



ECLAC



**First session of the
Regional Conference on
Population and Development in
Latin America and the Caribbean**

Montevideo, 12 - 15 August 2013

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

DDR/3

31 July 2013

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: SPANISH

**CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY ECLAC FROM A RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE REGARDING
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' AND AFRO-DESCENDANTS' AFFAIRS**



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Full integration of population dynamics into rights-based sustainable development with equality: key to the Cairo Programme of Action beyond 2014

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* This ECLAC report has not been formally edited.

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I. CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ISSUE

In the late 1980s, relations between indigenous peoples and Latin American Governments reached a turning point as constitutional amendments began to be introduced whose purpose was to acknowledge the multi-ethnic, pluricultural nature of the populations of most of the countries in the region. Since then, major strides have been made—with the active participation of indigenous peoples—towards ensuring that the countries' laws and policies embody a recognition for these peoples' human and collective rights. Much the same has occurred in terms of the recognition of organizations of Afro-descendants in Latin America, which have expanded their networks and political strategies since the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance was held in Durban in 2001, thereby gaining greater visibility in the eyes of the State and their national societies. Despite these advances, however, studies on the subject consistently demonstrate that mortality, life expectancy, formal education and socioeconomic indicators are all lower for indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants than they are for the rest of the population.

The changes outlined above have been associated with a growing demand on the part of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants for visibility within their national societies and for recognition as active stakeholders in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to guarantee their rights. All of this has transcended national boundaries as well, as the issue has been considered at numerous international summits, most notably the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), and has been revisited at regular intervals at the follow-up meetings to that summit (ICPD+5, ICPD+10, ICPD+15), and at Beijing+10. It now figures as part of the Millennium Development Goals as well. Furthermore, at a number of the sessions of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008), it has been recommended that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) redouble its efforts, in collaboration with the indigenous peoples concerned, to compile and analyse information on these issues with a view to bringing about an improvement in their social and economic situation and ensuring their active participation in the development process throughout the region.

The growing interest in these issues has also been apparent in the last five meetings of the ECLAC Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development (San Juan, 2004; Montevideo, 2006; Santo Domingo, 2008; Santiago, 2010 and Quito, 2012), where the member countries of ECLAC have expressly requested the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division to accord priority from a gender perspective, in coordination with the presiding officers of the Ad Hoc Committee and with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), to issues of concern to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants. In fulfilment of this mandate from the member countries, this report provides an overview of the action taken in regard to such issues since 2012.

While headway had certainly been made in the last 15 years in gaining recognition for the human rights of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants through the introduction of amendments to the Constitution and other laws, the creation of institutional mechanisms and the launch of sectoral programmes and policies, this process has varied a great deal across the countries of the region and still falls short of what is needed, as well as suffering from significant failings in terms of implementation.

Some of the inequalities existing in the case of indigenous peoples stem from structural forms of discrimination against them. It is also true, however, that the region has not made a great deal of progress in terms of a recognition of the fact that these peoples have their own world view, types of knowledge and languages and that they see major life events differently than others do; this is also true of some groups of

Afro-descendants. Even less has been done to try to understand how this structural position ties in with the specific features of the local populations. CELADE has therefore been working on a series of activities whose purpose is to identify and analyse the sociodemographic behaviours of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, the relevant determinants, and their policy and programmatic implications. Its work in this area is based on a human rights perspective, with particular emphasis on indigenous peoples' right to cultural integrity and their right to participate through their own organizations. One of the approaches used for improving participatory processes involves significantly increasing the technical assistance made available to the countries for training in the processing and analysis of sociodemographic data; Afro-descendent and indigenous organizations are involved in this training effort, which is understood to be a two-way process.

The work carried out by CELADE in this area in the past year and a half has ensured the continuity of the following spheres of activity: (i) the inclusion of ethnic identification mechanisms in data sources; (ii) the preparation of studies on the living conditions of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants as viewed from a rights-based perspective and the development of policy recommendations; and (iii) the compilation and dissemination of disaggregated data on these groups and the provision of training. Seminars and technical meetings on these three topics have also been organized in order to facilitate exchanges of knowledge, information and technical assistance. These activities have been carried out in conjunction with other bodies within the United Nations system, such as UNFPA and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and other agencies, such as the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (Indigenous Peoples' Fund). Support has been provided by cooperation agencies such as the Ford Foundation and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), and working partnerships have been formed with such indigenous organizations as the Council of Indigenous Organizations of Jujuy (COAJ), in Argentina; the Mapuche Territorial Alliance of Chile; and the Indigenous-Chirapaq Cultural Centre of Peru, among others.

