

## SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE - Agricultural Census 1990 - Explanatory Notes

**Historical outline:** The 1990 Agricultural Census of São Tomé and Príncipe follows the one undertaken in 1961-64 and published in 1968.

**Organization:** The Census was conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in collaboration with the Statistical Office of the Ministry of Economics and Statistics. Technical advice was also given by the Statistics Division of the Studies and Planning Office of the Ministry of Rural Development and Fisheries of the Republic of Cape Verde. Financial and technical assistance was also granted by the French Cooperation, the UN Development Program, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development; 130 enumerators and 6 supervisors participated in the collection of data.

**Enumeration period:** After a preparatory stage from April 1989 to January 1990, the field work was carried out during the period March - May 1990. Data processing and checking were carried out from June 1990 to July 1991.

**Reference date:** The reference period for all census items was the agricultural season 1989.

**Coverage:** All agricultural holdings for which the holder had the seat in the investigated Agricultural Zone were covered. The holdings to be enumerated were divided into three groups:

- a) Households growing crops or raising livestock mainly for home consumption;
- b) Government holdings;
- c) Roças (holdings operating under legal rights, with buildings and other agricultural infrastructures, generally growing permanent crops).

Holdings belonging to group (a) formed the Traditional Sector, while those belonging to groups (b) and (c) were considered as Modern Sector.

Excluded from the enumeration were:

- households residing in the agricultural zones but not practising agriculture;
- households living in the urban area of São Tomé.

**Frame:** For census purposes, the so-called Agricultural Zones were identified in the seven districts into which the country is administratively divided. These Agricultural Zones provided the enumeration frame for the agricultural holdings.

**Methods:** Holdings belonging to the Modern Sector (i.e. government holdings and estates/roças) were completely enumerated. Out of 13779 Traditional Sector holdings identified, 11874 were investigated. Data were collected by enumerators through direct interviews.

**Data source:** Republica Democratica de São Tomé e Príncipe - Ministerio da Agricultura e Desenvolvimento Rural - Recenseamento Agrícola 1990 - Março 1993.

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