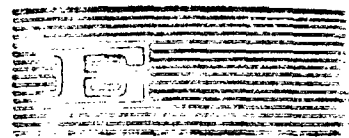


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REPORT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN DEMOGRAPHIC CENTRE (CELADE)
ON ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT IN THE REGION SINCE THE WORLD
POPULATION CONFERENCE
(Bucharest, August 1974)

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide a summarized and comprehensive view of the areas and lines of work characterizing CELADE's activities in the last few years, especially those derived from the changes occurring in the world and regional scene as a result of the World Population Conference, and in particular from the Second Latin American Meeting on Population. Thus the document reviews, in the first place, the institutional framework and the government recommendations issued at different levels which justify and support the Centre's programmes in its various fields of activity. This is followed by an examination of the areas concerned. The purpose of this exercise is to bring to light the principles and objectives on which the specific activities are based, and in what manner the needs at both the regional and the national level are satisfied. To complete the picture which it is attempted to convey in each chapter, some examples or summaries of specific projects completed or in process of execution are included.

It has also been considered appropriate to mention here a number of aspects related to the general framework of principles and forms upon which CELADE's action is based. Outstanding in this framework is the regional nature of its programmes in terms of endeavouring to satisfy the particular types of requirements of the countries of the region. This regional orientation also has a clear connotation of complementarity with the efforts and activities carried out by the countries at their respective national levels.

In other words, CELADE's action aims at fostering, strengthening and supplementing national capacities, so that the countries may progressively achieve a level of self-reliance. It also gives its action a regional meaning in the form of projects designed to benefit the whole region or sub-regions, which by their very nature, size or level of resources required transcend the sphere of the countries taken individually.

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From its very inception 20 years ago, the institution has had three modes of action: technical assistance, training and research. All its programmes, without exception, represent a combination of these three modes, naturally with different emphasis according to the case in point. This combination to a certain extent, accounts for the Centre's particular profile, its evolution and its present characteristics which makes it practically a unique case within the constellation of United Nations institutions in the population field.

I. CEPAL RESOLUTIONS IN THE POPULATION FIELD AND ACTION BY CELADE

1. The position of the international community

The United Nations' concern for analysing the population and development interrelationships became evident soon after the Organization was established.

Thus in 1948 the Economic and Social Council set up the Population Commission, and requested it to arrange for the preparation of studies on "the size and structure of the populations, the interplay of demographic factors and economic and social factors, and policies designed to influence the size and structure of populations and the changes therein".^{1/}

Subsequently, in response to the recommendations of the regional meetings at Bandung and Rio de Janeiro in 1956, the Bombay Centre was set up, and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) in Santiago, Chile, in 1957.

In 1962 the General Assembly adopted resolution 1838 (XVII) on population growth and economic development, in which it recommended that the Economic and Social Council, in co-operation with the specialized agencies, the regional economic commissions and the Population Commission, should intensify its studies and research on the interrelationships of population growth and economic development. First, because rapid economic progress depends greatly on the ability of these countries to provide their peoples with adequate educational services, improved levels of living and productive work. Secondly, because development objectives largely depend on the rate of population growth, which in its turn is strongly determined by the progress made towards the achievement of those objectives.

/Three years

^{1/} ECOSOC resolution 150 adopted at its seventh session (19 July-29 August 1948).

Three years later, in 1965, ECOSOC adopted a resolution^{2/} to the effect that the United Nations should provide training and technical assistance services in action programmes in the field of population, at the request of governments. Then in resolution 2211 (XXI) adopted in 1966, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to arrange for the initiation of activities, consult with the specialized agencies and propose priorities of work in the field of population. It also called upon the Economic and Social Council, the Population Commission, the regional economic commissions and the specialized agencies to assist in developing national and regional facilities for training, research and technical assistance in the field of population, bearing in mind the particular character of population problems in each country and region.

Within the general framework established by the above resolutions and with the purpose of analysing the draft World Population Plan of Action which was to be discussed at the World Population Conference at Bucharest in August 1974, CEPAL convened a meeting at San José, Costa Rica, in April of that year, at which the Latin American Governments met for the first time to consider at the regional level the population trends and their determinants and implications, as elements integrated in the analysis and planning of the development process. This meeting showed the region's increasing awareness in recent years of the close relationship between population dynamics and the mode of development within the national contexts, and therefore that the solution to the maladjustments in that interrelationship is to be found not only in measures aimed at directly affecting the demographic variables, but also in those related to the socio-economic determinants of the behaviour of those variables.