II. CELADE ACTIVITIES IN 2012-2013: MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

A. INCLUSION: THE IDENTIFICATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND AFRO-DESCENDANTS BY DATA SOURCES

In various national and international forums, indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants have repeatedly spoken of their urgent need for statistical visibility and of the importance of achieving that visibility through participatory processes. CELADE has pointed out that the demand for this information is based on the fact that such data are not only a technical tool but also a political resource that these peoples can draw upon in order to avail themselves of their rights and that their visibility will contribute to the consolidation of democracy and good governance. State institutions, international bodies and civil society organizations are also generating a growing demand for this type of information. In addition to being a valuable input for the design of more effective, relevant policies, the availability of more and better data provides indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants with a useful tool that can help them to participate more fully and to monitor State actions that have an impact on them.

This is why it is so important for indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants to be identified in data from all sources, as called for in the recommendations issued by various international bodies. As noted in previous reports, population and housing censuses are the main vehicle for their identification, and

CELADE has therefore continued its work on the topic of censuses and ethnic groups.¹ In order to ensure that these groups are identified in data from other sources, it has continued its activities relating to health information systems as well. The activities conducted in the past year in this field are summarized below:

1. Work continued on the project rolled out in 2009 in conjunction with PAHO and UNFPA, with support from AECID, that focuses on the identification of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in health information systems. CELADE furnished technical assistance to intercultural health units of the health ministries of Ecuador and Guatemala in connection with the launch of pilot projects in selected municipalities, training to teach health personnel how to improve the quality of records and the development of awareness-raising campaigns. As part of this same work stream, technical advisory services were provided to Peru, at the request of its Ministry of Health, in connection with the implementation of pilots similar to those launched in Ecuador and Guatemala. In 2012, a working meeting on the integration of self-identification variables for indigenous peoples in the records of the General Health Information System (SIGSA) was attended by the Ministry of Health of Guatemala, CELADE, PAHO, UNFPA, indigenous organizations and the National Institute of Statistics (INE). This meeting provided an opportunity to assess the progress that has been made and to update the activities plan (Guatemala City, 29 and 30 August 2012). In Ecuador, CELADE provided training and held meetings with health-system administrators and staff in line with a work plan drawn up by the National Bureau of Health for Interculturality, Law and Social Participation of the Ministry of Health of Ecuador (5-9 November 2012 in the cities of Ibarra, Otavalo and Quito). Throughout the year, offsite technical advisory services were provided in connection with the initiatives launched in these countries in order to lay the groundwork for the replication of these local initiatives at the national level. Assistance was provided in the development of technical materials, including a manual that sets out guidelines for the incorporation of an ethnic perspective into the information system being set up in Ecuador, as well as another manual that is regional in scope (see paragraph B.6).
2. One of the technical assistance activities relating to censuses was the seminar held in Bogotá by CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, the Ford Foundation and the Development Analysis Group (GRADE) of Peru from 30 January to 1 February 2013. The objective of this seminar, which was entitled *Towards the National Censuses of Colombia —2015— and Peru —2017— from an Ethnic Perspective: Advances and Challenges*, was to promote the application of existing recommendations concerning the inclusion of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in the upcoming censuses in Colombia and Peru as a way of ensuring the quality of the information to be compiled and processed and facilitating the genuine participation of these groups. Participants in the widely attended seminar included representatives of the national statistical offices of Colombia and Peru and of other countries in the region that have already conducted the censuses for this round, representatives of Afro-descendent and indigenous organizations, members of academia and other stakeholders. The development of an operational strategy for moving forward in each of the countries was one of the outputs of the seminar.

¹ See the sections on this subject in the activities reports for 2008-2010 and 2010-2012 presented by the Ad Hoc Committee on Population and Development at the last two sessions [online], http://www.ECLAC.org/publicaciones/xml/1/39301/ddr4_CEP2010.pdf and <http://www.eclac.org/celade/noticias/paginas/0/46070/2012-420-CEP-DDR2-Indigenas.pdf>.

