

# U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

## Strategy for International Collaboration—Fiscal Year 2019 Through Fiscal Year 2022

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# Message From the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer

Strategic plans provide the framework and direction for collaborative work. This enterprise-wide strategy provides a framework for the U.S. Census Bureau's collaborative efforts with the international statistical community. It helps us to prioritize the countries or organizations to work with, establish goals and intended outcomes, and set the direction for our cooperative efforts. Having a framework will guide us in our international endeavors.

All of the Census Bureau's program areas can benefit from international cooperation among National Statistical Offices (NSOs). And for more than 60 years, we have been working with other statistical agencies around the world. When countries share their experiences, important and useful lessons are learned about best practices, challenges, and in particular, the implications of innovative methodologies and technologies on census and survey planning, implementation, and data quality. By working with other nations that have conducted many censuses and surveys, as well as those just beginning statistical work, we get the chance to learn from experts from around the world and disperse that knowledge throughout the Census Bureau. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation among NSOs plays a fundamental role in our work.

By sharing our expertise and collaborating with staff from statistical offices from around the world, we foster partnerships and strengthen our programs through shared lessons learned. Most importantly, by working on a global scale with other agencies, we can help them (and they can help us) produce and disseminate quality statistics.

All NSOs have the same urgent need for good statistics; most are now working under the same premise of cheaper, faster, and with less staff. Working together to share best practices and lessons learned, and then communicating these across the organization, holds great potential for both the Census Bureau and our international partners. Working with our counterparts in different countries, we can learn from them, forge relationships, and innovate our programs.

Thank you,



Dr. Ron Jarmin,  
Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer



# Introduction

This strategy provides a framework for the Census Bureau's collaborative efforts with the international statistical<sup>1</sup> community. A framework will guide us on how to select the most appropriate international activities to pursue, based on our collaboration goals. We will need to decide how best to use the knowledge gained to improve and strengthen our programs.

## **The Census Bureau's International Collaboration Steering Committee defines international collaboration as:**

*"A process when two or more National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and/or international organizations work together to achieve a common goal by sharing knowledge, learning, and building consensus. Throughout this process, the participants seek opportunities to learn from each other and share their experiences, optimize existing opportunities, create new collaborative opportunities, and integrate the knowledge gained into their programs."*

Moving forward, many societal and technological changes will influence the way we conduct our work. We need technical expertise and prudent decision-making to select the most appropriate methods and technologies for our surveys and censuses. As an NSO, we will balance resources, funding, and data quality with participation and privacy concerns to complete our program deliverables. Many countries are facing similar challenges with their programs; greater international cooperation and collaboration among countries is needed to address these emerging and evolving trends.

Fostering effective partnerships with staff at other NSOs and international organizations can potentially reduce costs, create a stronger statistical and survey knowledge base, and strengthen our programs through shared best practices and lessons learned. As Census Bureau staff participate in these efforts, it is critical that they communicate the lessons learned with other Census Bureau staff.

We hope to gain a deeper understanding, through the collaborating countries, about their planning for their next round of censuses and surveys and

<sup>1</sup> We recognize that a National Statistical Office, in particular the Census Bureau, is comprised of a multitude of disciplines and fields, with staff having expertise in these different areas. Throughout the document, we use the terms NSO, the international statistical community, and statistics, in general, to refer to all of the disciplines required to accomplish the work of the Census Bureau.

then determine the issues, best practices, and ideas to consider for our own work. These opportunities provide an environment to exchange ideas, get feedback, and bring back information to share with Census Bureau staff. By making connections with staff from other statistical agencies, we are now in a better position to work more closely with these NSOs and strengthen one another's program plans and implementation.

In the long term, international collaboration may help frame our future vision of census- and survey-taking and the needed research to guide us to that vision. In the short term, collaboration may help determine specific research to conduct. It can also help guide early plans for future endeavors. Participating in the international arena has led to making connections and forming partnerships for collaboration. The potential cost savings and knowledge exchanged offer huge benefits to all of the involved NSOs.

## **This international strategy includes these sections:**

**Why Collaborate Internationally?** – Discusses why the Census Bureau needs to participate in the international statistical and geographic communities and the types of collaboration the Census Bureau is conducting.

**Links to the Department of Commerce and the Census Bureau Strategic Goals, Objectives, and Measures** – Describes how this strategy aligns with the strategic plans of the Department of Commerce and the Census Bureau, as well as other key strategic documents.

**Census Bureau's Vision for International Collaboration** – Specifies our vision for international collaboration.

**Making the Strategy Happen** – Presents the five perspectives from which we developed our goals and objectives and then expands the perspectives into five goals, associated objectives, and ways to measure our success.

**Delivering the Strategy** – Discusses the roles of the International Collaboration Steering Committee, Operating Committee, and staff working on international activities to ensure successful implementation of the strategy and measure our progress.

# U.S. Census Bureau's Vision, Perspectives, and Goals for International Collaboration



## International Collaboration Vision

We value our collaborative efforts and support our international partners around the world; we seek opportunities to learn from our mutual experiences, build capacity in other countries when requested, and integrate the resulting lessons learned and innovations into our programs to enhance them.

## International Collaboration Perspectives

1. Adopt an international engagement culture.
2. Build statistical capacity.
3. Let curiosity drive our efforts.
4. Be attentive to public policy and insights.
5. Encourage global partnerships.