The conclusions of the World Population Conference at Bucharest and, in particular, the World Population Plan of Action adopted there represent an international agreement on the need to study population and the measures designed to alter its dynamics, within an integrated analysis of the development process and its planning.

/This agreement

^{2/} ECOSOC resolution 1084 (XXXIX).

This agreement clearly expresses the adoption of a position which, while rejecting the view that under-development problems are generated by the size and growth of the population and that the formulation of population policies is strongly determined by those same variables, expresses the idea that population dynamics depends on the historical and structural characteristics of the mode of development prevailing in a society and, therefore, that the changes therein are determined by changes in those characteristics.^{3/}

2. The institutional structure of CELADE

Immediately following the Second Latin American Meeting on Population, the tenth extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole of CEPAL was held on 8 March 1975, at which note was taken of the reports of the two Latin American Meetings on Population (San José, April 1974, and Mexico, March 1975), and consideration was given to the Special Report on the institutional restructuring of CELADE prepared by the government representatives in its governing Board.

On that occasion the Committee of the Whole decided "to provide that CELADE, an autonomous organization under the auspices of CEPAL, be incorporated in the latter's system as a permanent institution with its own identity".^{4/}

This resolution is mainly based on the need for the secretariat of the Commission, in compliance with resolution 327 of the fifteenth session of CEPAL, "to strengthen its capacity to satisfy government requests for technical assistance in the improvement of demographic statistics and the inclusion of demographic variables in development planning".^{5/}

/Another

^{3/} World Population Plan of Action, paragraph 14 (c).

^{4/} Report of the Tenth Extraordinary Session of the Committee of the Whole, E/CEPAL/993.

^{5/} Ibid.

Another basis for the aforementioned resolution is the recognition that "the continued existence and strengthening of CELADE for the purpose of performing within the region specific population functions in respect of training, research, information and direct assistance activities for the Governments are now even more important than in the past".^{6/}

Finally, it is established in the preambular part of the resolution "that the responsibilities which the Governments wish to assign to CELADE jointly with CEPAL are of such nature that they require a steering body composed of representatives of the countries of the region, which on the instructions of their respective Governments will operate as a permanent link with the national institutions in charge of formulating population policies and their incorporation into development plans".^{7/}

3. Second Latin American Meeting on Population

The Second Latin American Meeting on Population convened by CEPAL and held in Mexico City in March 1975 was an important and noteworthy event. Its central purpose was to analyse the implications for Latin America of the World Population Plan of Action (WPPA) and discuss the manner in which it would be implemented in the region. The basic questions discussed at the Meeting are dealt with below.

a) A new approach to population policy

From an analysis of the discussions held at the Second Latin American Meeting on Population, its conclusions and recommendations, there emerges clearly at the regional level a new concept of population policy which, as well as emphasizing its instrumental character in achieving development objectives, underlines its global nature. In other words, its objectives should

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6/ Ibid.

7/ Ibid.

"embrace the various components of population dynamics".^{8/} Lastly, the multi sectoral nature of population policies is stressed; these constitute a set of measures which relate not only to demographic variables but also to the factors determining or conditioning their behaviour, such as the structure of the demand for labour, the location of employment opportunities, educational levels, the participation of women in the labour force, access to health serv ices, forms of agricultural production, and income levels.

Finally, another element of this new approach which should be noted is the need for population policies to be formulated within a long-term perspec tive. "In view of the particular nature of population dynamics and of its interrelationships with socio-economic structures and processes, countries should adopt a long-term approach to their population policies in the context of economic and social development, anticipating future... trends and taking appropriate decisions and actions well in advance if these trends are to be modified".^{9/}

The foregoing considerations were the basis for the conclusion adopted in this respect by the government representatives meeting in Mexico: first, that although population and development policies are not identical, neither are the former aimed only at reducing fertility; secondly, that "the basis for an effective solution of population problems is, above all, socio-econom ic transformation and that a population policy may have a certain success if it constitutes an integral part of socio-economic development".^{10/}

b) Critical situations in the field of population and prospects for action

When analysing the critical situations arising from the different forms of interaction between population and development in the region, the partic ipants in the Mexico Meeting distinguished between those "resulting from the interaction of socio-economic, political and demographic structures in the

/specific

^{8/} Report of the Second Latin American Meeting on Population, chapter III, "Conclusions and recommendations", ST/CEPAL/Conf.54/L.9, Rev.1, para. 134.