3. Other technical assistance activities relating to the inclusion of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in health records and in the censuses of the 2010 round were tailored to the requests for technical assistance received from the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. In the case of Chile, support continued to be provided to the National Institute of Statistics (INE) and the Afro-Chilean Alliance for the preparation of a study on the characteristics of the Afro-descendent population in the north of the country.
4. CELADE participated in a number of different forums and technical meetings focusing on the dissemination of information, the sharing of experiences and the discussion of advances in the roll-out of national and regional strategies for increasing the visibility of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in the population and housing censuses of the 2010 round and in other data-collection mechanisms (see section C).

Overview of achievements and challenges relating to the effort to secure the inclusion of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in data sources

The activities outlined above have helped to clarify the conceptual and methodological issues relating to the inclusion of an ethnic perspective in data collection. A great deal of work has gone into improving the wording of the questions included in the censuses of the 2010 round and ensuring that they allow for the identification of Afro-descendants in countries that had previously provided only for the identification of indigenous peoples; incorporating new dimensions/variables that are of interest to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants; devising more accurate mapping guidelines; conducting pilots; carrying out campaigns and consultations and ensuring that indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants participate more actively in these processes; and mainstreaming. One of the most salient outcomes of these efforts has been the increase in the size of the indigenous and Afro-descendent populations registered in the censuses of the 2010 round in a number of countries in the region, which has been reflected in intercensal growth rates that are far above the national averages. By way of example, in Mexico the average annual growth rate for the indigenous population between 2000 and 2010 came to 10%, whereas the rate for the total population was 1.5%; in Costa Rica, the average annual intercensal growth rate for the Afro-descendent population was 15%, while it was 1.4% of the population as a whole. This is a clear indication of an increase in ethnic self-identification, which has been brought about by a combination of structural factors —such as, for example, the placement of indigenous and Afro-descendent affairs higher up on the public agenda— and other factors (e.g., methodological changes) that are more directly linked to the census process as such.

Improvements in the identification of these ethnic groups in health information systems have lagged behind the advances in censuses, but the number of countries that are working to make such improvements is on the rise. In Ecuador and Guatemala, progress is being made in the incorporation of ethnic identification questions into census forms. Health workers and members of indigenous organizations are also becoming more aware of the importance of having disaggregated information, and this has helped open the way for the reinforcement of the institutional structure and the promotion of intercultural dialogue.

Major challenges remain, however. The pace of progress in the different countries is uneven, and the minimum standards set out in the recommendations made by international bodies have yet to be met. Procedures therefore need to be reinforced and greater follow-up is required in order to back up the efforts being made to implement guidelines for enhancing the visibility of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in data sources. Support and advisory assistance concerning the implementation of

international recommendations should be provided to the region's statistical institutes; in addition to the work being done to improve censuses, ongoing support should be made available to bolster the efforts being pursued to incorporate ethnic identification mechanisms into health records and vital statistics. The course being taken by procedural arrangements for the inclusion of an ethnic perspective in the region's censuses must also be examined. Steps need to be taken to help strengthen post-census activities (dissemination, training and policy application and impacts) and the institutional structure and to boost the participation of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in all stages of the census process.

Efficient strategies need to be adopted for ensuring that the necessary political will is in place to bring about the changes that this task entails. The strategy for the implementation of pilots, especially those dealing with field work, also needs to be reviewed in order to ensure that the results of these experiments can be shared with other countries of the region. In addition, some technical issues remain to be resolved (e.g., a lack of comparability in the approaches used within health ministries and the poor quality of records on indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants). Efforts to improve intra- and inter-agency coordination between statistical offices, health ministries and other sectors should be redoubled. And, finally, the countries need to move ahead with the incorporation of an ethnic perspective into other data sources by capitalizing upon the experience gained in connection with censuses and health records.

B. SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, TECHNICAL STUDIES AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The activities conducted during the reporting period in this field are listed below:

1. With support from the Ford Foundation, four sociodemographic atlases on the indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants of Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Peru were prepared as part of the project entitled Territorial Inequalities and Social Exclusion of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants: The Production and Use of Policy and Programme Indicators. The atlas for Peru was issued in 2011 and the other three came out in 2012. These atlases present a territorially detailed analytical picture of the sociodemographic status of these populations and map out the relevant demographic, educational and health-related indicators, which also provide information on ethnic and gender-based differentials. These publications are available online. All the information that was processed for these studies is also available online in the Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Descendants in Latin America and the Caribbean Databank (PIAALC).² A large number of copies of these atlases have been distributed to indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations in the corresponding countries.
2. A study entitled *Pobreza infantil en pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes de América Latina* (child poverty in indigenous and Afro-descendent populations of Latin America) was prepared under a cooperation agreement between ECLAC and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This study takes the Bristol approach to the measurement of child poverty and identifies a series of fundamental rights which must be upheld in order to ensure children's well-being. It provides ethnically disaggregated information for 17 Latin American countries on the scale of child poverty among indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants based on measurements of access to education, information, housing, drinking water and

² See [online], http://www.ECLAC.org/cgi-bin/getprod.asp?xml=/celade/noticias/paginas/0/36160/P36160.xml&xsl=/celade/tpl/p18f.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom_ind.xsl.

sanitation facilities. This information is used to pinpoint ethnic and territorial inequalities at highly detailed geographic scales and to map out the relevant indicators. The publication is available on the ECLAC website.³

3. The main findings of this joint ECLAC/UNICEF study on child poverty (paragraph B.2) have been published in Issue No. 14 of the *Challenges* newsletter under the title, “The Rights of Indigenous Children” (see the list of publications provided in the annex to this report). It provides previously unpublished statistics drawn from the censuses of the 2010 round for Ecuador, Mexico and Panama. This research effort points to a decrease in poverty levels among indigenous children, but it also indicates that the inequalities existing between indigenous and non-indigenous children have grown.
4. At the Fifth Congress of the Latin American Population Association (ALAP), held in 2012, CELADE presented a book entitled *Pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en América Latina: dinámicas poblacionales diversas y desafíos comunes* (indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in Latin America: differing population dynamics and shared challenges), which was published as Issue No. 12 of the ALAP *Investigaciones* series. The articles included in this compilation were authored by a number of different researchers from countries of the region and deal with such highly relevant topics as an analysis of the population dynamics of indigenous peoples that takes into consideration the interrelationships between reproductive trends and sociocultural factors, migration, forced displacements and living conditions, and health and education status and how this ties in with equity gaps. The volume also includes a study on recent internal migration flows involving indigenous youth in nine Latin American countries.
5. In 2012, CELADE and the Mapuche Territorial Alliance published a study entitled *Desigualdades territoriales y exclusión social del pueblo mapuche en Chile: situación en la comuna de Ercilla desde un enfoque de derechos* (territorial inequalities and the social exclusion of the Mapuches of Chile: situation in the commune of Ercilla as viewed from a rights-based perspective).⁴ The objective of this study was to trace the sociodemographic and socio-environmental history of the Mapuche population of the commune of Ercilla (La Araucanía Region, Chile) and to determine how the situation of these indigenous people measures up against the rights that they are guaranteed in international treaties. The methodology used in its preparation involved the use of different quantitative data sources—population censuses and agricultural surveys; administrative records dealing with water use, forests, criminal offences, etc.; household income and employment surveys—and qualitative information obtained through interviews with various stakeholders. Workshops were also held in the relevant communities in order to ensure that the study would be the result of a collective, highly participatory process. The official launch of the book was carried out in April 2012 at ECLAC headquarters and was attended by representatives of a broad spectrum of sectors of government and civil society.
6. Work is being completed on a study to be entitled *Lineamientos para la inclusión de los pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes en los sistemas de información en salud* (guidelines

³ See [online], http://www.ECLAC.org/cgi-bin/getprod.asp?xml=/publicaciones/xml/9/47289/P47289.xml&xsl=/publicaciones/ficha.xsl&base=/publicaciones/top_publicaciones.xsl.