## International Collaboration Goals

**Goal 1:** Foster the Census Bureau's active and strategic engagement within the international statistical community.

**Goal 2:** Support the census and survey work in developing countries by building statistical capacity, as requested, and learning from the work we do.

**Goal 3:** Benefit from methodological and technical advances from the global statistical community to enhance the Census Bureau's programs, processes, and products.

**Goal 4:** Balance the Census Bureau's International Collaboration Strategy with the U.S. State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development strategies.

**Goal 5:** Build and maintain cooperative international relationships within the global statistical community.

# We Collaborate Internationally

## Why Collaborate Internationally?

Since the 1940s, the Census Bureau has collaborated with other NSOs and international organizations, such as the United Nations. We have few, if any, counterparts doing exactly the same work we do in the United States. Therefore, we must collaborate with other countries and identify counterparts in their statistical systems to share ideas, get feedback, and learn from each other. We improve our own work by learning from the experience of other NSOs and sharing our own experiences with them.

We continue the tradition of international collaboration today. The International Programs area, Population Division (POP) and the International Collaboration Program staff, Office of Program, Performance, and Stakeholder Integration (PPSI) are two of the key Census Bureau areas conducting international work. (Appendix A details their principal roles and responsibilities.) Coordination and communication among the program areas and the work of these two offices are essential.

### The current types of international activities at the Census Bureau include:

- Conducting reimbursable projects.
  - Providing technical assistance/leading training sessions or workshops.
  - Sharing expertise on projects sponsored by international organizations such as the United Nations Statistics Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, UN Global Geospatial Information Management, and the International Association for Official Statistics—part of the International Statistical Institute.
  - Carrying out bilateral projects or multilateral cooperative projects (we reach out to provide assistance or ask for assistance and another country does the same).
  - Attending international meetings, workshops, conferences, and trade shows.
  - Participating in international working groups, expert groups, or steering groups.
- Conducting research projects with other NSOs or international organizations.
  - Preparing research papers with other NSOs or international organizations.
  - Addressing information requests from and to other countries.
  - Hosting international visitors to the Census Bureau.

One of our key international partners is the United Nations. In the *Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations*,<sup>2</sup> Principle 10 states: “Bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries.” This principle exemplifies the thinking behind this strategy and serves, in part, as the basis for it.

## Links to the Department of Commerce and the Census Bureau Strategic Goals, Objectives, and Measures

*The United States Department of Commerce Strategic Plan, FY 2018–2022, Helping the American Economy Grow*, identifies the department’s strategic goals and objectives. The second strategic goal is “Enhance Job Creation.” The fourth strategic goal is “Fulfill Constitutional Requirements and Support Economic Activity.” Achieving each of these goals will require and rely on accurate and quality data about the United States demography and economy. Improving our methodologies and processes will be enhanced through strategic international collaborative efforts.

The U.S. Census Bureau Strategic Plan - Fiscal Year 2018 Through Fiscal Year 2022, which links to the United States Department of Commerce Strategic Plan, shows our commitment to international collaboration across the organization in Goal 1: “Data Innovation—Implement cutting-edge statistical methods, sources, and products to anticipate a changing environment.”

<sup>2</sup> Extracted from the report of the UN Statistical Commission’s Special Session, held in New York, on April 11–15, 1994. Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 9. Available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/fundprinciples.aspx>

Objective 1.4 of this goal is “Learn from the international statistical and geographic communities and share our expertise globally.” The Census Bureau will foster active and strategic engagement within the international statistical community to share and receive knowledge and best practices to help our programs progress. The outcome for this objective states “Census Bureau programs, processes, and products are shared with and benefit from methodological and technical advances of the global statistical community.”

For the capacity-building work the Population Division conducts with support from other divisions, Goal 2 is key, as all of the division’s work is reimbursable. Goal 2 is Exceptional Customer Experience: Provide an exceptional end-to-end customer experience to our stakeholders, respondents, data users, and the public. Objective 2.3 of the goal states “Increase collaboration with reimbursable customers.” Outcome 2 for this objective is “Reimbursable sponsors continue to view Census Bureau data as a cost-effective way to generate critical, high-quality information for programs as well as to provide international technical assistance and capacity building.”

## Census Bureau’s Vision for International Collaboration

We value our collaborative efforts and support our international partners around the world; we seek opportunities to learn from our mutual experiences, build capacity in other countries when requested, and integrate the resulting lessons learned and innovations into our programs to enhance them.

## Making the International Collaboration Strategy Happen

To achieve the strategy, we will focus on five views, or perspectives, for international collaboration. Together they describe the way we conduct our international collaboration and the way we will work within the international statistical community. The purpose is to provide an effective way to exchange ideas, strengthen our programs, and enhance our role across the international statistical community while improving statistical capacity for those countries seeking our assistance. Ensuring the most knowledgeable staff are working strategically to collaborate with the most appropriate countries and international organizations underlies the strategy.

The following model illustrates the relationship between the perspectives and goals; the next section of the strategy provides further explanation. Each perspective has a goal and objectives. All perspectives (and the underlying goals) are of equal value and must be in balance to achieve the goals. The model is interactive—all of the parts have to work together to deliver the international strategy.

# Making the International Collaboration Strategy Happen







## Perspective 1: Adopt an International Engagement Culture

This is an inwardly focused perspective on the organizational culture of the Census Bureau to determine where we are with international collaboration and what we have to do to reach our potential in the international statistical community and the derived benefits. To fully engage in the international statistical community, we need to adopt a culture where international collaboration is viewed as a part of the work we do. By doing this, we will gradually create an internal shift in our culture in how we relate to other NSOs, understand the benefits of collaboration, and identify incremental improvements to our work through shared lessons learned and innovations.

