SUBPROGRAMME 7: POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Presentation

In Latin America and the Caribbean, falling fertility and mortality rates are slowing growth of the population and quickly altering its age composition, generating new economic and social challenges. These demographic transformations mark points of inflection in development opportunities for women and men and, even if opportunities are not directly determined by demographic trends, there is certainly an intimate interaction.

The growth of the economically active population is now resulting in a declining dependency ratio in most countries of the region, creating particularly favourable conditions for development (the demographic dividend). The demographic dividend opens up an opportunity to accelerate development and its sustainability. At the same time, reductions in the dependency ratio can have a positive impact on poverty levels. As well as these direct effects, the demographic dividend could help reduce poverty-related pressures on ecosystems and natural resources. However, the demographic dividend has a limited duration—and is particularly short in the region—and its realization depends on the adoption of policies that encourage productive investment, increase employment opportunities and provide sustainable social and economic development. Many countries in the region whose demographic transition took place earlier were unable to implement the necessary policies to take full advantage of the dividend.

In other arenas, current migration patterns—internal migration, international flows to destinations within and outside the region and movements triggered by economic and social downturns—together with persistent social inequality, based on socioeconomic status, place of residence, sex, race and ethnicity, underscore the correlation between population issues and human rights, and the need to reinforce social cohesion in the region. The continuing and diversified forms of population displacement require reconsideration of migrants’ status as social, political and economic players in need of protection based on a broad notion of citizenship. These trends also present new paths for supporting Latin American and Caribbean countries in the design of national population programmes and policies.

In order to provide countries with effective advice, it is essential to help them process, disseminate and exploit the data collected during the last round of censuses and continue supporting those countries whose census will be conducted this biennium. Governments will continue to need support to meet data users’ demands. This is particularly important given that the increasing demand for geographically disaggregated information for small areas is usually met with census data. In addition, new and better sources of demographic information, such as improved vital statistics registration systems and surveys that deal with population issues, are necessary to advance the generation of sociodemographic information.

Disaggregated demographic indicators are crucial for developing targeted public policies in a range of areas. For instance, improved population information is needed to address the varying rates of fertility decline, as well as trends in adolescent fertility, maternal mortality and gender differentials in youth mortality, to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health services, and to reduce sociodemographic disadvantages among indigenous and Afro-descendent peoples. In the context of high urbanization, city growth is accompanied by persistent makeshift settlements where poverty tends to be perpetuated, particularly among women, older persons, indigenous groups and migrants.

Thus, the provision of accurate population data and support in incorporating demographic analysis into policy development are of key importance if gaps are to be reduced. Regional cooperation has been instrumental in gauging advances towards the commitments, goals and guidelines defined at international conferences with respect to population and development. In this context, CELADE acts as technical secretariat of the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the regional intergovernmental body dealing with population issues. Recognizing the great
impact of these issues for the development pillar of the work of the United Nations, in 2012, ECLAC
member States decided to elevate the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development to the status of
Regional Conference. Continued support for implementing and monitoring the relevant commitments will
be particularly important for the Latin American and Caribbean countries during this biennium —the first
of the post-2015 development era. Furthermore, the goals of the Programme of Action of the International
Conference on Population and Development were ratified and extended beyond 2014.

The subprogramme will cover, with a gender-sensitive approach, the following four essential axes
relating to the region’s progress in the field of population and development:

(a) Analysis of demographic trends, population estimates and projections;

(b) Generation of data and development of procedures, computer programs and information
   systems for improving the use of census data, vital statistics and surveys;

(c) Inclusion of sociodemographic inputs in social programming at the national and local levels
   for decision-making in the design and implementation of public policies;

(d) Regional cooperation in the area of population and development, including training in
demography and population and development.

The proposed activities seek to pursue the medium-term objectives of the subprogramme and to
achieve the expected accomplishments during the biennium. Progress achieved will be measured by the
indicators described below.

Logical framework of the subprogramme:

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<th>Objective of the Organization</th>
<th>Indicators of achievement</th>
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<td>To improve the integration of population issues into development policies and programmes in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.</td>
<td>(a) Increased number of Latin American and Caribbean stakeholders concerned with population and development issues using demographic knowledge, methodologies and tools, and information on population and development generated by ECLAC.</td>
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(ii) Increased percentage of surveyed participants in seminars, workshops, training courses or technical cooperation activities acknowledging that they have benefited from ECLAC technical cooperation services in the area of monitoring population trends and tackling population and development issues for use in sociodemographic policies and programmes.