⁴ See [online], <http://www.eclac.org/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/publicaciones/xml/3/46283/P46283.xml&xsl=/tpl/p9f.xsl&base=/tpl/top-bottom.xsl>.

for the inclusión of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in health information systems), in conjunction with PAHO and with funding from UNFPA. The study covers both conceptual and methodological aspects of the subject, including the steps to be followed in order to ensure the identification of these groups in health records, starting with the formation of participatory working teams and the inclusion of the corresponding questions in census forms, and continuing on through all the various stages, including training, awareness-raising, and the dissemination and use of the information processed for this purpose. The study is to be published in the second half of 2013.

7. CELADE and the ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs are preparing a joint study on indigenous women in Latin America for presentation at the next session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which is to be held in October 2013. The study analyses the demographic and social situation of indigenous women in the region based on updated information from the 2010 round of censuses, identifies shortcomings in the protection of human rights and sets out policy recommendations. The text is currently being reviewed and will soon be published.
8. CELADE is working with PAHO on a pamphlet that will provide information on indicators relating to the indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants of the Americas, including demographic indicators, selected indicators on social determinants of health, mortality and morbidity indicators, and indicators of women and children's health status and access to health services. Its publication is scheduled for August 2013.
9. An analysis of advances in censuses and in the identification of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in Latin America is being readied which will include an examination of countries' experiences during the 2010s and a discussion of the challenges to be met in order to improve the quality and provide more timely access to this information based on the international standards established in this field. This study will be published in 2013.
10. At the request of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and with support from the Ford Foundation, work has begun on a study that looks at the situation of indigenous peoples in Latin America within the framework of international human rights standards. The methodology used in this study takes the extent of indigenous peoples' participation into consideration. The objective is to develop substantive inputs for the evaluation of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and the identification of action to be taken after the decade draws to a close in 2014. The proposed actions will be discussed at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, which is to be held in New York in 2014.

Overview of achievements and challenges relating to sociodemographic research, the preparation of technical studies and the development of policy recommendations

Progress has been made over the past year in gaining a deeper understanding of the situation of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants of the region as viewed from gender-based, generational and territorial perspectives, with special attention being devoted to women, children and young people. A number of studies have been prepared using innovative, highly participatory methodologies that are helping to build intercultural knowledge and that can be adapted for use by the countries of the region. This reference material is being used in training workshops offered by CELADE, including the Intensive Regional Course in Demographic Analysis (CRIAD). All of these studies set forth policy

recommendations based on empirical evidence, as well as drawing attention to remaining shortcomings in the supply of information.

These achievements notwithstanding, greater effort must be devoted to disseminating these research findings more widely and enhancing their impact, especially among policymakers and indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations. Researchers also need to be encouraged to use census information and data from other sources in preparing specific and supplementary national and local studies that are tailored to the needs of the government and civil society concerned. Steps should be taken to build national capacity for the production and proper analysis of this type of information from the standpoint of international human rights (including collective rights) standards.

C. INFORMATION PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

The work carried out on this front during the reporting period is detailed below:

1. The censuses of the 2010 round have begun to be processed, and the results are being used to update the Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Descendants in Latin America and the Caribbean Databank. This databank includes the Sociodemographic System of Indicators for Indigenous Peoples and Populations (SISPP), which contains indicators on indigenous youth, sociodemographic indicators at the municipal level (including tables and maps) and data on internal migration. The databank is the repository for a large volume of demographic and social information on indigenous peoples which is disaggregated by such factors as sex, urban or rural area of residence, age group, etc. An updated version should be available online by late 2013.
2. Census data from the 2010 round on indigenous persons with disabilities have been processed, and some of this information has been presented in chapter V of the 2012 edition of the *Social Panorama of Latin America*, which is entitled “Autonomy and independence: caring for persons with disabilities” and in Issue No. 15 of the ECLAC/UNICEF *Challenges* newsletter under the title of “Rights of children and adolescents with disabilities”. A presentation on these issues was made at the Expert Meeting on Indigenous Peoples and Persons with Disabilities: Facing Multiple Challenges to Achieve Rights, which was organized by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Disability Rights Advocacy Fund and the International Disability Alliance (UNPFII-DRAF-IDA) in Madrid in November 2012.
3. In addition to preparing the studies discussed in paragraph B.1, the joint project being executed by ECLAC and the Ford Foundation has designed training workshops for members of indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations and State institutions who work on policies and programmes of concern to these groups. The overarching objective has been to build national capacities and knowledge relating to the production, analysis and use of sociodemographic information having a territorial dimension. These workshops were divided into two parallel modules; one was tailored to the needs of information users and placed emphasis on reading and data analysis, while the other was geared to teaching informatics specialists/information producers how to construct indicators using the Retrieval of Data for Small Areas by Microcomputer (REDATAM) system. An activity for both groups (users and producers) was also organized so that the participants could engage in a dialogue relating to