Our success will be measured by our ability to change the culture needed within the Census Bureau to effectively engage with the international statistical community to support this strategy.

### **Goal 1:**

Foster the Census Bureau's active and strategic engagement within the international statistical community.

### **Objectives:**

- 1.1: Identify strategic partnerships to support the agency's mission and the directorates' work.
- 1.2: Guard against insular thinking by thinking globally.
- 1.3: Seek opportunities to learn from other countries, share our experiences, and integrate the knowledge gained into our programs.
- 1.4: Shift the paradigm when collaborating with developed countries from: "Here is how you do this" to "How do you do that?"
- 1.5: Evaluate our international efforts periodically by measuring our progress and recalibrating our strategy for international collaboration.



## Perspective 2: Build Statistical Capacity

This is an outwardly focused view of our involvement with developing countries in support of their need to build or improve statistical capacity to produce unbiased statistics for their countries' decision-making. For decades, the Census Bureau has provided technical assistance to other countries. With the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, the world is seeing an unprecedented increase in the need to build statistical capacity. Our aim is to increase our partnership with other federal agencies, international organizations, and countries by providing technical assistance to support each other and improve our statistical capacity-building efforts.

Our success will be measured by the services, advice, and support we provide to countries to develop their statistical skills so they can confidently conduct their national censuses or periodic surveys. In the process, we will bring back new ideas to consider for our programs.

### **Goal 2:**

Support the census and survey work in developing countries by building statistical capacity, as requested, and learning from the work we do.

### **Objectives:**

2.1: Use Census Bureau expertise to help developing countries build their census and survey skills and use of technology to assist their collection, processing, and data dissemination (for example, provide assistance, consultation, or training as requested).

2.2: Develop or strengthen partnerships with United Nations (UN) agencies and other international organizations, such as the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to leverage their outreach efforts and resources through collaboration.

2.3: Continue to collaborate in UN-led initiatives that support statistical capacity-building in the developing world; for example, the UN's development of handbooks and manuals, regional workshops, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Initiative.

2.4: Coordinate activities between Census Bureau programs and offices, such as the International Collaboration Program staff, the Office of Program, Performance, and Stakeholder Integration, and International Programs, Population Division so that the appropriate representatives can attend relevant meetings and working groups to support capacity-building and the work we are doing with the developed world.



## Perspective 3: Let Curiosity Drive Our Efforts

This perspective is focused on our collaborative efforts with NSOs in the developed world. The world is becoming smaller. Methodological and technological advances are happening ever faster. We need to stay curious. By working with the international statistical community, we can enhance the Census Bureau's programs, processes, and products. This will require identifying opportunities by listening to others about their lessons learned and their best practices. Then we will need to determine how to incorporate the most appropriate of these into our programs.

Our success will be measured by the benefits we derive from continually improving our programs through incorporating shared best practices, lessons learned, and innovations from our international collaborative efforts.

### **Goal 3:**

Benefit from methodological and technical advances from the global statistical community to enhance the Census Bureau's programs, processes, and products.

### **Objectives:**

3.1: Identify and seek opportunities for collaboration with other NSOs that will advance Census Bureau programs to keep them current with international methodological and technological innovations.

3.2: Identify strategic contacts for program areas at other NSOs, as entry points for our collaborative efforts.

3.3: Develop a repository for knowledge-sharing across the Census Bureau of best practices and lessons learned from collaborative projects.

3.4: Incorporate lessons learned and best practices gained from collaboration with other NSOs and international organizations to bring Census Bureau's programs in alignment with the most innovative thinking in the global statistical community.

3.5: Share proven benefits of reuse to gain buy-in, acceptance, and support of our international collaboration from Census Bureau leadership.



## Perspective 4: Be Attentive to Public Policy and Insights

This perspective addresses our relationship with key U.S. federal offices that support and sometimes set policies/parameters in which we pursue our collaborations and interact with the international statistical community.

Our success will be measured by our awareness and understanding of those agencies and organizations involved with public policy and their insights to assist us as we tackle the challenges set forth in this strategy.

### **Goal 4:**

Balance the Census Bureau's International Collaboration Strategy with the U.S. State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) strategies.

### **Objectives:**

4.1: Align Census Bureau international strategic goals with the State Department and USAID strategic goals to support international efforts across the federal government.

4.2: Develop and maintain contacts at the State Department to have readily available consultants on foreign policy issues that impact Census Bureau work and collaboration with other countries.

4.3: Develop and maintain contacts at USAID and other key international organizations to better position our endeavors in the international community.

4.4: Provide leadership to activities advancing statistical objectives across countries.



## Perspective 5: Encourage Global Partnerships

This is an externally focused view of key stakeholders who support or enable our international work. These stakeholders are other U.S. federal statistical and nonstatistical agencies, the Office of the U.S. Chief Statistician (Office of Management and Budget), international entities, and others. From these relationships, we are able to create new partnerships and improve existing partnerships.

Our success will be measured by our competence in building acceptance and trust to form and maintain partnerships within the global statistical community that allow us to achieve the goals set forth in this strategy.

### **Goal 5:**

Build and maintain cooperative international relationships within the global statistical community.

### **Objectives:**

5.1: Communicate the International Collaboration Strategy to Census Bureau staff and key stakeholders to ensure awareness of our direction and the benefits of this work among the global statistical community.