^{9/} Ibid., para. 133.

^{10/} Ibid., para. 117.

specific situations inherent in each country's mode of development and those deriving from the demand for services generated by population dynamics".^{11/}

In view of the fact that these situations, when not actually aggravated, persist in the form of an acute problem, it seems important to recall here those among the first type which were highlighted at the Meeting:

- "a) urbanization and metropolitanization trends and the imbalance of regional development;
- b) irrational destruction and poor utilization of natural resources;
- c) deterioration in the quality of the environment, particularly in urban areas;
- d) agricultural development trends and their effects on employment, living levels, access to services, infant mortality, the factors determining a high fertility rate, and the exodus from the countryside;
- e) insufficient employment opportunities in relation to population growth and urbanization, leading to high levels of underemployment and unemployment;
- f) the exodus of highly skilled personnel and the migration of workers between adjacent countries;
- g) the distortions and anomalies in the structure and patterns of consumption, and those occurring in investment, for example, with respect to technology, employment and non-priority investment in luxury items."^{12/}

As regards the critical situations deriving from the demand for services generated by population dynamics, especially distribution and growth, the Meeting stressed those affecting education, health services, housing and others, and very particularly those related to employment.

On the basis of the analysis of these critical situations and taking into consideration the general orientation and objectives of CEPAL and CELADE, the participants in the Meeting proposed some priority tasks to be undertaken by those institutions.^{13/}

/Briefly,

^{11/} Ibid., paragraph 153.

^{12/} Ibid., paragraph 154.

^{13/} Ibid., paragraphs 167-169.

Briefly, these tasks involve:

- a) establishing or -where they exist- strengthening the necessary government bodies for centralizing and co-ordinating the activities of formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policies;
- b) undertaking the necessary research to elucidate, in each national context, the relationships between population and development, proposing the theory and methodology for analysing those relationships, carrying out studies for the preparation of models that permit population variables to be included in development plans, and creating a solid scientific basis for the formulation of population policies;
- c) proceeding with the task of improving the systems of collection and analysis of the necessary information;
- d) making a large-scale effort to provide training for research specialists and planners on an interdisciplinary basis, so as to enable them to co-operate in these activities in their own countries; and
- e) strengthening, at the level of the international agencies operating in the region, the technical assistance activities required for the more efficient performance of the activities referred to under the preceding points, and the intensification of their regional programmes in support of research, training and the collection and analysis of information.

4. Regional Population Programme

The Regional Population Programme for 1975 and 1976 approved by the Economic Commission for Latin America at its sixteenth session, and for 1977 and 1978 adopted at its seventeenth session provides the frame of reference for CEPAL's activities, through CELADE, in the population field.

The Programme now in process of implementation was designed in line with the guiding principles of the World Population Plan of Action, the recommendations of the Second Latin American Meeting on Population, and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and the Population Commission. The general purpose of the Programme is "to create capacities, knowledge and inputs which are necessary for the formulation of population policies and development plans, and to provide direct technical assistance to the countries

/in the

in the accomplishment of these objectives",^{14/} with the aim of helping to achieve the harmonization of demographic trends with economic development objectives.

The various tasks and activities carried out within the context of the Programme follow four main lines of action:

- a) continuing analysis of the behaviour of population variables, their trends and projections;
- b) study of the reciprocal relationships between those variables and economic, social, political and environmental factors in specific national contexts;
- c) their incorporation in the development planning process; and
- d) formulation, implementation and evaluation of population policies integrated in development plans and strategies, within the context of the reciprocal determining and conditioning factors of population dynamics and development.

An initial task in elucidating those determining and conditioning factors is the identification of problem areas or critical situations that would require priority action and which relate to those strategic aspects of development in which demographic variables play a specially important part. In this respect, reference has already been made to the conclusions of the Second Latin American Meeting on Population, and to the recommendations made there concerning the technical assistance, research, training and information activities which should be carried out by CEPAL and CELADE.

Even from a superficial analysis of the nature and scope of each of those critical situations referred to, two large groups of problems emerge which would seem to require priority treatment in Latin America. They consist of those deriving from population growth and the labour force, and those related to metropolitanization and differential regional development within the individual countries.

/Although

^{14/} CEPAL, Action in the field of population: Recent contributions and strategies for the future, E/CEPAL/1037, page 18.