the functions they perform. The teaching materials used in these workshops were developed using the atlases that were prepared under this project. This activity was also designed to allow national counterparts to achieve synergies that would enable them to replicate the initiative in each country. During 2012, three workshops entitled “Territorial Inequalities and Social Exclusion of Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendants: The Production and Use of Policy and Programme Indicators” were also held: one was organized in Argentina in conjunction with the Council of Indigenous Organizations of Jujuy (San Salvador de Jujuy, 18-22 June); another was held in Chile (Santiago, 28 May-1 June); and a third was offered in Colombia in conjunction with the University of Externado (Bogotá, 4-8 June). All of these workshops were widely attended by persons from different indigenous groups and geographical areas; the same type of territorial diversity was also in evidence among the Afro-descendent participants in the workshop held in Colombia.

4. Thanks to support from the International Indigenous Women’s Forum (IIWF), indigenous women were able to participate in the workshop held in Santiago (see paragraph C.3) and to remain in that city for a few more days so that they could become more familiar with the available sexual and reproductive health indicators and their use by attending a course designed and offered by representatives of CELADE.
5. The Intensive Regional Course in Demographic Analysis offered by CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC ran from August to December 2012 at ECLAC headquarters and was attended by persons from a range of Latin American countries. Thanks to support from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), six fellowships were granted that are earmarked for indigenous persons or Afro-descendants or people who work on ethnic affairs in statistical offices. In view of the strong demand for this course in the region, it will be offered again in 2013.
6. Invitations to take part in a number of different regional and international forums were received. Those in which representatives of CELADE gave substantive presentations on topics related to issues of concern to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, participated in discussions and/or provided input for the agreements reached at these meetings are listed below:
 - (a) A meeting of partners in the effort to strengthen a culturally diverse approach to health issues was organized by the PAHO Office in Washington, the PAHO Office in Colombia and the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Colombia and held in Bogotá on 23 and 24 May 2012. CELADE gave a presentation entitled “Advances, Constraints and Challenges in the Inclusion of an Ethnic Perspective in Data Sources and Particularly Health Records.”
 - (b) In June 2012, at the request of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile, CELADE gave a presentation to the Ad Hoc Congressional Committee on Indigenous Peoples concerning the main findings and conclusions reached in the study entitled *Desigualdades territoriales and exclusión social del pueblo mapuche en Chile: situación en la comuna de Ercilla desde un enfoque de derechos* (territorial inequalities and the social exclusion of the Mapuches of Chile: situation in the commune of Ercilla as viewed from a rights-based perspective).
 - (c) A substantive presentation on conceptual and methodological aspects of the effort to include an ethnic perspective in censuses and on progress and recommendations relating to the 2010 census round was given at the International Forum and Workshop on the

2011/2012 Census Round in Latin America: Visibility or Invisibility for Indigenous Peoples?, which was organized by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Foundation and held on 12 June 2012 in Santiago.

