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Yes
 No

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Preliminary information

Q1. In which state or territory are you/your organisation based?

- ACT
- NSW
- Victoria
- Queensland
- South Australa
- Western Australia
- Tasmania
- Northern Australia
- Overseas (Please Specify:)

Note: For organisations with offices at more than one location please tick the state or territory where your head office is located.

Q2. Are you completing this questionnaire as a private individual or as a representative of an organisation?

- Private individual – not representing any organisation
- Representative of an organisation

Q3. Which sector best describes your organisation?

- Government Sector – Federal
- Government Sector – State
- Government Sector – Local
- Private sector (fewer than 20 employees)
- Private sector (20 or more employees)
- Other (please specify):

NGO (not for profit)

Views on the proposal to enhance the 2006 Population Census dataset

Proposal 1

The ABS is proposing to create the Statistical Longitudinal Census Dataset (SLCD) by:

- combining data from the 2006 Census with data from future censuses; and
- combining data from the 2001 Census with data from the 2006 Census.

Data would be brought together without using name and address, using statistical techniques. Name and address would be destroyed after census processing. The SLCD would be for statistical use only and no identifiable data would be released from the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 2.

Q4. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 1 if 2006 Census data are combined with data from future censuses?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q5. What are your reasons?

It will provide important data for research and opportunities for policy input/development for the benefit of culturally and linguistically diverse communities. This will benefit the above mentioned sections of our society as long as this data collection includes the use of the ancestry question and details of language other than English spoken at home.

Q6. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 1 if 2001 Census data are combined with data from the 2006 Census?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q7. What are your reasons?

(Same) It will provide important data for research and opportunities for policy input/development for the benefit of culturally and linguistically diverse communities. This will benefit the above mentioned sections of our society as long as this data collection includes the use of the ancestry question and details of language other than English spoken at home.

Proposal 2

The ABS is proposing to make the SLCD available for use in conjunction with other ABS statistical collections, such as ABS household surveys, using statistical techniques. Use would be for statistical purposes only, with no identifiable data released outside the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 3.

Q8. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 2?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q9. What are your reasons?

This proposal is crucial for small, emerging ethnic and refugee communities where opportunities to conduct research are limited or non-existent. Proposal 2 would allow service providers and policy makers to access information quickly in order to respond more rapidly to emerging issues within these communities before matters have escalated.

However, the only way many of these communities can be identified in order to make the data useful to their needs is through the "Ancestry" portal and at times through the "Language other than English Spoken at Home" portal.

Proposal 3

The ABS is proposing to make the SLCD available for use, in conjunction with selected non-ABS datasets. These datasets are birth and death register data, long-term immigration data and national disease registers. This would involve using statistical techniques to bring the datasets together. Use would be for statistical purposes only, and no identifiable data would be released from the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Chapter 4.

Q10. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 3?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q11. What are your reasons?

Given the current framework of ABS integrity, and only within this current framework, Proposal 3 would be of great benefit for small, emerging ethnic and refugee communities.

However, the only way many of these communities can be identified in order to make the data useful to their needs is through the "Ancestry" portal and at times through the "Language other than English Spoken at Home" portal and this would need to be considered by ABS.

Proposal 4

(a) The ABS is proposing to use name and address information, available at the time of census processing, to bring together the 2006 Population Census data with the ABS' 2006 Agricultural Census.

Name and address information used in combining the data would be destroyed on completion of census processing. The dataset would be used for statistical purposes only, and no identifiable data would be released from the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 5.

Q12. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 4(a) if the ABS used 2006 Population Census data with 2006 Agricultural Census data?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q13. What are your reasons?

no comments

(b) For quality studies and other particular statistical studies, the ABS proposes to consider the use of name and address information available at the time of census processing to bring together 2006 Population Census data with other selected datasets, namely ABS household surveys, birth and death register data, long-term immigration data and national disease register data.

Any datasets created for these statistical studies would be kept for a limited time and destroyed after completion of each project. Census name and address information would be destroyed on completion of census processing. No identifiable data would be released from the ABS.

The reasons for the ABS considering this proposal are explained in the Discussion Paper in Section 5.

Q14. Do you, or does your organisation, support Proposal 4(b) if the ABS used 2006 Population Census data with these additional datasets?

- Yes
- No
- Don't Know

Q15. What are your reasons?

(same as response 11)

Given the current framework of ABS integrity, and only within this current framework, Proposal 3 would be of great benefit for small, emerging ethnic and refugee communities.

However, the only way many of these communities can be identified in order to make the data useful to their needs is through the "Ancestry" portal and at times through the "Language other than English Spoken at Home" portal and this would need to be considered by ABS.

Privacy and Confidentiality

The ABS abides by a range of privacy and confidentiality provisions. These are discussed in Section 6 of the Discussion Paper.

Q16. Are there any additional procedures or protocols you would like the ABS to consider?

EDUCATION:

As discussed with Paul Williams in his visit to MDA, greater emphasis on CALD community education in Queensland is needed to (1) promote the importance (and benefits to these communities) of answering the "ancestry" and "language other than English spoken at home" questions as an effective way of identifying communities previously invisible (statistically) due to

the Country of Birth not reflecting their identity correctly.

(2) In Queensland ensure that an education campaign of CALD communities takes place addressing issues around the integrity of the ABS in terms of -
confidential information supplied -
the value of this data in terms of provision of services, planning and policy input etc -

CALD communities would participate more effectively in providing data if they understood what the ABS is, its purpose and the benefits to society and in particular for CALD communities. Case studies could be given to highlight the benefits.

Multicultural Affairs Queensland (Dept Premier and Cabinet) fund programs that may be able to advise the ABS on strategies to reach these communities i.e their "LAMP" program which works through local government and the "CAMS" program which works through NGO - not for profit community organisations.

DATA AVAILABILITY:

A possible explanation for the lack of research or use of data on small emerging CALD groups is

(1) The common assumptions of accessing data on CALD communities through the "Country of Birth" instead of through other portal such as "Ancestry" or "Language other than English Spoken at home". (2) These smaller communities are not included in data that is available at no cost and this has been of a great disadvantage to these communities.

Statistical user requirements

Q17. If the ABS adopted any of these proposals, would you, or your organisation, be likely to apply to use the SLCD, either in its own right or in conjunction with one of the other datasets specified in the Discussion Paper?

- Yes
 No
 Don't Know

Q18. If yes, what types of projects would you use the datasets for, why would you need the SLCD (or a combination of the SLCD and other datasets) and if known, which data items would you need?

Needs analysis and research on small, emerging refugee and migrant communities in Australia. All data on all subjects through ancestry, country of birth and language other than English spoken at home portals.

General comments

Q19. Do you have any other comments on the proposal to enhance the census dataset?

Please keep Susan Shehata of the Multicultural Development Association Inc (Brisbane) informed and note that she is willing to give further input or feedback where needed.