



## **Innovative Approaches for Agricultural Census in Georgia**

### **ABSTRACT**

This paper reviews innovative approaches used in Georgia for Census of Agriculture. In November 2014 the National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat), for the first time, conducted Agricultural Census together with General Population Census. More precisely, there were four different censuses conducted at the same time: Housing Census, Population Census, Census of Emigrants and Agricultural Census.

Aiming at preparing high-quality digital maps for census data collection/dissemination and using financial means/time in more effective way, Geostat implemented Geographic Information System (GIS). At the first stage, GIS group, which was created at Geostat, developed GIS maps using cartographic material available in the country. A supplementary work was done to cover the territories where cartographic material was missing.

In order to minimize household/holding duplication and missing risks and effectively distribute work among census enumerators, Geostat conducted preliminary field works in 2013 and elaborated list of dwellings and households existing in Georgia. This information was digitalized and integrated to the cartographic data.

Census of Agriculture for Legal Entities was conducted separately from General Population Census and covered all legal entities engaged in agriculture. It was the first time that Geostat used web-based questionnaire for Census of Agriculture and all enterprises participating in the census filled in these questionnaires.

This paper will describe all benefits that Geostat received from conducting Census of Agriculture together with General Population Census, implementing GIS and using web-based questionnaires.

Keywords: Georgia, census, survey, statistics, agriculture

Author: **Maia Guntsadze**, Deputy Executive Director, National Statistics Office of Georgia.