 4-AC.

- The difference between the size of lands fixed in the certificates of land ownership and the results of cadastral measurement of lands preceding preparation of those certificates,
- Inconsistency between the actual sizes of lands and relevant data of land balance (as of 01.07.2013, RA land balance),
- Lack of public awareness of the conduct of the census,
- The issue of census unit in the registration process (during pilot census as a tool for identification of respondent, addresses of homestead lands were taken as census unit, however, it turned out that it was more appropriate to take addresses of buildings/constructions as respondent's address for census unit),
- The problem of financial resources (moreover, not only availability of funds is of importance, but also their timely allocation considering requirements of current legislation according to which the authority of spending funds requires a period of minimum one and a half months from the moment of their allocation),
- Keeping the time frames as scheduled by the "Timetable for the preparation and implementation of the RA Agricultural Census 2014, automated data processing and generation of output datasheets and publication activities" (*for instance, listing must be completed at least 2 months before commencing the census*),
- Creation of a complete dataset on the households missing from the community and citizens who are not residents of the community through additional information obtained from community leaders,
- As far as possible, reduction of cases of providing incorrect, inaccurate, incomplete information by respondents,
- Necessity of mandatory follow-up visits,
- Optimization of census sample size in urban communities, etc.

With the purpose of finding solutions to methodological and organizational problems faced during the AC regular workshop, discussions are held in the RA NSS jointly with stakeholder organizations, experts and others.

Summarizing the results of the implementation of the pilot Agricultural census, the necessity of conducting it is once again highlighted; without it, the existing methodological and organizational problems are impossible to identify, and due to their solution, both the quality and efficiency of the main Agricultural census will be improved.



## TIMETABLE

Of actions for the preparation and conduct of, automated data processing and generation of output datasheets for the Republic of Armenia 2013 pilot  
Agricultural census (November 10-30 inclusive)

| No. | Description of activity  | Envisaged deadline for implementation | Responsible entity   | Implementation status |
|-----|--|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1.  | Elaboration of the list of documents required for the preparation and implementation of the pilot Agricultural census (hereinafter, ACC) and calculation of the number of copies to be printed   | By<br>01.08.2013                      | Department of Agricultural census (Division of planning, programme and methodology, Division of organizational works)  | Completed             |
| 2.  | Directives, manuals and forms for the elaboration of lists of households engaged in agricultural activities:<br>- development and approval<br>- printing (photocopying)<br>- delivery  | By<br>15.08.2013                      | Department of Agricultural census (Division of planning, programme and methodology, Division of organizational works, Division of human resources and financial and economic issues) | Completed             |
| 3.  | Directives on and forms for the elaboration of organizational plans for the preparation and conduct of the pilot Agricultural census:<br>- development and approval<br>- printing (photocopying)<br>- delivery to locations (RA Ararat, Kotayk and Tavush marzes)                      | By<br>01.09.2013                      | Department of Agricultural census (Division of planning, programme and methodology, Division of organizational works, Division of human resources and financial and economic issues) | Completed             |
| 4.  | Pilot Agricultural census documents (registration books, summary information books and report forms for the AC registration area administrator and his/her assistant, enumerator (counter), and the instructor-controller):<br>- development and approval<br>- printing (photocopying) | By<br>01.09.2013                      | Department of Agricultural census (Division of planning, programme and methodology, Division of human resources and financial and economic issues)                                   | Completed             |
| 5.  | Pilot Agricultural census questionnaire:<br>- development and approval<br>- printing (photocopying)  | By<br>15.09.2013                      | Department of Agricultural census (Division of planning, programme and methodology)  | Completed             |
| 6.  | Guidance notes on the rules of filling in the pilot Agricultural census questionnaires:<br>- development and approval<br>- printing (photocopying)   | By<br>15.09.2013                      | Department of Agricultural census (Division of planning, programme and methodology, Division of human resources and financial and economic issues)                                   | Completed             |