- (d) A substantive presentation entitled “Advances and Findings in the Production and Use of Health Information for Monitoring and Ensuring Accountability” was given at the Regional Meeting on the Consolidation of Progress in the Development of Interculturally Relevant Maternal Health Models held by UNFPA in Panama City on 18-20 July 2012.
- (e) A substantive presentation entitled “The 2010 Census Round: A Strategy for Heightening the Visibility of Indigenous Peoples in the National Statistical Systems of Latin America” was given at a workshop at which participants shared the results of their experiences with the Indigenous Peoples Information System. The workshop was held by the Indigenous Fund in Mexico City on 14 and 15 August 2012.
- (f) A workshop focusing on the Afro-descendent population of Latin America was organized as part of the regional project being pursued by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNFPA (both the Panama Office and the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean) and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC. The workshop, which was held in Panama City on 13 September 2012, included a presentation on the training materials developed for use in the workshop on the statistical visibility of Afro-descendants in Latin America and on the particular situation existing in Panama. A collective evaluation was made of the scope of the 2010 population and housing census and of the opportunities it offers, and participants mapped out future lines of action for taking full advantage of that census and for designing and conducting targeted studies.
- (g) CELADE staff taught classes in the module on epistemology and research in inter-ethnic contexts of the degree programme on indigenous rights offered by the Indigenous Fund and the Academic University of Christian Humanism in October 2012. CELADE also developed special teaching materials for use in those classes.
- (h) At the Fifth Congress of the Latin American Population Association (ALAP), held in Montevideo from 23 to 26 October 2012, CELADE organized the Session on Territorial Inequality, Social Marginalization and Sociodemographic Vulnerability of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America, and a CELADE staff member served as a commentator in the Session on Ethno-Racial Considerations in the Light of the 2010 Census Round.
- (i) CELADE staff made a substantive presentation during the panel discussion on “Institutional Experiences relating to the Statistical Visibility of Afro-Descendants: Forging Networks for Cooperation and Exchange” held at the International Seminar-Workshop on the Statistical Recognition of the Afro-Descendants of Latin America: Advances and Challenges, which took place on 6 and 7 December 2012 in San José, Costa Rica.
- (j) CELADE staff participated in the presentation entitled “The Afro-Descendent Population in Regional Statistics: Actions and Recommendations for Creating Visibility”, which was given at the International Seminar-Workshop on the Statistical Recognition of the Afro-Descendants of Region, held in Bogotá from 12 to 14 December 2012.

- (k) CELADE staff taught the survey courses on demographic and social issues relating to indigenous peoples in Latin America that form part of the International Degree Programme on Human Rights, Indigenous Peoples and Public Policy 2012-2013, which was offered by the Henry Dunant-Latin America Foundation and the International Henry Dunant Institute in Santiago, Chile, from 23 November 2012 to 29 July 2013.
- (l) At the Panel Discussion on Achieving Visibility for Indigenous Children within a Framework of Equity: Challenges for Social Research and National Statistics in El Salvador, held in San Salvador on 15 March 2013, CELADE staff gave a presentation on the publication entitled *Contar con todos. Caja de herramientas para la inclusión de pueblos indígenas and afrodescendientes en los censos de población and vivienda* (counting everyone; a toolkit for the inclusion of indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants in population and housing censuses), a series of thematic modules issued in 2011 by CELADE and UNICEF, with support from UNFPA, and on the main findings of a study on poverty among indigenous and Afro-descendent children.
- (m) As part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Strategic Consultations-Americas Section, held in Guatemala City from 4 to 7 March 2013, CELADE staff gave a presentation entitled “Demographic Changes, (In)Equality and the Situation of Specific Groups in Latin America and the Caribbean”, which dealt with the situation of indigenous peoples and other groups.
- (n) At the Conference on Cohesion and Social Exclusion in Chile: Lessons and Challenges in an Examination of Development Issues in Latin America, held by the Catholic University of Chile and the Social Research Institute of Hamburg from 10 to 12 April 2013, CELADE staff participated in the Round Table on Migration, Ethnicity and Gender and gave a presentation entitled “Migration of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America: Scale, Trends and Outlook Within a Human Rights Context”.
- (o) At the International Meeting on Indigenous Peoples and the Collection of Health-Related Evidence, organized by the PAHO Office in Washington, the local office of PAHO in Bolivia and the Ministry of Health and Sports of Bolivia and held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, from 8 to 10 May 2013, CELADE staff gave a presentation entitled “The Inclusion of Ethnic Variables in the Production of Health-Related Information and Evidence in Latin America and the Caribbean”. CELADE representatives also participated in the meetings of the working group and served as the rapporteur for the workshop.
- (p) At the Thirty-First International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), held in Washington from 29 May to 1 June 2013, CELADE staff participated in the Panel Discussion on Ethnic (In)Visibility in National Censuses in Latin America: Policy, Social Movements and Impact, during which they gave two presentations, entitled “Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Descendants in Population Censuses: Demands, Advances and Challenges in the Latin American Countries” and “The Importance of the Sociopolitical Context for Census Results: the Case of Chile in the Censuses of 1992, 2002 and 2012”.