Although both groups are referred to more fully in other documents presented at this Meeting, it is as well to mention them here in summarized form since the Regional Population Programme developed by CEPAL, and especially the various activities included in CELADE's work programme in any case involve analysing the causal relationships between the various elements of population dynamics and the phenomena connected with the situations described, and studying, in specific social and spatial contexts, measures conducive to solving their problem aspects.

As regards population growth, studies carried out by CEPAL and CELADE in which the trends of population growth and manpower supply show that, although admittedly the situation differs from country to country and even assuming a drastic reduction in the growth rate, the population of Latin America is expected to be over 500 million by the year 2000. These studies further show that owing to various factors (the high rates of growth in the recent past and the age structure of the population), the demand for employment will increase in the next few decades at a rate of about 3 per cent annually.

These estimates indicate the effort that must be made, both to satisfy all the various needs of the growing population and to create enough productive employment opportunities. They also show the urgent need to make a thorough study of this situation from the standpoint of the relationship between population and development, with the purpose of examining its causes and identifying the key variables that may feasibly be modified in order to attenuate the effects of their possible consequences.

With respect to the processes of urban concentration and metropolitanization, suffice it to recall that by the year 2000 it is expected that two-thirds of the population of Latin America will be living in localities of 20,000 or more inhabitants. In its turn, the population living in cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants will increase from 92,981 million in 1970 to 327,954 million (or 32.9 per cent of the total population) in the year 2000; the inhabitants in cities of 1,000,000 or more inhabitants will increase from 54,649 million in 1970 to 221,455 million (or 35.7 per cent of the total population) in the year 2000. The number of cities with 100,000 or more
/inhabitants,

inhabitants, for their part, will increase from 171 to 448 over the period concerned; the number of cities with 1,000,000 or more inhabitants will rise from 17 to 48.^{15/}

This means that it would be necessary to provide housing, health, educational and urban infrastructure services to the approximately 13.6 million persons who will be absorbed annually into the region's urban centres.^{16/} This implies an investment effort with a high social opportunity cost, far in excess of anything that Latin America can achieve without seriously jeopardizing the bases of its economic development. Population redistribution measures and policies, and especially planning at subnational levels, aimed at setting up a process of regionalized economic development and a system of functionally integrated and spatially hierarchical urban settlements, thus take on a special importance.

A second task, aimed at the possibility of making a detailed analysis of the relations between population and development, is the identification inside the countries of those regions where the critical situations which have been defined have more problematical aspects and/or show greater possibilities of rectification.

At the same time, in view of the heterogenous nature of the national societies of Latin America, it is extremely important to give special emphasis to the study of groups or sectors of the population considered to be strategic according to the degree of importance with which the problems in question are manifested in them, their behaviour as regards reproductions and migration and the feasibility of implementing population policies.^{17/}

CELADE, the agency of the CEPAL system responsible for implementing the Regional Population Programme, has programmed its activities and adopted an

