

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

(2021 Population & Housing Census postponed and planned for August 2022)

**14 JULY 2021**

**For immediate release**

## **POSTPONEMENT OF 2021 POPULATION & HOUSING CENSUS**

1. The Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) hereby announces that the 2021 Population & Housing Census has been postponed from August 2021 and now planned for August 2022. As earlier reported by one of the daily newspapers, this postponement is mainly due to competing priorities such as the current COVID-19 budget prioritisation.
2. The Population and Housing Census is conducted every ten years and includes various stages. For the past few years the NSA was busy with the planning of the various Census phases, which include Census Mapping (which entails the verification of all physical built up infrastructures countrywide which allows NSA to create and update various databases such as a Housing register, information about locations of schools, clinics and households, as well as indeed having a full framework to work with when the Census commences; just to mention a few.
3. At this stage, NSA has completed the household components of the Census Mapping whilst busy finalising the mapping of establishments and businesses. NSA had recruited 517 unemployed people to visit and verify 955,037 built-up structures countrywide during the Census Mapping project.
4. During the Census planning phase NSA managed to complete the Census Mapping exercise which included the visiting of each and every structure in the country to verify if these structures are used for habitat purposes or for business activities.

5. *The Census is now planned for August 2022 and we would like to, first and foremost, thank the entire nation for assisting and cooperating with our enumerators that visited your homes and businesses during the Census Mapping. We partly owe the success of the Census Mapping project to your cooperation and assistance.*
  
6. In the same vein, we would like to request the nation to continue supporting the NSA in the implementation of the next phase of the Census which is the “Pilot Census” planned to take place later this year. The Census Pilot serves as a test run for the actual Population and Housing Census and assists in readiness and smooth implementation. Given the uncertainty of the pandemic situation currently in the country NSA will be monitoring the COVID-19 situation as it unfolds and keep the nation updated and informed on the Census Pilot and actual Population Census enumeration phase.

I thank you.



**ALEX SHIMUAFENI**

**STATISTICIAN - GENERAL & CEO**

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# Media Release



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