5.2: Strengthen or maintain existing relationships with other countries' NSOs and relevant international organizations, such as the UN Statistics Division and the UN Statistical Commission.

5.3: Establish meaningful bilateral and multilateral agreements with strategically selected NSOs and international organizations (if applicable) to accomplish our vision.

5.4: Consult with other U.S. federal statistical and nonstatistical agencies to gain insight into their international work (for example, their international collaborations, their tools and techniques) and use this knowledge to improve our collaborative efforts. Engage the Federal Statistical System Forum on International Partnerships (FSSFIPs) as a starting point for this consultation.

5.5: Leverage the support of the U.S. chief statistician to endorse our role in the international statistical community and keep her/him apprised of our work.

# Delivering the Strategy

This strategy is a change to the way we view and perform international activities at the Census Bureau. It sets out our vision, perspectives, goals, and objectives and provides a framework for how we strategically work within the international statistical community. It is not detailed, step-by-step instructions for everything that we will encounter or need to do to accomplish our goals. The strategy will be a living document and will be refined as we move through this process and assess how the framework is working. Along the way, we will need to make adjustments and measure (quantitatively but more likely qualitatively) our progress.

We need to ensure that all of those involved—at the Census Bureau, in international activities, and now and in the future—are made aware of the strategy and how they may contribute to refining the framework.

A few groups will have specific roles and responsibilities in the implementation and monitoring of the strategy's progress:

## **Operating Committee Members and Senior Management**

The role of the Census Bureau's Operating Committee and all senior management is to be fully informed about this strategy and brief their staff, at all levels of the agency, on it. The strategy is a change in how we conduct international activities. It is the role of management to assist staff in becoming familiar with this strategy, considering how it may affect their work, and being change agents for the strategy.

The Operating Committee, as stated in the International Collaboration Steering Committee charter, is briefed twice a year by the International Collaboration Steering Committee chair. At the briefings, the progress of the strategy will be presented, and the Operating Committee may recommend and approve changes to the strategy.

The deputy director, as the executive sponsor of the International Collaboration Steering Committee, will be kept informed about the strategy's progress prior to the Operating Committee presentations.

## **International Collaboration Program staff (ICPS) and the International Collaboration Program manager**

The ICPS performs an essential role in the international work of the Census Bureau. In part, the staff is responsible for coordinating the Census Bureau's international activities and helping employees to effectively engage with the international statistical community.

For the strategy, the ICPS and the International Collaboration Programs manager will oversee, in conjunction with staff from the Public Information Office, the initial rollout of the strategy, and when needed, brief Census Bureau staff and stakeholders on the strategy.

The International Collaboration Program manager serves as the chair of the International Collaboration Steering Committee (ICSC) and briefs the Operating Committee twice a year on the work of the ICSC. He/she will at one of those meetings also report on the progress of the strategy's implementation and outcomes.

As the coordinator of the Network for International Collaborators (NIC) affinity group, the International Collaboration Program manager can encourage NIC to assist with the rollout of the strategy and to help monitor and assess the strategy.

The ICPS will review the strategy on an annual basis and propose revisions to the Operating Committee, after consulting with International Collaboration Steering Committee. The International Collaboration Program manager will revise the strategy, as needed, following approval of changes by the Operating Committee.

## **International Collaboration Steering Committee (ICSC)**

The ICSC plays an integral role in the implementation and monitoring of the strategy's success. The committee members will report any issues or difficulties in the adoption or implementation of the strategy within their directorates. They will also report on the success of each of the goals and any suggestions on improving the process or the

strategy. They are the conduits of the change and strategy for their directorates. At regular intervals, the ICSC will also monitor the strategy and provide data to measure our progress. They may also suggest revisions to the strategy based on their directorate needs and to help improve the implementation, as needed.

The ICSC will also assist the chair in preparing the status of the strategy to the Operating Committee.

### **Staff Working on International Activities**

Staff across the Census Bureau who work on international activities will be briefed on the strategy. They are responsible for ensuring their work is in compliance with the strategy and ensure enactment of it.

Through their directorate representatives to the ICSC, Census Bureau staff can inform the committee about feedback on the strategy and any concerns or successes.

They may also participate at the NIC and, at designated meetings, provide feedback and share examples of how they are implementing the strategy.

# Appendix A: Overview of the Key Census Bureau International Areas

## International Statistical Community Collaborative Programs

### *Office of Program, Performance, and Stakeholder Integration*

The International Collaboration Program staff (ICPS) coordinates the Census Bureau's international activities and assists Census Bureau employees, at all levels, to effectively engage with the international community. ICPS builds relationships with other National Statistical Offices to provide opportunities to exchange ideas, best practices and learn from each other. ICPS develops tools to share this information across the organization to strengthen its programs. The staff's responsibilities include international cooperation for the U.S. Federal Statistical System, across the Census Bureau and within the international community.

#### **International Statistical Community Collaborative Programs, Including Point of Contact for the Office of the U.S. Chief Statistician, Office of Management and Budget (OMB):**

- Initiate, prepare, and maintain Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with other countries, when needed.
- Contact for information and data requests from other NSOs and international organizations, such as OECD, Eurostat, UNECE, UNSD.
- Build and maintain global relationships to advance the Census Bureau's mission.
- Coordinate and track international work across the agency.
- Seek opportunities for Census Bureau cooperative efforts with other NSOs and international organizations.
- Prepare, implement, and monitor the Census Bureau's enterprise-wide International Strategy.
- Sponsor and coordinate the Network for International Collaborators (NIC), an affinity group for participants to discuss their current international work.