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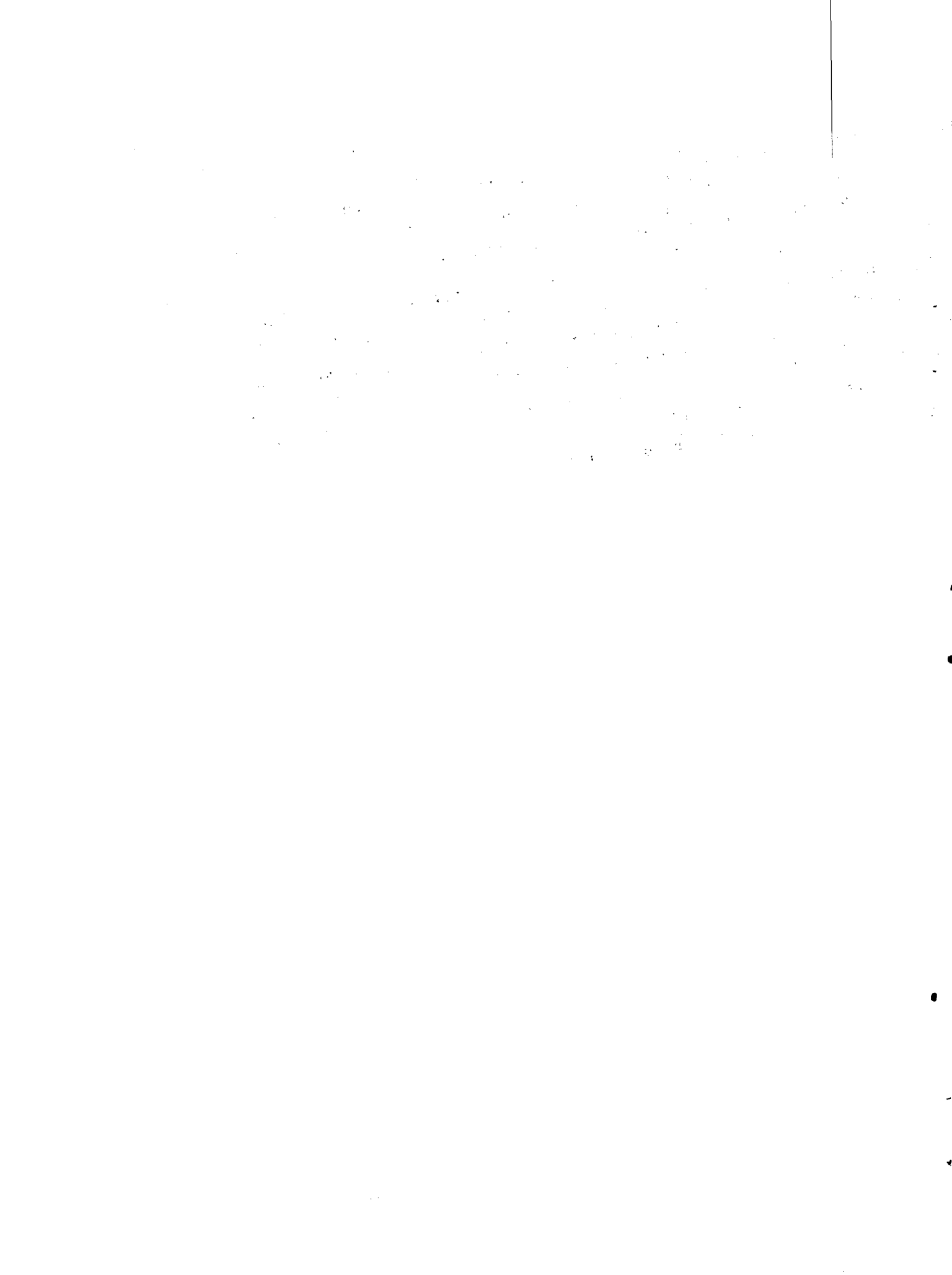
15/ United Nations, Trends and prospects in the population of urban agglomerations, 1950-2000 (ESA/P/WP.58), 21 November 1975.

16/ United Nations estimates for 1980 and 2000.

17/ See CEPAL, Seventeenth Session, Action in the field of population: recent contributions and strategies for the future (E/CEPAL/1037).

internal structure in response to these orientations and to the guidelines which emerge from the above-mentioned resolutions and recommendations, in the context of its institutional objectives and competence.

In order to achieve these objectives as efficiently as possible, CELADE is engaged in research, training, technical assistance and information activities, grouped in for substantive action areas, where they are implemented in integrated form by all the professional staff working in these areas: (a) monitoring of demographic trends and population programmes; (b) interrelations between population and development; (c) teaching and training, and (d) storage, retrieval and processing of population data.



II. CELADE'S ACTION AREAS

1. Monitoring of population trends and programmes

The central objective of this area is to keep up to date a series of demographic indicators from the countries of the region (population, fertility, mortality, international migration), referring both to the past (generally as from 1950) and to the future (the projections generally go up to the year 2000). The tasks aimed at achieving this objective are carried out, as far as possible, in collaboration with government statistical or planning offices, or with research centres in the different countries. This work is supported by and receives feed-back from methodological studies on substantive matters, particularly fertility and mortality.

CELADE has taken an active share in developing techniques for demographic analysis, particularly methods and techniques for evaluating and analysing inadequate demographic data in order to solve, at least in part, the problems of lack of information, or of poor quality information in many countries of the region.