(2) Increased technical capacity of Latin American and Caribbean countries to monitor and implement the recommendations and goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and other international agreements relating to those issues.

(b) Increased number of new or additional policies, measures or actions taken by Latin American and Caribbean countries to monitor and implement the goals and recommendations of main international agreements relating to the field of population and development.
Strategy

The Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC will be responsible for the implementation of the subprogramme. It will be guided by the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, adopted by member States at the first session of the Regional Conference, which is centred on the full integration of population dynamics into rights-based sustainable development with equality.

The work of the subprogramme will be undertaken in close collaboration with other ECLAC divisions, in particular the Social Development Division (providing inputs or drafting allotted sections of the flagship publication *Social Panorama of Latin America*); the Division for Gender Affairs (providing inputs for the Gender Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean and carrying out joint studies); the Statistics Division (supporting the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, liaising for the maintenance of relevant information on the CEPALStat website and carrying out joint studies with the social statistics section); the Sustainable Development and Human Settlements Division (providing inputs for studies and publications on human settlements and the linkages between population issues and sustainable development) and the subregional headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain (supporting activities on population issues in the Caribbean, particularly those related to census-taking, REDATAM development, ageing and international migration).

The strategy will be divided into three main lines of work, namely:

(a) To serve as technical secretariat for the Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(b) To provide training on demography and population studies to technical staff in national and local institutions so as to enhance countries’ capacity to monitor population trends and tackle population and development issues;

(c) To provide support to the countries of the region in the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), in the fulfilment of the Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, and in monitoring the goals and objectives stemming from the post-2015 Development Agenda.

Specialized advisory and technical cooperation services will be provided, and workshops and seminars will be held to facilitate horizontal cooperation, networking and sharing of successful experiences. In addition, applied research and analysis including recommendations on how to reduce inequalities will be carried out and disseminated through publications serving as reference material for countries. ICT will be used to disseminate sociodemographic data widely in order to make the subprogramme’s products available as a public good.

The main users of the outputs will be government authorities and officials, particularly those working on population-related issues in ministries of planning, social programming, health, education, gender and housing and in national statistical offices of the countries of the region. Other users will include public, private and civil society entities responsible for the design and management of programmes and projects at the national and local levels in various population-related areas, professional associations, and universities and other academic institutions concerned.
The subprogramme will work with the Population and Statistics Divisions of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the United Nations and the other entities of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs that participate in the population cluster, and with specialized bodies such as UNFPA, PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, ILO, UNWomen, FAO, UNESCO, UNDP, UN-Habitat, and with intergovernmental organizations such as OAS, IOM, the World Bank, the Ibero-American Youth Organization, IDB and SEGIB. CELADE will continue to be the lead entity in Latin America and the Caribbean in the inter-agency working group on international migration.

External factors

The objective and expected accomplishments of the subprogramme will be achievable based on the following assumptions:

(a) Stable conditions prevail in the international economy and in the political, socioeconomic and institutional governance of the countries of the region, thereby allowing countries to maintain the priority afforded to sociodemographic and related issues.

(b) The international community supports and attaches priority to the concerns and needs of ECLAC member States in relation to implementing the recommendations of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, in accordance with the guidelines established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the internationally agreed development goals, including those derived from the post-2015 development agenda.

(c) The regional community will give priority to the active integration of sociodemographic factors in the design and application of social policies and programmes in order to improve their effectiveness.

List of activities

Subject area 7.1: Demographic analysis and population projections

1. Substantive servicing of meetings
   Ad hoc expert group meetings
   A meeting of experts to consider the 2020 round of population censuses (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

2. Recurrent publications
   Two issues of the Demographic Observatory (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

3. Non-recurrent publications
   Three studies on the situation of demographic phenomena in the region, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).
4. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

(i) A technical study on the methodology for population projections in Latin America and the Caribbean (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(ii) Development of computer modules for population projections at the national and subnational levels (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(iii) Maintenance and updating of the database on demographic trends and population projections by sex and age (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

5. Advisory services

Provision of technical assistance to countries in the region, at their request, in the areas of population data collection, demographic analysis and methodologies for the preparation of population projections and estimates (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

6. Courses, seminars and training workshops

Two workshops on the use of new methodologies and tools for demographic analysis and projections (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.2: Population information