Overview of achievements and challenges relating to the production of information, dissemination and training

There is now a databank for Latin America and the Caribbean that contains comparable sociodemographic information on indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants for the various countries of the region. While this system supplements, rather than takes the place of, the systems in place at the national level, it has helped to fill some of the chronic gaps in data disaggregated by ethnic group that have continued to exist at the regional level. Work also continues to focus on building national capacity for the application of this information in policymaking and follow-up and in the promotion of human rights. Training workshops have been tailored to the needs of staff of State agencies and members of indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations. The methodology used for this purpose, which allows the indicators to be viewed within their corresponding cultural and territorial contexts and provides for active, two-way participation, has contributed to the accumulation of technical expertise in the use of these indicators within a rights-based framework of intercultural dialogue. Participation in numerous national, regional and international meetings has also played an important part in the broad dissemination of international standards relating to the inclusion of data on indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants. Participation in these gatherings has also made it possible to share findings and conclusions reached in the course of research, and the resulting studies have drawn attention to the challenges to be faced while also positioning sociodemographic considerations relating to indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants as one of the priority issues in the region. The stark inequities faced, in particular, by indigenous and Afro-descendent women, children and young people now stand out clearly as an urgent problem upon which governments should bring all their political will to bear.

The countries of the region have made major strides forward in the democratization of information, but indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants still lag far behind in terms of their access to it, and this limits their ability to exercise this right. Action directed towards closing this gap must therefore be stepped up through the use of information strategies that are geared to the cultural realities of the people concerned and measures to promote the application of new technologies. Training activities also need to be made more systematic, broader in scope and to be tied in more closely with joint initiatives involving the various counterparts (indigenous and Afro-descendent organizations, academic centres and statistical offices) so that together they can define approaches that will help to empower indigenous peoples and Afro-descendants, contribute to greater equity and combat discrimination. The development of pluricultural statistical systems should also be promoted, along with the identification or proposal of specific tools for gathering information on collective community efforts and affairs, and support should be provided for binational data-collection initiatives on the part of countries with cross-border population groups. It is also important to update the regional databank on a systematic basis and to improve the mechanisms in place for consultations and participation on the part of both countries and the various population groups. In order to accomplish all of this, the necessary human and financial resources must be made available to ensure compliance with international standards in respect of human rights, including the right to communication and information.

Annex

PUBLICATIONS ISSUED BETWEEN APRIL 2012 AND JULY 2013

| No. | Title | Description | Date |
|------------|---|---|----------------|
| 1 | <i>Atlas sociodemográfico de los pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes de Colombia</i> | CELADE/ECLAC-Ford Foundation | April 2012 |
| 2 | <i>Desigualdades territoriales and exclusión social del pueblo mapuche en Chile: Situación en la comuna de Ercilla desde un enfoque de derechos</i> | <i>Documentos de proyectos</i> collection, LC/W.473, ECLAC and the Mapuche Territorial Alliance | April 2012 |
| 3 | <i>Pobreza infantil en pueblos indígenas y afrodescendientes de América Latina</i> | CELADE/ECLAC-UNICEF, <i>Documentos de proyectos</i> collection, LC/W.477 | May 2012 |
| 4 | <i>Atlas. Diagnóstico sociodemográfico de los pueblos indígenas de Argentina</i> | CELADE/ECLAC-Ford Foundation, <i>Documentos de proyectos</i> collection, LC/R.2183 | June 2012 |
| 5 | <i>Atlas sociodemográfico de los pueblos indígenas de Chile</i> | CELADE/ECLAC-Ford Foundation, <i>Documentos de proyectos</i> collection, LC/R.2185 | July 2012 |
| 6 | <i>Los derechos de las niñas and los niños indígenas</i> | ECLAC-UNICEF, <i>Challenges</i> newsletter, Issue No. 14 | September 2012 |

Note: All of the documents listed are available on the website of the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC, [online], http://www.ECLAC.org/cgi-bin/getProd.asp?xml=/celade/agrupadores_xml/aes414.xml&xsl=/agrupadores_xml/agrupa_listado.xsl&base=/celade/tpl/top-bottom_ind.xsl.



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