

Integrated Living Conditions Survey Key Findings have been Presented in the Framework of “Social Snapshot and Poverty in Armenia 2009” Report Presentation

Starting from January 1, 2007 the Integrated Living Conditions Survey (ILCS¹) has been co-funded by the Millennium Challenge Account-Armenia SNCO with the goal to use the ILCS data to assess the impact of the Program on reducing rural poverty. On October 28, a presentation on the results of the “Social Snapshot and Poverty in Armenia” analytical report was organized in Tekeyan Center. This is the 10th report in the annual series of publication started in 1999. The main objective of the report is to report, document and analyze developments in social and poverty situation in Armenia. This year report covers the Raking Methodology introduced to the NSS by Frederic Scheuren and Ali Mushtaq, MCC and MCA-Armenia consultants as well as key findings derived from 2004-2007 ILCS comparative analysis made by AVAG Solutions Ltd., MCA-Armenia Consultant under Agricultural Data Study (ADS) assignment.

The Snapshot presentation welcoming remarks have been delivered by Stepan Mnatsakanyan, Chairman of National Statistical Service (NSS); Myron Hirniak, Millennium Challenge Corporation Armenia Deputy Country Resident Director; Ara Hovsepyan, Chief Executive Director of “Millennium Challenge Account – Armenia” State Non-Commercial Organization (MCA – Armenia); Aristomene Varoudakis, WB Country Manager and Lire Ersado, Senior Economist of the World Bank.

In 2008 there was a decrease in poverty level and poverty severity. Nevertheless, poverty still remains a problem in Armenia since 23.5% (more than 760 thousand permanent residents) of the population is poor and about 100 thousand out of them is extremely poor.

“Social Snapshot and Poverty in Armenia 2009” report is available in the NSS official website at: <http://www.armstat.am/arm>

¹ In MCA-Armenia documentation it is referred as ISLS