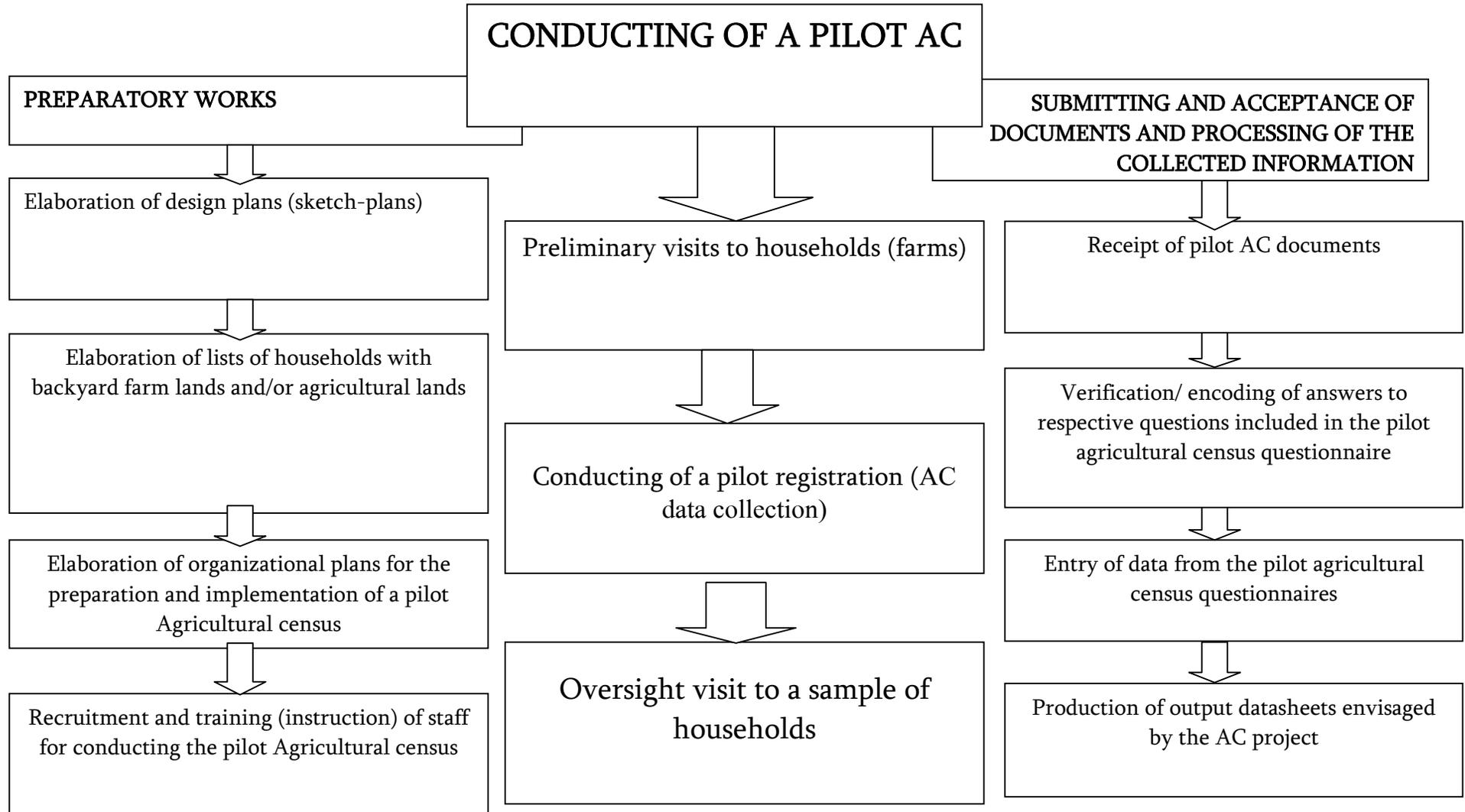
|     |   |  |  |  |
|-----|---|--|--|--|
| 7.  | Development of design (schematic) plans for Berd urban community and Gandzakhar and Aygehovit rural communities (RA Tavush region), Nor Kharberd and Shahumyan rural communities (Ararat region), and Nor Geghi rural community (Kotayk region)   | By<br>01.10.2013   | Department of Agricultural census, an organization developing design plans (sketch-plans)  | Completed  |
| 8.  | Recruitment of agricultural census activities coordinators in RA NSS regional agencies  | 01.10.2013   | RA NSS,<br>Department of Agricultural census   | Seven persons were recruited   |
| 9.  | Recruitment of AC lists developers (data collectors) and provision of guidance to them  | 01.10.2013<br>(1-month duration)   | Department of Agricultural census  | Twelve persons were recruited as developers of lists (data collectors)                                       |
| 10. | Elaboration and printing of forms for the communication on on-going oversight activities  | 01.10.2013   | Department of Agricultural census<br>(Division of planning, programme and methodology)   | Completed  |
| 11. | Provision of guidance on the implementation of a pilot Agricultural census and the rules for filling in the AC questionnaires to the following categories of employees:<br><br>- employees of the Department of agricultural census;<br><br>- heads of RA NSS Staff Ararat, Kotayk and Tavush regional agencies and corresponding territorial units, coordinators of Agricultural census activities carried out in RA NSS regional agencies<br><br>- heads of Agricultural census (data registration) areas and their assistants<br><br>- AC instructor-controllars<br><br>- AC enumerators | 01.10.2013 -<br>05.10.2013<br><br>06.10.2013 -<br>08.10.2013<br><br>15.10.2013 -<br>20.10.2013<br><br>21.10.2013 -<br>25.10.2013<br><br>04.11.2013<br>05.11.2013 | Department of Agricultural census<br>(Division of planning, programme and methodology)<br><br>With the participation of G. Ananyan, member of the RA State Council on Statistics, Coordinator of AC activities, Department of Agricultural census and A. Avagyan, head of the Division of agricultural statistics of the RA NSS Staff<br><br>Department of Agricultural census and coordinators of Agricultural census activities in RA NSS regional agencies<br><br>AC area administrators and Department of Agricultural census<br><br>-?- | Completed<br><br>01.10.2013<br><br>02-03.10.2013<br><br>17-18.10.2013<br><br>21-25.10.2013<br><br>05.11.2013 |
| 12. | Recruitment of heads of Agricultural census (data registration) areas and assistants to the heads of Agricultural census areas, introduction to the works to be carried out by them   | 15.10.2013   | Department of Agricultural census  | Five heads of census areas and five assistants were recruited  |

