

IPS189: Census of agriculture and COVID-19: impact and lessons

An international review of the effect of the pandemic on censuses of agriculture

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Abstract:

COVID-19 has affected censuses of agriculture both in developed and developing countries. However, some countries bore the brunt of the pandemic better than others. Earlier improvements in national statistical systems, a wide range of ICT solutions and use of administrative registers helped these countries to reduce their reliance on face-to-face interactions and favour online training and remote data collection. This will likely further accelerate the pace of innovation. For other countries, the experience underscored the need to improve the ICT infrastructure, diversify data collection methods, adopt elearning for training and make use of administrative registers in future census rounds.

Keywords:

COVID-19; census of agriculture; World Programme for the Census of Agriculture (WCA); remote data collection methods; administrative registers.