- Chair and coordinate the International Collaboration Steering Committee (ICSC) with representatives from each of the directorates.

#### **Federal Statistical System-Wide International Collaboration Programs**

Cochair with International Programs (POP) the Federal Statistical System (FSS) Forum for International Partnerships; group comprised of international officers and heads of capacity building across the FSS. The goal is to share lessons learned and address common issues faced by all of the agencies working in the international community.

Coordinate the Census Bureau's annual submission and periodic updates, as requested by OMB, to the International Activities Inventory (IAI), which is a tool to help OMB and agencies of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy identify international work conducted across the FSS. The IAI is also a resource to learn more about specific international activities.

#### **Global Programs Visitors**

- Serve as directorate/departmental sponsor for global visitors to the Offices of the Director or Deputy Director.
- Organize and implement programs for international visitors meeting with more than one directorate.
- Screen requests from potential global visitors (vet unsolicited foreign national visitors).
- Coordinate high-level visitors to the Census Bureau (for example, chief statisticians, heads of NSOs).
- Implement special procedures during the visits of foreign dignitaries.
- Coordinate participation from program areas to meet with and/or make presentations to international visitors. Prepare meeting agenda.



## Assistance With International Travel Approval

- Prepare periodic data calls for international travel to assist the deputy director in the international travel approval process.
- Prescreen international travel requests prior to the deputy director's review and approval/denial through the International Travel Authorization (ITA) system.

## Reporting on International Activities

- Prepare ongoing reports on our international work for the OMB, the State Department, the Department of Commerce (DOC) and other federal agencies.
- Maintain and update a SharePoint page with essential information and links for international collaborators.

## International Programs Population Division

The International Programs area of Population Division provides capacity building to statistical agencies around the world through technical assistance, training, and software products. The area draws on expertise from across the Census Bureau in these projects. It also conducts demographic, economic, and geographical studies of other countries. For over 60 years, the Census Bureau has performed international analytical work and assisted in the collection, processing, analysis, dissemination, and use of statistics with counterpart governments in over 100 countries. This work is funded on a reimbursable basis from various agencies such as USAID, the United Nations, and the World Bank.

The international area develops, supports, and maintains:

- CSPro (Census and Survey Processing System), a software product used by over 100 countries worldwide for census and survey processing.
- The International Data Base, containing estimates and projections for countries and areas of the world with a population of 5,000 and more.
- The HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data Base, a compilation of information from widely scattered small-scale surveys on the AIDS pandemic and HIV seroprevalence.
- TASC (Tool for Assessing Statistical Capacity).

- DAPPS (Demographic Analysis and Population Projection System).
- Workshops at the Census Bureau.

## Travel Management and Policy Branch Finance Division

The Travel Management and Policy Branch in the Finance Division manages the Census Bureau's domestic and international travel program. The office provides travel guidance and assistance in accordance with the *Department of Commerce (DOC) Travel Handbook* and federal travel regulations; develops internal policies and procedures for implementing federal travel regulations and systems; reports required foreign travel data to the DOC; manages passports as servicing agents of the Department of State; processes visas according to individual embassy requirements; reviews and conducts final travel approval for international trips to ensure the trips include international travel authorizations and needed training certificates as requested by the Department of State; ensures that trips including nonfederally sponsored activity (NFS, formerly Gifts and Bequests) comply with travel regulations, contain the needed documentation to move forward, and must be approved by the Finance Division; oversees the travel charge card program for all travelers and serves as the liaison between the travel community, DOC, and the external vendor; and is responsible for relocation processing, including submitting survey data to the Government Services Administration timely and accurately. The international travel program includes:

**E2 Solutions**, which is the travel-booking tool used at the Census Bureau. It provides a convenient, user-friendly way to manage all aspects of travel for organizations that follow federal travel regulations.

**Issuance of official United States passports** for Census Bureau travelers prior to travel overseas.

**Assistance with visa applications and processing** for travel to countries requiring a visa to meet entry requirements.

**Country clearance cables (CCC)**, which are a means of communicating with the foreign diplomatic network and are required when traveling internationally. The traveler is required to complete the CCC electronically and must have approval from the State Department prior to departure.

# Appendix B: Examples of International Organizations Collaborating With the Census Bureau

These are international organizations that the Census Bureau collaborates with on a continual basis.

## **Association of National Census and Statistics Directors of America, Asia, and the Pacific (ANCSDAAP)**

The mission of ANCSDAAP is to foster communication and cooperation in the collection and analysis of statistical information on human populations. The association conducts conferences, research, and other activities relevant to its mission. Participants in association activities include heads of national census and statistical offices, representatives from other relevant regional and international organizations, and researchers and other persons interested in the association's activities.

## **Department for International Development (DFID)**

Leads the United Kingdom's (UK) work to end extreme poverty. DFID is tackling the global challenges of our time, including poverty and disease, mass migration, insecurity and conflict. The work is building a safer, healthier, more prosperous world for people in developing countries and the UK, too.

**The Econometric Society** – The Econometric Society is an international society for the advancement of economic theory in its relation to statistics and mathematics. The main activities of the society are:

- Publication of the journals *Econometrica*, *Quantitative Economics*, and *Theoretical Economics*.
- Publication of a research monograph series.
- Organization of scientific meetings in six regions of the world.

