

BHUTAN - Agricultural Census 2000 - Explanatory Notes

Historical outline

The mandate for generation of the Renewable Natural Resource (RNR) statistics was decentralized to the Ministry of Agriculture in 1998. Since then, the Ministry has attempted two Renewable Natural Resources surveys. The first survey based on 10 percent sample was carried out in 1999 and the next one in 2000.

Organization

An Agricultural Census Steering Committee was established to guide the implementation of the census, comprised by the Heads of the Departments of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Trade and Industry. A Census Management Unit was created. The Head of the Statistics Unit along with four other Information Officers representing the three technical departments formed the core group.

Enumeration period

The enumeration took place from 21 May to 8 June 2002.

Reference date/period

The reference period was the year 2000.

Coverage

The Census was conducted in the whole country including kitchen gardens, but the achieved coverage was only 87 percent. Non-response was on account of seasonal migration, and being away on pilgrimage, business trip etc..

Frame

The RNR survey (Agricultural Census) 2000 is also expected to result in an improvement of the sample frame for the annual RNR survey.

Method

The Census was complete enumeration with no stratification adopted. Enumerators collected information from households, considered as the ultimate census units, through a set of structured questionnaires, by direct interview. Enumeration was conducted in each one of the 20 districts (*dzongkhag*) in which the country is administratively subdivided: once a *dzongkhag* was covered, the enumerators moved to the next until the entire enumeration was completed. Second round of enumeration was necessary to improve the response rate by covering the absentees during the first round.

Data source

Renewable Natural Resources Statistics 2000, (Volume I). Ministry of Agriculture, Royal Government of Bhutan, Thimphu, Bhutan.

Contact

Department of Planning, Ministry of Finance, Post Box 127, Thimphu, Bhutan. Tel.: (+975) 2 325 192, (+975) 2 325 850; Fax: (+975) 2 322 928.

Website

<http://www.dop.gov.bt/>