

# Economic Censuses in Egypt and the World (Background Paper)

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The economic census is considered a national project for most countries of the world; because of its importance in the provision of comprehensive frameworks for all enterprises and economic activities, as well as, the creation of databases for different economic activities at the state level. The economic census data is also used in estimating the national accounts. Its importance has increased dramatically with the growing role of unregulated economic activities whose data is unavailable in the business records. This study comes within the framework of preparatory work conducted by the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS) is currently the fourth economic census 2011/2012 to be held in 2013. Its interest in the application of scientific methodologies and benefit from international experiences in implementing the next stages of the economic census, where the study provides a description of the basic features of the economic census including; the concept of the census, its objectives, its scheduled period, the methodology of its implementation, and how to deploy and benefit from its results. The study also reviews the most important results of a questionnaire conducted by the United Nations in 2006 about the features of the economic censuses in different countries of the world. Finally, the study presents the Egyptian prior experiment in conducting economic censuses.

**Key Words:** UN survey 2006, Prior Experiment.