## **European Survey Research Association (ESRA)**

The ESRA was established in 2008 to provide coordination in the field of survey research in Europe and to foster and enhance links between European survey researchers and their colleagues in other parts of the world. The core mission of ESRA is, therefore, to encourage communication and interaction between researchers with the ultimate objective of improving the quality of survey research

and encouraging its appropriate use in academic, policy, and commercial research. ESRA's main activities are organizing a biennial conference on survey research and publishing the journal *Survey Research Methods*.

**Eurostat** – Is the statistical office of the European Union. Situated in Luxembourg, its task is to provide the European Union with statistics at the European level that enable comparisons between countries and regions. Eurostat's mission: To be the leading provider of high quality statistics on Europe.

## **Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**

Works to improve lives in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through financial and technical support for countries working to reduce poverty and inequality, IDB helps improve health and education, and advance infrastructure. The aim is to achieve development in a sustainable, climate-friendly way. With a history dating back to 1959, today IDB is the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean. IDB provides loans, grants, and technical assistance and conducts extensive research. IDB maintains a strong commitment to achieving measurable results and the highest standards of increased integrity, transparency, and accountability.

**International Monetary Fund (IMF)** – The IMF is an organization of 189 countries working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world. Created in 1945, the IMF is governed by and accountable to the 189 countries that make up its near-global membership.

The IMF's primary purpose is to ensure the stability of the international monetary system—the system of exchange rates and international payments that enables countries (and their citizens) to transact with each other. The IMF's mandate was updated in 2012 to include all macroeconomic and financial sector issues that bear on global stability.

### **International Organization for Standardization**

**(ISO)** – The ISO is an independent, non-governmental international organization with a membership of 162 national standards bodies. Through its members, it brings together experts to share knowledge and develop voluntary, consensus-based, market relevant International Standards that support innovation and provide solutions to global challenges.

**International Statistical Institute (ISI)** – The ISI mission is to promote the understanding, development, and good practice of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. The ISI pursues its mission by:

- Promoting excellence in statistical research and research training.
- Promoting excellence in statistical education.
- Promoting excellence in the practice of statistics.
- Supporting the international statistical community in promoting the establishment and maintenance of sound statistical institutions.
- Fostering the appreciation in governments and the public at large of the true value of statistics and statistical methods to all aspects of human endeavor.
- Facilitating collaboration among diverse groups of ISI members and among statistical societies and other national and international organizations having statistical interests.
- Providing coordinating services, such as a broad-based Web site, biennial sessions, appropriate publications, promotion of professional standards, outreach programs, and affiliation with other international bodies.
- Continually evolving and developing new initiatives to maintain leadership of an evolving discipline in changing environments.

The ISI has under its umbrella seven specialized associations that for the most part operate as independent organizations. Two of the associations are the IOAS and the IASS.

### **The International Association for Official Statistics (IOAS)**

– The IOAS is an international organization that brings together producers and users of official statistics. Its objectives are to promote the understanding and advancement of official statistics and to foster the development of effective and efficient official statistical services on a global basis.

### **International Association of Survey Statisticians**

**(IASS)** – The IASS aims to promote the study and development of the theory and practice of sample surveys and censuses. It also aims to increase the interest in surveys and censuses among statisticians, governments and the public in the different countries of the world.

### **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**

– The mission of the OECD is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. The OECD provides a forum in which governments can work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common problems. The OECD works with governments to understand what drives economic, social, and environmental change. They measure productivity and global flows of trade and investment. They analyze and compare data to predict future trends and set international standards on a wide range of things, from agriculture and tax to the safety of chemicals.

### **Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH)**

– The PAIGH is a technical and scientific body of the Organization of American States specializing in the areas of cartography, geography, history and geophysics. For 80 years, the organization has promoted collaboration throughout the Americas by sponsoring conferences, publishing journals and organizing workshops. Comprising over 21 member states represented by their respective officers, PAIGH encourages, coordinates and publicizes, cartographic, geographic, geophysical, and historical studies as well as related sciences of interest to the Americas.

### **Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS 21)**

– The PARIS21 promotes the better use and production of statistics throughout the developing world. Since its establishment in 1999, PARIS21 has successfully developed a worldwide network of statisticians, policy makers, analysts, and development practitioners committed to evidence-based decision making. With the main objective to achieve national and international development goals and reduce poverty in low and middle income countries, PARIS21 facilitates statistical capacity development, advocates for the integration of reliable data in decision making, and coordinates donor support to statistics.

**The World Association for Public Opinion**

**Research (WAPOR)** – For 70 years, the WAPOR has promoted the highest professional standards, ethics and techniques for polling around the world. Their international membership represents the industry’s most respected names in the survey and public opinion research field. Through publications, seminars, meetings and educational initiatives they engage in a rich ongoing conversation about how best to collect data and maintain data quality not just in advanced democracies, but also in emerging democracies.

**The World Bank (WB)** – The World Bank Group is one of the world’s largest sources of funding and knowledge for developing countries. Its five institutions share a commitment to reducing poverty, increasing shared prosperity, and promoting sustainable development.

# Appendix C: Select United Nations' Units Collaborating With the Census Bureau

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** – UNICEF promotes the rights and well-being of every child, in everything we do. Together with their partners, they work in 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focusing special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children, to the benefit of all children, everywhere.

**UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)** – The UNECE was established in 1947 by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). It is one of five regional commissions of the United Nations. The others are the:

- [Economic Commission for Africa \(ECA\)](#)
- [Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific \(ESCAP\)](#)
- [Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean \(ECLAC\)](#)
- [Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia \(ESCWA\)](#)

UNECE's major aim is to promote Pan-European economic integration. To do so, it brings together [56 countries](#) located in the European Union, non-EU Western and Eastern Europe, South-East Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and North America. All these countries dialogue and cooperate under the aegis of UNECE on economic and sectorial issues. However, all interested United Nations Member States may participate in the work of UNECE. Over 70 international professional organizations and other non-governmental organizations take part in UNECE activities.

**UN Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM), Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information** – provides a forum for coordination and dialogue among representatives of both statistical and geospatial communities with a view to developing a global statistical-geospatial framework as a standard for the integration of statistical and geospatial information. Objectives include:

- To propose work plans and guidelines to advance the implementation of a global statistical-geospatial framework so that there is increased information to support social, economic and environmental policy decision making, including at the sub-national level;

- To address various technical, institutional and information policy issues related to implementation of a global statistical-geospatial framework, especially issues related to confidentiality; and
- To pursue the implementation of the statistical-geospatial framework in the 2020 Round of Censuses with the understanding it would apply to other initiatives including other censuses, such as agriculture censuses, economic censuses, etc., and global initiatives such as the Post-2015 Development Agenda and Big Data.

**UNECE Expert Group on Population and Housing Censuses** – Led by the Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses; the objectives are to:

- Coordinate, provide advice and contribute to the UNECE program on population and housing censuses, aimed at supporting UNECE member countries in the preparations for the censuses of the next round of censuses and the implementation of the CES Recommendations for the current round of population and housing censuses; and
- Prepare an in-depth analysis on the future of population and housing censuses after the 2020 round, building on the work done at the European Union level. This analysis will inform the recommendations for the 2030 round of censuses.

**UN-GGIM, Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Americas Regional Committee** – The aim of the UN-GGIM Americas Regional Committee is to determine regional issues relevant to the management of statistical and geospatial information, in line with the global challenges especially in the context of sustainable development and humanitarian assistance.

**UN High Commission for Refugee (UNHCR)** – The UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is a United Nations program with the mandate to protect refugees, forcibly displaced communities and stateless people, and assist in their voluntary repatriation, local integration or resettlement to a third country.

**UN Population Division (UNPD)** – The UNPD was established in the earlier years of the United Nations to serve as the Secretariat of the then Population Commission, created in 1946.

Over the years, the Division has played an active role in the intergovernmental dialogue on population and development, producing constantly updated demographic estimates and projections for all countries, including data essential for the monitoring of the progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, developing and disseminating new methodologies, leading the substantive preparations for the United Nations major conferences on population and development as well as the annual sessions of the Commission on Population and Development.

**UN Population Fund (UNFPA)** – The UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Their mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person’s potential is fulfilled.

**UN Statistics Division (UNSD)** –The UNSD is committed to the advancement of the global statistical system. They compile and disseminate global statistical information, develop standards and norms for statistical activities, and support countries’ efforts to strengthen their national statistical systems. They facilitate the coordination of international statistical activities and support the functioning of the United Nations Statistical Commission as the apex entity of the global statistical system. The UNSD’s main functions are:

1. The collection, processing, and dissemination of statistical information.
2. The standardization of statistical methods, classifications, and definitions.
3. The technical cooperation program.
4. The coordination of international statistical programs and activities.

**UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (UNSIAP)** – To strengthen, through practically oriented training of official statisticians, the capability of the developing members and associate members and economies in transition of the region to collect, analyze and disseminate statistics as well as to produce timely and high quality statistics that can be utilized for economic and social development planning, and to assist those developing members and associate members and economies in transition in establishing or strengthening their statistical training capability and other related activities.

**Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers** – The Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers is an international expert group under the umbrella of the UN Statistical Commission engaged in further development of business registers, survey frames, and associated topics. The group provides a forum for the exchange of views and experiences and the conduct of joint work related to the development, maintenance and use of business registers.

# Appendix D: Examples of Informal International Groups Collaborating With the Census Bureau

**Comparative Survey Design and Implementation (CSDI)** – The CSDI was founded in 2002 in Brussels at a meeting of researchers active in cross-national or cross-cultural survey research. The main goal of CSDI is improve comparative survey design, implementation and related analysis. The workshop provides a forum and platform for researchers involved in research relevant for comparative survey methods.

**International Blaise Users Group (IBUG)** – The International Blaise User Group (IBUG) is an informal group that brings together people and organizations who use Blaise software in survey data collection and data processing. The purpose of IBUG is to promote the use of the Blaise software and to serve as a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas and experiences. IBUG has a chairman but no other officials. The IBUG was founded at the first International Blaise User Conference (IBUC) in 1992. The most visible activity of IBUG is a conference which is organized roughly every 18 months and which currently alternates between Europe and North America.

**International Census Forum (ICF)** – The National Statistical Office (NSO) members are from the English-speaking countries of the UNECE: United Kingdom (Great Britain, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland), the Republic of Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United States. The forum meets every 15 to 18 months and is the mechanism for the NSOs to conduct annual census information exchanges on current work and to strengthen rapport and cooperation between the participating NSOs. Between meetings, the ICF countries, through their liaison, exchange information about census planning and operations and participates in environmental scan teleconferences.

