

beliefs and disability. For the housing component of the project, information on buildings and dwellings and their quality was collected.

Statistics Lithuania took the opportunity to collect data on land tenure, owned or rented, by households. It will facilitate the grouping of households by land area owned, social and demographic characteristics of land users and their distribution by administrative territorial division.

There was a need for the comparison with the previous 1989 census.

## ORGANISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CENSUS

Following the decision of the Government of Lithuania, the High Level Commission for the population census was formed chaired by the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour. Local population census commissions were established in every municipality, and Statistics Lithuania was responsible for organising the census: preparatory and field work, data processing, dissemination, analysis and releases.

Scanners, hardware and software for data coding were acquired by Statistics Lithuania from the PHARE programme funds. The equipment was planned to be used not only for the census but also for other purposes of statistics.

To ensure the exhaustiveness of the census, urban and rural areas were defined based on schematic plans and maps prepared by the State Land and Real Estate Cadastre and Register and other similar institutions. Lists of residential buildings and dwellings used for habitation were compiled and cartographic material repeatedly revised prior to the census day.

Census managers, their deputies, supervisors and enumerators were selected and trained in due time. The majority of enumerators were suitably qualified and fulfilled their responsibilities honestly. Nearly 15 000 employees were recruited for the census: about 600 field census managers and their deputies, 1 900 supervisors, and 12 000 enumerators.

A manual for the census workers was prepared. It contained all the necessary material including legal basis, census rules, FAQ, and psychological recommendations for enumerators.

For convenience, people were allowed to go to the census offices to answer the questionnaire. The enumeration was completed in 8-10 days, depending on the census district. After the official deadline, the residents who, due to various reasons, missed the enumeration were given the possibility to do so later (they were asked to come to Statistics Lithuania or a local statistical office for enumeration). In general, the respondents welcomed enumerators and willingly answered the census questions.