

**TECHNICAL-COOPERATION LOAN
PROGRAM TO SUPPORT THE YEAR 2000 NATIONAL POPULATION AND
HOUSING CENSUS**

(BO-0189)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Borrower and guarantor:	The Republic of Bolivia	
Executing agency:	Instituto Nacional de Estadística [National Statistics Institute] (INE)	
Amount and source:	IDB: (FSO)	US\$7.4 million
	Local:	US\$1.85 million
	Total:	US\$9.25million
Financial terms and conditions:	Amortization period:	40 years
	Grace period:	10 years
	Disbursement period:	3 years
	Interest rate:	1% for 10 years; 2% thereafter
	Inspection and supervision:	1%
	Credit fee:	.50%
Objectives:	<p>The general objective of the program is to support the Bolivian government, through the National Statistics Institute, in conducting the year 2000 national population and housing census (Census 2000).</p> <p>The specific objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. To provide INE with the human, material and financial resources it needs to ensure that census activities are carried out on schedule with the necessary quality levels; andb. To update the country's statistical maps which will be fundamental for organizing national agricultural and business censuses and to establish the sampling frame for future household surveys.	
Description:	Conducting a census is a complex operation that involves a large number of preparatory activities to ensure that on census day, all	

census personnel and documents are in the right place at the right time. In any country, a census is a large-scale operation that requires the mobilization of a host of people and materials (census forms) and logistical support. Therefore careful planning of all preparatory activities is necessary.

The proposed program is a technical-cooperation loan and consists of various components that cover the activities required to conduct a census and to obtain, analyze and disseminate census information. These components are divided into three stages: pre-census, census, and post-census.

The pre-census stage (US\$3.89 million) runs from the decision to conduct a census until it is carried out on the chosen date. It also includes management activities although, of course, they are present in all the stages of a census. The main components in this stage are: (a) planning and coordination; (b) design and testing of census instruments; (c) recruitment, training and selection of census takers; (d) publicity and public awareness campaigns; and (e) updating of statistical maps.

The census stage (US\$3.74 million) is the central activity in the process and should be carried out simultaneously in all parts of the country. It is the test of the quality of the planning carried out in the previous stage. The following components will be financed to ensure the success of the census: (a) preparation of the census plan to define the field work; (b) organization of synchronized mobilization of the human resources participating in the operation; (c) taking the census itself; and (d) delivery of the census forms to the distribution points.

The post-census stage (US\$1.5 million) includes data processing, analysis, dissemination and updating of the pre-census information and consists of the following components: (a) data processing; (b) census evaluation; (c) publication of the results; (d) geographic information system (GIS); and (e) preparation of a sampling frame.

Relationship of project to Bank country and sector strategy:

The Bank's strategy in Bolivia, which is consistent with the government priorities as established in the pillars of its 1997-2002 plan of action, has the key objective of poverty reduction, and includes three lines of action: (i) economic growth and the creation of opportunities (opportunity pillar); (ii) development of human capital and access to basic social services (equity pillar); and (iii) support for governance and consolidation of reforms (institutional pillar). The year 2000 national population and

housing census will serve as a basic tool to support these three lines of action, since it will provide indispensable information for policies to combat poverty and deliver social services, pinpoint investment opportunities and the potential for economic growth and furnish crucial information for good implementation of the Civic Participation Act.

Environmental and social review:

The program was examined by the Committee on Environment and Social Impact (CESI) and is not expected to have negative environmental or social impacts. On the contrary, the census information should make it possible to better identify pockets of poverty and areas with the greatest demand for or shortfalls in public services of all kinds (paragraph 4.4).

Benefits:

The program will entail a variety of benefits, since census information will be used for different purposes by public and private sector institutions and national and international agencies. It will also benefit Bolivians by facilitating the formulation and implementation of development policies, strategies, plans and programs. For smaller geographic units, such as the subdivisions of provinces (municipalities), cantons, municipal districts, etc., the census is virtually the only source of statistics, since surveys are not statistically representative on those levels and administrative records only report the supply of health, education and similar services.

Risks:

In the 1992 population and housing census, the main problem was the boycott of the census by some unions, although it was conducted successfully, with an estimated coverage failure of about 7%, which is similar to other countries in the region. For Census 2000 the situation is completely different, since changes in the country's political organization encourage participation in the census, the results of which will partly determine the allocation of resources to local governments (tax transfer payments) and the boundaries of electoral districts. Therefore steps must be taken to set up a well-controlled census organization, preventing alteration of the census forms or misrepresenting their numbers with the intent of boosting the population figures of a given geographic area.

Since the bulk of the human resources who will conduct the census (census takers and sector chiefs) are volunteers and work only in exchange for nonmonetary rewards (grades in the case of students, leave from work or accumulation of seniority points in the case of teachers or public servants), it will be necessary to minimize the risk of shortfalls or absenteeism among census takers by recruiting and training 10% more than the number

thought to be needed. With the same goal, the geographic reference for assigning census takers will be the zone in which they live and not the educational center where the volunteers study or work. This measure will reduce the risks of absenteeism and facilitate operational control and logistics.

Special contractual clauses:

Prior to the first disbursement, the executing agency will present evidence to the Bank's satisfaction that: (a) it has signed a subsidiary agreement with the Ministry of Finance establishing the terms and conditions for transferring the loan proceeds (paragraph 3.2); (b) it has signed contracts with the consultants who will form part of the census executing unit (paragraph 3.15); and (c) it has signed contracts with the consultants who will form part of the program administration unit (paragraph 3.16).

As a special contractual condition, the executing agency will present evidence to the Bank's satisfaction that it has contracted the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Center (CELADE) to provide technical assistance, no later than 30 days after the census has been conducted (paragraph 3.8).

Poverty-targeting and social sector classification:

This operation does not qualify as a social equity enhancing project, as described in the indicative targets mandated by the Bank's Eighth Replenishment (document AB-1704).

Exceptions to Bank policy:

See the section on procurement below.

Procurement:

Preparation and execution of Census 2000 will depend on the uninterrupted presence of 28 expert consultants who were contracted by INE in 1998 to begin pre-census activities. The technical consultants were hired following procedures similar to those of the Bank and the management consultants were appointed in accordance with Bolivian regulations currently in effect. Given their expertise in this field and their experience in conducting the 1992 census, replacements for them could not easily be found on the local market in the short term. Accordingly, it is recommended that proceeds from the loan be used to finance the continuation of these consultants' services owing to manifest technical need, as stipulated in the general procurement policy on consulting services.

Procurements will be made in accordance with Bank procedures. All consulting contracts over US\$200,000 will require an international open call for offers. Procurements of goods worth more than US\$350,000 will also be made through international

competitive bidding.

Given the large number of consulting services required for the program and to streamline its execution and facilitate supervision by the Country Office, it is recommended that the requirement of prior consultation with the Bank be enforced only in the case of the selection and hiring of consulting services and the purchase of goods costing more than US\$10,000. For lesser amounts, quotes will be required from at least three suppliers and a comparative table will be prepared. Based on similar considerations, it is also recommended that receipts be accepted to attest to the purchase of goods costing less than US\$2,000.