



Consortium Meeting, 17 and 18 October 2002

Census Task Team Report

By Richard Leete, Task Team Convenor

Publication of a report on *Mechanisms for Ensuring Continuity of 10-Year Population Censuses: Strategies for Reducing Census Costs* arising from the Pretoria November 2001 PARIS 21 meeting on censuses. Organisation and planning for a meeting on *Population Censuses: New directions and Cost-Saving Strategies to be held in Princeton New Jersey between 21-23 October 2002 to build in-house capacity building within UNFPA and also including some partner and donor countries, as well as members of the Inter-agency Coordinating Committee on Censuses for sub-Saharan Africa*. I suggest life-span of this Task Team should go at least until 2005, that is to the start of the new global round of censuses. Censuses are critical for building national statistical capacity building and for planning and policy making. Serious data gaps are inevitable without a recent census. With census data most of the population-based indicators required for monitoring the MDG's and for PRSPs and other frameworks can be gotten both nationally and sub-nationally. So censuses are integral to the evidence base for framing and monitoring poverty reduction strategies.