

**KINGDOM OF MOROCCO**  
**THE PRIME MINISTER**  
**MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC**  
**FORECASTING AND PLANNING**

**NATIONAL SURVEY ON**  
**HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION AND EXPENDITURE**  
**2000 / 2001**

**INTRODUCTORY MEMORANDUM**

**JUNE 2000**

**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**

Household consumption and expenditure surveys represent a valuable source of information which makes it possible to obtain data on household consumption and expenditure. The data acquired through such operations is becoming increasingly important, in economic and nutritional studies as well as in planning.

The last survey, carried out in 1984/1985, produced a wealth of information and data which proved to be extremely useful, and which was put to good use.

However, because of the swift socioeconomic changes which have occurred in the country, that information has now become obsolete. It is therefore necessary to carry out a new survey in order to update the information available.

The Statistics Department of the Ministry of Economic Forecasting and Planning therefore intends to conduct a national survey on household consumption and expenditure in 2000/2001.

## **1. Survey objectives**

There are various analyses and studies that may be carried out in the light of a survey's information and data. However, the main targeted objectives are the following:

### **i) As regards expenditure**

- study the importance and composition of household food expenditure, distributed according to socioeconomic characteristics;
- determine expenditures for various consumer goods according to both acquisition modes (purchase, self-consumption, donation, etc.) and main socioeconomic determinants;
- provide the necessary data for updating the weighted coefficients of the cost-of-living index and of certain aggregates in national accounts, especially the final consumption of resident households.

### **ii) As regards food expenditure**

- assess amounts of food consumed per food item, household, person and consumption unit;
- study food consumption according to item origin (purchase, self-consumption, donation, etc.) and main socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of households;
- learn about the eating habits of Moroccan households;
- assess the population's nutritional status.

### **iii. As regards socioeconomic analyses and studies**

The survey will provide basic data which will make it possible to undertake studies and analyses on specific aspects of the population's living conditions, especially the following:

- market research and analysis of the demand for goods and services;
- distribution of consumption expenditures according to various socio-economic groups;
- impact of economic and social measures on various socioeconomic groups;
- assessment of national and regional poverty profiles;
- extent of population's access to basic social services, such as schooling, healthcare, etc.
- review of certain aspects relating to the socioeconomic environment of households, especially access to consumer durables, social solidarity, use of new technologies and household investment in housing.

## **2. Areas to be covered by survey**

To achieve the various objectives targeted, the data to be gathered will relate to the following areas:

- basic socio-demographic characteristics of the households concerned (schooling, access to healthcare, employment, accommodation status, family solidarity, etc.);
- household investment in housing;
- computer hardware;
- study of certain impacts on the socioeconomic conditions of households;
- nature of household income;
- purchases of food-related goods and services;
- study of qualitative and quantitative nutritional aspects;
- breast-feeding and diet for children under two;
- purchases of non-food related goods and services, including durable goods owned by households;
- basic infrastructure in urban and rural settings.

## **3. Methodology**

### *a. Scope*

This survey will concern all private households residing in the Kingdom of Morocco.

Collective households, however, will not be covered by the survey, i.e. households whose basic needs are met through a public or private administration.

### *b. Sampling*

The success of a survey on household consumption and expenditures requires, *inter alia*, the use of a number of households which is sufficiently high to permit reliable conclusions on the population's socioeconomic indicators.

Sampling is made easier by the availability of a master sample, which is an indispensable tool for preparing sampling schemes for household surveys.

Given the human and material means available, and the survey's objectives and observation methods, a sample of approximately 15,000 households representing various social backgrounds and regions will be used.

### *c. Data collection method*

The observation method hinges, to a large extent, upon the human and material resources to be mustered. Participating households will be surveyed once, during the survey week<sup>1</sup>, as follows:

*Day 1:* Contacting the households to be surveyed, explaining survey objectives and the operation's importance, and enhancing the awareness of households to ensure optimal participation.

*Day 2 through Day 8:* Filling out the questionnaires' fixed and variable sections.

To encourage household cooperation, "diaries" will be provided for recording purchases, on a daily basis, during the survey week.

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<sup>1</sup> The survey week corresponds to the length of the actual visit paid to each sample household, i.e. 8 days.