**Kimberley Process (KP)** – The KP is an international certification scheme that regulates trade in rough diamonds. It aims to prevent the flow of conflict diamonds, while helping to protect legitimate trade in rough diamonds. The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) outlines the rules that govern the trade in rough diamonds. The KPCS has developed a set of minimum requirements that each participant must meet. The KP is not, strictly speaking, an international organization: it has no permanent offices or permanent staff. It relies on the contributions—under the principle of

‘burden-sharing’—of participants, supported by industry and civil society observers. Neither can the KP be considered as an international agreement from a legal perspective, as it is implemented through the national legislations of its participants. The Census Bureau is the chair.

**North American Industry Classification System/ North American Product Classification System (NAICS/NAPCS) Trilateral Steering Committee** – Participates in trilateral negotiations on the NAICS and NAPCS maintenance. It results in improved comparability of statistics across countries that use NAICS and NAPCS and across countries that publish data using international classification systems that concord with NAICS and NAPCS.

**North American Transportation Statistics Interchange (NATS)** – The NATS is a trilateral collaboration for the development of comparable information on transportation in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. NATS Interchange members publish a common set of statistics and supporting technical documentation.

**Questionnaire Evaluation Standards (QUEST)** – The QUEST network was established in 1997. Participants of the QUEST group are those currently involved in survey question and instrument evaluation. The core of the group consists of members from federal statistical agencies and research organizations. New methodology is presented and discussed at each QUEST workshop, which is held every 18 months. The general aim of the QUEST workshops is to discuss questionnaire evaluation theory and practices to identify effective and efficient methods for evaluating new or existing surveys. The workshop is intended for active practitioners of questionnaire evaluation research. The most important aspect of the workshop is to share experiences with fellow researchers.

**Voorburg Group (VG)** – The VG addresses issues related to the production of service statistics. For 30 years, representatives from national statistical agencies have met to address selected problems in statistical methods. The experience with the VG has shown that the international community can benefit greatly from such a process. These informal consultative groups are an innovative way to use country resources to improve and speed up the international standards development process.

# Appendix E: Additional International Resources

**United Nations Statistics Division:**

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>

**UNSD Census Knowledge Base:**

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/censuskb20/Knowledgebase.aspx>

**UN Economic Commission for Europe:**

[www.unece.org/](http://www.unece.org/)

**UN Economic Commission for Europe, Census Wiki:**

[www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/censuses/UNECE+Census+Wiki](http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/censuses/UNECE+Census+Wiki)

**National Statistical Offices:**

[www.census.gov/population/international/links/stat\\_int.html](http://www.census.gov/population/international/links/stat_int.html)



# Appendix F: Related International Collaboration Policies and Links

## **DOC Policy on Entering Into International Agreements and Treaties**

[www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao218\\_4.html](http://www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao218_4.html)

## **DOC Policy on Foreign National Visitor and Guest Access Program**

[www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao207\\_12.html](http://www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao207_12.html)

## **DOC Policy on Gifts and Decorations From Foreign Governments and to Foreign Individuals**

[www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao202\\_739.html](http://www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao202_739.html)

## **DOC Policy on Providing Statistical Information to International Organizations**

[www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao216\\_10.html](http://www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao216_10.html)

## **DOC Policy on Safeguarding Data While on Foreign Travel**

[https://intranet.ecm.census.gov/apps/policyportal/Policy%20Repository/Safeguarding\\_Information\\_Foreign\\_Travel.pdf](https://intranet.ecm.census.gov/apps/policyportal/Policy%20Repository/Safeguarding_Information_Foreign_Travel.pdf)

## **DOC Policy on Selecting United States Delegations to Multilateral International Conferences and Meetings**

[www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao201\\_43.html](http://www.osec.doc.gov/opog/dmp/daos/dao201_43.html)

## **Census Bureau's Site for International Travel**

[U.S. Census Bureau International Travel Authorization \(ITA\) Memo Home Page](#)

## **Census Bureau's International Travel Page of the Travel Management and Policy Branch**

<https://collab.ecm.census.gov/div/fin/intranet/Pages/International-Travel.aspx>

## **Census Bureau's International Travel Handbook**

<https://collab.ecm.census.gov/div/fin/intranet/Documents/Travel/International%20Travel%20Handbook%20-V2%203.2017.p>

# Contact Us

There are many reasons you may want to contact the Census Bureau. Please see our list of contacts to help decide which is best for you.

**Call Center:** 301-763-INFO (4636) or 800-923-8282, or [ask.census.gov](mailto:ask.census.gov).

**TDD:** TTY users can dial 1-800-877-8339 to use the Federal Relay Service.

**News Media:** 301-763-3030 or [pio@census.gov](mailto:pio@census.gov).

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## Mailing Addresses:

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U.S. Census Bureau  
4600 Silver Hill Road  
Washington, DC 20233

### FedEx, DHL, UPS, couriers, and suppliers (private carriers)

U.S. Census Bureau  
4600 Silver Hill Road  
Suitland, MD 20746

### Maps to the Census Bureau and of the Suitland Federal Center

[Maps and directions to the Census Bureau— Suitland Federal Center in Suitland, MD.](#)

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[Search for phone numbers and e-mail addresses of Census Bureau employees.](#)

### International Collaboration Program

Office of Program, Performance, and Stakeholder Integration

[Arona Pistiner, International Collaboration Program Manager](#)

### International Programs

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[Oliver Fischer, Assistant Division Chief for International Programs](#)

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