



A UNFPA PROGRAMME SUPPORTED BY THE RUSSIAN
FEDERATION TO STRENGTHEN POPULATION DATA
COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND UTILIZATION FOR
EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY-MAKING IN THE CIS REGION



With financial support from
the Russian Federation

POPULATION DATA AND POLICYMAKING

Robust statistical systems to collect, analyse and utilize population data are essential for creating policies that enable societies to thrive in the face of the demographic trends being experienced in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

After the dissolution of the USSR, the all-Union centralized statistical system ceased to exist. As a result, in many countries of the former USSR, problems arose related to the national potential in the field of statistics, public perception of the role of population data in national development processes and, accordingly, the collection, analysis and utilisation of such data in the formation of national policy.

To strengthen such systems in the CIS region, UNFPA's Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia and the Russian Federation launched a three-year programme in 2019 to support policymakers in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The USD \$4 million programme builds on previous close collaborations by UNFPA and the Russian Federation, including an already-completed project in Belarus to boost national capacity to use demographic data in policy development and planning. A similar project is being implemented in Kyrgyzstan to prepare for the 2020/2021 population census and improve administrative data. A third national project is underway in Tajikistan, supporting the population census of 2020. The new regional programme aims to build upon and expand these models into a more regional approach, and to link regional population analysis to global dialogues on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Key partners for implementing the programme are the Federal State Statistics Service (RosStat), the Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS (CISStat), the Higher School of Economics, the Institute for Demographic Research of the Russian Academy of Science, the Charles University along with a range of other academic institutions, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD).

PROJECT SUMMARY

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

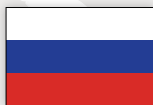


PROJECT BUDGET

4.1M

USD \$4,117,842

DONOR



Russian Federation

PROJECT PERIOD



(2019–2022)

PARTNERS



NATIONAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY



PROGRAMME GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Project Goal: To provide stronger data and evidence base for policy makers in CIS states by strengthening population data collection, analysis and utilization.

The programme's four key objectives will significantly boost the capacity of CIS states to understand, anticipate and manage population trends for sustained future development.



Objective 1. Supporting the 2020 round of Population and Housing Censuses according to international standards

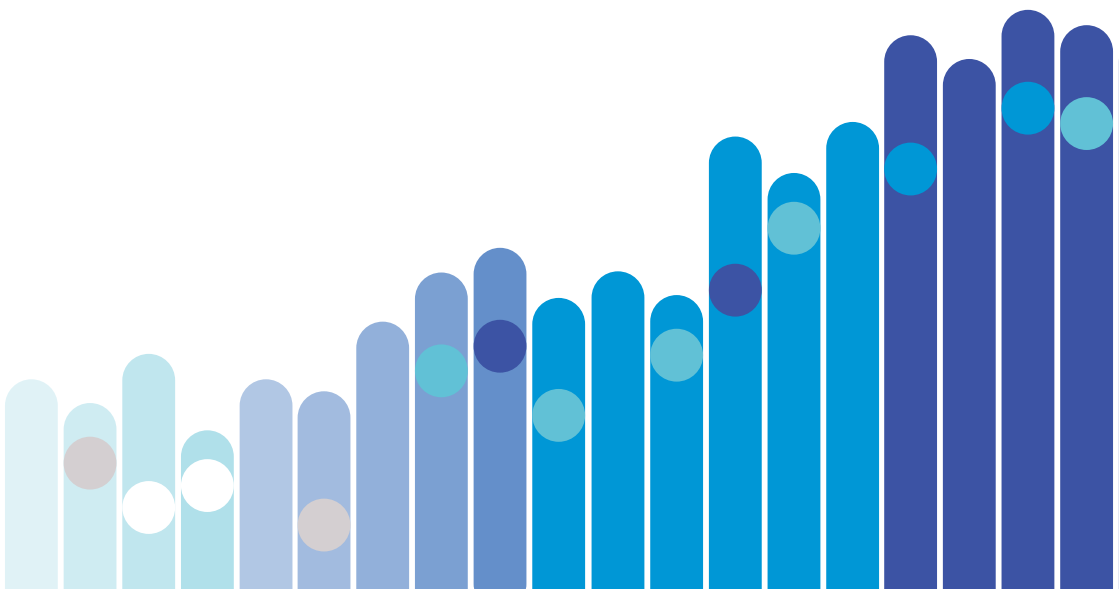
In most developing countries, censuses are the only reliable source of data on the size and spatial distribution of the population and its characteristics. By providing technical assistance and capacity-building, the programme aims to ensure that every CIS member state is able to conduct a national Population and Housing Census that meets international standards, with the data acquired made accessible in an open and timely manner.



Objective 2. Improving the analysis and utilization of population data

This two-pronged objective aims to strengthen national and subnational capacities to regularly update population projections while encouraging a more in-depth utilization of census results that is linked to social and economic outcomes. By integrating population dynamics into macroeconomic analysis, National Transfer Accounts (NTA) studies can assess the impacts of various policy options – such as birth incentives or pension reforms – on the national economy as well as on the well-being of individuals.

The project aims to establish a regional “centre of excellence,” the first in Eastern Europe and Central Asia for Russian-speaking countries, which would undertake NTA studies and help introduce the methodology in the CIS region while also fostering exchange of experiences with similar entities around the world.



Objective 3: Enhancing the regional dialogue and knowledge exchange on population data and development of evidence-based population policies

By highlighting at the regional level the experiences, lessons learned and good practices derived from country-level interventions, the programme aims to illustrate the importance of data collection, dissemination and analysis, and to initiate dialogue on addressing identified population trends. In order to facilitate knowledge exchange between entities in the CIS region and those from outside the region, UNFPA and the Russian Federation will co-host regional conferences on population and development as well as a technical working meeting for CIS Statistical Offices. To the same end, they will also develop effective communications materials, translate key international manuals and guidance documents into the Russian language, and advance the CIS regional perspective at international conferences, UN events and other forums.

Objective 4. Enhancing national capacities of CIS member states on sociodemographic knowledge and its application for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals

Ninety-three of the 230 SDG indicators depend on population data, and National Statistical Offices face daunting tasks in monitoring progress towards the various SDGs and Targets. The programme is expected to significantly enhance the availability, quality and timeliness of key components of SDG indicators related to population and development, particularly in the areas of youth, ageing, and gender statistics. UNFPA's network of academic institutions will be mobilized to implement a capacity-strengthening programme on measuring population-based SDG indicators.



KEY EXPECTED RESULTS



Census operations carried out in line with international standards in the countries supported by the project.



Regional **network** of practitioners established that conduct regular population and macroeconomic projections, with a positive impact on national development planning.



Increased capacity of practitioners to conduct regular **population projection** and **NTA analysis**.

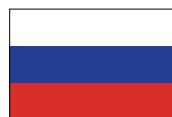


Better-informed policymakers in CIS countries on the subject of available and suitable options to address challenges presented by demographic dynamics.



Increased capacity of CIS member states to conduct **socioeconomic analysis** and **monitor SDG progress**.





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For more information: eeca.unfpa.org/cispop
cispop@unfpa.org