This led to CELADE'S creating, towards the end of 1960, a sampling technique for collecting population data by means of multi-round surveys. This technique was used in national research carried out in Honduras, Perú, Panama and Nicaragua. More recently, beginning in 1968 with the experimental census taken in Cantón Grecia, Costa Rica, preferential attention has been given to the utilization of census information on births, survival of children and orphanhood, for example, in order to make estimates on fertility and mortality. Mention should be made here of the surveys carried out or in the process of being carried out in the provinces of Misiones, Argentina, and Talca, Chile. CELADE is working here in collaboration with institutions elsewhere

/which

which propose to solve the same problems of estimates by similar methods; they include the Center for Overseas Population Studies (COPS), the East-West Population Institute of Honolulu, and the Population Laboratories of the University of North Carolina.

The state of knowledge of population variables for some countries of the region has effectively improved through this work. The national population survey of Bolivia, made in 1975, is a good example of how the use of a new methodological approach (the use of retrospective questions on fertility and mortality) made it possible for the first time in this country to make relatively accurate estimates of basic demographic parameters.

This work, carried out with the collaboration of the national statistical offices of the region, requires the technical assistance services of CELADE in demographic analysis and computing. The possibility of applying this methodology to the 1980 population censuses provides a unique opportunity of obtaining invaluable information for appraising population trends.

Research on substantive matters in this area includes the preparation of estimates and projections of basic demographic variables, generally at the national level. This work is carried out systematically for the countries of Latin America every time that the availability of new information indicates that it is necessary to modify existing estimates and, periodically, in order to review the demographic situation of the countries of the region. The product of this activity appears in such documents as: "Latin America: demographic situation around 1973 and prospects for the year 2000", submitted at the Latin American Preparatory Meeting for the World Population Conference, held in San José, Costa Rica, in 1974; "Evaluación de la situación demográfica en el quinquenio 1960-1975. Comparación de las estimaciones previas con las que resultan de datos recientes", which was presented at the Seventeenth Session of CEPAL in Guatemala, and the "Boletín Demográfico de CELADE" (biannual).

The studies on the fertility and mortality of human populations are the very basis of all CELADE's research work. Over the last fifteen years several

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important regional comparative studies were undertaken, mainly oriented towards discovering differences in levels and patterns of fertility and mortality in conjunction with geographical, socio-economic and cultural factors. At present, two new studies of this type are being prepared, and are intended to update knowledge of the situation and trends in population dynamics in a relatively large group of countries of the region. The first, "Investigación de la Mortalidad Infantil en Latinoamérica" (IMIAL), has to date taken the form of the publication of some fifteen country studies on mortality at the beginning of life, estimated on the basis of data collected in recent censuses and national population surveys. They establish the level of mortality in the first years of life, and for the first time differences are generally detected between population groups defined according to geographical or social criteria (mainly the mother's level of education). The IMIAL project has an important technical assistance component. The majority of the country studies have been made with the participation of national counterpart staff who worked in CELADE on scholarships.

A project of similar development in that, like IMIAL, it is conceived for implementation in collaboration with national demographers is the project "Investigación de la fecundidad a través del método de los hijos propios en América Latina" (IFHIPAL). In this case, fertility levels and differentials will be studied on the basis of data from national population censuses and surveys. This piece of research was initiated in two countries: Argentina and Costa Rica.

The monitoring and research activities referred to above have been stimulated and benefited by seminars which have served as a means of following the rapid evolution which demographic analysis techniques are undergoing, mainly those applied to inadequate data -an activity aimed at keeping the demographers of Latin America up to date with the most recent developments in the subject. It may be observed here, for example, that in the last three years seminars have been held in Santiago and San José on methods for estimating fertility on the basis of census data (Santiago), on biostatistics of human reproduction (San José), and on methods for estimating infant mortality on the basis of information on the survival of children (Santiago).

/2. Population

2. Population and Development

In view of the proposals and recommendations made by the countries at the Second Regional Population Meeting (Mexico 1975), included in the Regional Population Programme 1977-1978 adopted at the Seventeenth Session of the Economic Commission for Latin America (Guatemala City, May 1977), on the need to clarify the relations between population and development and include population policies within global strategies of change, CELADE has proceeded to reinforce its activities in this field and, as from 1977, integrate them in a single Population and Development Area.

The general objective assigned to this Area is to lay the conceptual and methodological bases required to take population dynamics and population characteristics into account in economic and social planning and in the formulation of policies, in the specific conditions of the different countries of the region.

