

# **Improving Cost/Effectiveness and Relevance of Agricultural Censuses in Africa: Linking Population and Agricultural Censuses**

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Effective and updated sampling frames have been a major technical issue in many African Countries conducting Agricultural Censuses and Surveys. The paper will draw lessons from about 10 years experience in integrating an Agriculture Module in Population Censuses in Africa in order to obtain, in the most cost effective way, up-to-date and effective sampling frames for use in Sample Agriculture Censuses in Africa.

Linking the Population and Agriculture Censuses offers many advantages. The Agriculture Module on the census of Population provides complete enumeration and as an identical identifier is used for both Agricultural Households and Holdings, in-depth analysis using cross-tabulations of agricultural data with the socio-economic and demographic data from the Census of Population can be performed and data can be presented at detailed geographical level.

The paper will analyze the questions and variables most suitable for an Agriculture Module depending on the scope and data collection methods used during the Population Census. The paper also provides information on the type of analytical reports which can be derived from this combined operation.