|     |   |  |   |  |
|-----|---|--|---|--|
| 13. | Selection and allocation of rooms for the AC data collection and instruction areas:<br>- census areas<br>- instruction areas                                    | 15.10.2013-<br>30.12.2013<br><br>20.10.2013-<br>20.12.2013 | RA NSS regional agencies in Ararat, Kotayk and Tavush marzes of the Republic of Armenia   | 15.10.2013 -<br>30.12.2013<br><br>20.10.2013 -<br>20.12.2013 |
| 14. | Recruitment of AC instructor-controllers; introduction to the works to be carried out by them   | 20.10.2013   | Department of Agricultural census   | Twenty-four instructor-controllers were recruited            |
| 15. | Elaboration of lists of pilot AC units and data verification through comparison with lists provided initially   | 31.10.2013   | Department of Agricultural census,<br>AC lists developers (data collectors)   | Completed  |
| 16. | Verification and summary of lists of established AC units   | By<br>01.11.2013   | Department of Agricultural census,<br>RA NSS regional agencies in RA Ararat, Kotayk and Tavush marzes   | Completed  |
| 17. | Guidance on the rules for the elaboration of organizational plans and development of organizational plans   | By 01.11.2013  | Department of Agricultural census,<br>RA NSS regional agencies in RA Ararat, Kotayk and Tavush marzes   | Completed  |
| 18. | - Development, and<br>- printing (photocopying) of the directive on the procedures of verification and codification of pilot Agricultural census questionnaires | By<br>01.11.2013   | Department of Agricultural census (Division of data processing and classification, Division of human resources and financial and economic issues) | Completed  |
| 19. | Development of a software (templates) for the production of pilot AC output datasheets  | By<br>01.11.2013   | Department of Agricultural census (Division of data processing and classification)  | Completed  |
| 20. | Recruitment of enumerators; introduction to the works to be carried out by them   | 04.11.2013   | Department of Agricultural census,<br>UNDP  | Ninety-seven enumerators were recruited                      |