1. Non-recurrent publications

(i) Three publications on high priority issues in Latin America and the Caribbean on migration, demographic trends or ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

(ii) Two studies on high priority issues on demographic trends among indigenous people and Afro-descendants in Latin America and the Caribbean (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

(iii) A document on demographic dynamics in Latin America and the Caribbean, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

2. Other substantive activities

Technical materials

(i) A technical document on the 2020 round of population censuses (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).
(ii) Development and updating of computer programs to facilitate the use of population data from censuses, surveys and vital statistics, based on the REDATAM software and using geographic information systems (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

(iii) Maintenance and updating of the regional databank of censuses on population, housing and vital statistics (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits

Two issues of REDATAM Informa and electronic dissemination of its content through the subprogramme website (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

3. Advisory services

Provision, upon request, of technical assistance to countries of the region in designing and using REDATAM-related computer applications (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

4. Courses, seminars and training workshops

Four workshops on the use of computer applications relating to REDATAM and the creation of related databases (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

Subject area 7.3: Integration of sociodemographic variables into social programming

1. Substantive servicing of meetings

Ad hoc expert group meetings

(i) Two meetings on demographic changes and their consequences for development (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1 and moderate correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(ii) A meeting of experts to analyse the region’s priorities concerning indigenous people and Afro-descendants, ageing or migrants, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1 and moderate correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

2. Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study on population and development issues to be defined by the Regional Conference on Population and Development, for its meeting in 2017 (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

(ii) Two studies on the socioeconomic effects of demographic dynamics in the region, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).
3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Maintenance and updating of the Database of the project Spatial distribution and urbanization in Latin America and the Caribbean (DEPUALC) (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

   (ii) Maintenance and updating of the database on Internal Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean (MIALC) (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

   (iii) Maintenance and updating of the international migration databank for the programme Research on International Migration in Latin America (IMILA) (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

   (iv) Maintenance and updating of the databank on Indigenous and Afro-descendent Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean (PIAALC) (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

4. **Advisory services**

   (i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in areas relating to the incorporation of sociodemographic variables into development policies, programmes, and projects, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

   (ii) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region on demographic trends among indigenous people and Afro-descendants (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

5. **Training courses, seminars and workshops**

   (i) A workshop on the incorporation of sociodemographic variables into development policies, programmes and projects (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

   (ii) Cooperation with government entities, universities, nongovernmental organizations and regional and subregional bodies for the development of training activities on emerging issues relating to population and development (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

6. **Technical cooperation projects**

   During the biennium, it is expected that projects will be undertaken in the areas of migration, socioeconomic impact of population dynamics, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, and ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

7. **Intermediate activities**

   Contributions to ECLAC institutional and inter-agency publications, including the *Social Panorama of Latin America*.

   The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and the technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.
Subject area 7.4: Regional cooperation in population and development

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings**

   **Intergovernmental meetings**

   Substantive servicing of the sessions of the Regional Conference on Population and Development, including the preparation of technical documents and reports for the follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, and the San José Charter on the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean including preparation of their related documentation (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

2. **Recurrent publications**

   Four issues of *Revista Notas de Población* for the dissemination of research findings and studies on population and development in Latin America and the Caribbean (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

3. **Other substantive activities**

   **Technical materials**

   (i) Maintenance and updating of the databank on ageing to follow up on the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

   (ii) Maintenance and updating of the regional system of indicators to follow up on the Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

   (iii) Maintenance of a databank of policy and programmes relating to population and development (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1 and 2).

   (iv) Regular updating of the contents of the subprogramme’s website (moderate correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

   **Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts, information kits**

   Two issues of the information bulletin on ageing, with information on the progress made by countries in the region in the formulation and execution of policies relating to older persons (high correlation with expected accomplishments 1 and 2).

4. **Advisory services**

   (i) Provision of technical cooperation services to countries of the region, at their request, in areas relating to the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Plan of Action on Population and Development and the Regional Strategy for the Implementation in Latin America and the Caribbean of the Madrid
International Plan of Action on Ageing, taking a gender-sensitive approach (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

(ii) Provision of technical support services to the region’s intergovernmental forums on population and development issues (high correlation with expected accomplishment 2).

5. Training courses, seminars and workshops

An intensive regional course on demographic analysis, and population and development —with a gender-sensitive approach— geared towards government officials in the region, to last at least three months (high correlation with expected accomplishment 1).

The implementation of operational activities, including advisory services, training activities and technical cooperation projects, will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.