|     |  |   |   |  |
|-----|--|---|---|--|
| 21. | Initial visits to households (farms)   | 06.11.2013-08.11.2013   | AC enumerators and instructor-controllers   | 06-10.11.2013  |
| 22. | With enumerators prior to Agricultural census consultancy and distribution of documents  | 09.11.2013  | Heads of Agricultural census areas, instructor-controllers  | 09.11.2013   |
| 23. | Implementation of a pilot Agricultural census (data collection)  | 10.11.2013-30.11.2013   | AC enumerators  | 10-30.11.2013  |
| 24. | Conducting of oversight visits   | 01.12.2013-04.12.2013   | AC enumerators and instructor-controllers   | 01-04.12.2013  |
| 25. | Study and preparation of software for the automated processing of pilot AC questionnaires:<br>- entry and verification of questionnaires<br>- checking the logic of questionnaires, including development of protocols on errors                                     | In stages:<br>By 01.12.2013   | Department of Agricultural census (Division of data processing and classification, Division of information technologies and software development)   | Completed  |
| 26. | Receiving documents for the pilot Agricultural census from:<br>- AC enumerators<br>- AC instructor-controllers<br>- Heads of Agricultural census areas<br>- Coordinators of Agricultural census works in RA NSS regional agencies<br>- regional statistical agencies | By 04.12.2013<br>By 20.12.2013<br>By 30.12.2013<br>By 10.01.2014<br>By 20.01.2014 | AC instructor-controllers<br>Heads of Agricultural census areas<br>Coordinators of Agricultural census works in RA NSS regional agencies<br>RA NSS regional agencies<br>Department of Agricultural census | 04.12.2013<br>18-20.12.2013<br>28-30.12.2013<br>10-15.01.2014<br>20-25.01.2014 |
| 27. | Calculation of preliminary results of the pilot Agricultural census and presentation to RA NSS   | By 25.01.2014   | Department of Agricultural census   | 01.02.2014   |
| 28. | Recruitment of verifiers/ encoders of AC questionnaires  | 15.01.2014  | Department of Agricultural census   | 20.02-20.03.2014   |
| 29. | Instruction provided to encoders on the procedure of verification and codification of pilot Agricultural census questionnaires   | 15.01.2014  | Department of Agricultural census (Division of data processing and classification)  | 20.02-21.02.2014   |
| 30. | Instruction provided to data entry persons on the procedure for entry of pilot Agricultural census questionnaires  | 25.01.2014<br>26.01.2014  | Department of Agricultural census (Division of information technologies and software development)   | 25.02-26.02.2014   |

|     |   |  |  |                  |
|-----|---|--|--|------------------|
| 31. | Verification and codification of pilot Agricultural census questionnaires | 15.01.2014-<br>15.02.2014                                | Department of Agricultural<br>census,<br>AC data verifier/ encoders              | 20.02-20.03.2014 |
| 32. | Entry of pilot Agricultural census materials (7,812 questionnaires)       | Starting<br>25.01.2014<br>(for the period of 1<br>month) | Department of Agricultural<br>census, employees responsible for<br>AC data entry | 25.02-24.03.2014 |
| 33. | Summary of the pilot Agricultural census results                          | By<br>15.08.2014   | RA NSS,<br>Department of Agricultural census                                     |                  |

# PHASES OF PILOT AGRICULTURAL CENSUS IMPLEMENTATION



STRUCTURAL UNITS FOR ORGANIZING AND CONDUCTING THE AGRICULTURAL CENSUS (AC) IN ARMENIA  
(5 LEVELS OF COLLECTION AND SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ON AC (I-V))