In order to achieve this general objective, the Area must cover a vast spectrum of subjects among which mention should be made of: a) the analysis of the results of the research and studies carried out by the social scientists and research centres concerned with examining the relations between population and development; b) research on these relations; c) co-operation with other United Nations agencies in studying the problems of development in which population factors are involved - a concern of top priority for the Governments; d) technical co-operation with the Governments of the region in designing and implementing relevant research for formulating, implementing and evaluating policies with demographic effects, whether deliberate or not; e) collaboration with other Areas of CELADE in the training of scientific staff, qualified to carry out these studies in their respective countries; f) advisory services to the different Governments in constituting bodies responsible for carrying out population policies; g) monitoring of population policies, including follow-up and periodic evaluations of the state of population policies in the region, and h) the dissemination of the information acquired in the course of the above activities, so that it will be useful to the decision-making agencies of the Governments.

/The activities

The activities carried out and those which it is planned to carry out in connexion with these matters are summarized below:

The relations with the community of scientific experts in population matters

The inclusion of population policies in the framework of the development strategies implies of a necessity that an acceptable knowledge of the nature of the relations between population dynamics and characteristics, on the one hand, and economic growth and social change on the other has been obtained. The vast size of this task and the multidisciplinary field it covers make it impossible for a single body to attempt to cope with it alone. Fortunately, the number of social scientists and research centres devoted to analysing these interrelations has increased considerably in recent years; the research they carry out constitutes an important scientific contribution for those whose task is to provide theoretical and conceptual frameworks which will allow this work to be performed.

The above considerations have led CELADE to establish different forms of links with the social scientists of the region who are concerned with studying the relations between population and development, so as to help towards an easy and continuing access to the results of their research and the inclusion of policy relevance as a criterion for selecting the topics which these scientists research and in analysing the results they obtain. The active participation of CELADE, through its Population and Development Area, in the Programme of Social Research on Population Problems Relevant to Population Policies in Latin America (PISPAL), the collaboration which Area members provide to the different working groups of the Population and Development Commission of the Latin American Council for the Social Sciences and other groups of an interregional nature, and assistance in specialized seminars, have been the specific forms used to keep these links operational.

In order to maintain the closest possible collaboration with the government agencies responsible for formulating and implementing population policies and keep up to date with the approach of the Governments to the key problems of development, CELADE includes among the activities which achieve

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these objectives the organization of seminars with the participation of government officials responsible for programmes with population implications, and social scientists, thus contributing to strengthening the contacts and dialogue between the scientific community and those who work at the government level in the field of population and economic and social planning.

Despite the importance which CELADE attributes to these links, they are only a tool to help in the permanent task of analysis and revision of the results being reached in the research on the relations between population and development, with the eventual aim of integrating them in conceptual frames to be used for formulating, implementing and evaluating population policies. This task of systematizing results and preparing conceptual frames in order to be able to clarify the complex network of relationships between the different components of population dynamics and economic and social change, and permit the integration of population policies in development planning, is the object of special concern on the part of the Population and Development Area.

Research

The analysis of population trends and their relationship to socio-economic factors, and the mandates and recommendations which the Governments of the region have given CEPAL and particularly CELADE, have contributed to the decision as to which topics of research will receive top priority attention from the Area. They can basically be grouped in three main areas: the determining factors and consequences of the spatial distribution of the population; the socio-economic factors linked to the differences in fertility by socio-economic groups, with special emphasis on those influencing the fertility of the urban poor and the population depending on agriculture; and international migrations, their consequences and determining factors.

Research in social sciences of relevance to population policies, trends in urbanization, urban concentration and metropolitanization, the emigration of professionals and experts, regional development and internal migration, the effects of the different modes of rural social development in population

/settlements

settlements in those areas, the relation between extreme poverty and population, are some examples of topics which recently have been or are in the process of being dealt with by Area experts, within the context of the three areas of work referred to above.

Progress in recent years in clarifying the nature of the relations between socio-economic factors and population trends has shown the need for the research carried out to take into account both the macro-structural changes which are taking place as a result of development (urbanization, agricultural modernization, differentiated regional development, etc.), as well as socio-economic and environmental factors which are more directly connected with population trends; of special importance among these are the characteristics of the labour markets, income and its distribution, levels of education, the role of women and children in economic activities, and the availability of basic services, where their effects on the different social strata vary. At the same time, the present state of knowledge of these matters indicates that the research of relevance to population policies should not leave out the cultural and psycho-social factors which are contributing to moulding population behaviour.

Research in the Population and Development Area attempts, as far as the nature of the problem allows, to take these different levels of analysis into account. Notwithstanding, special emphasis has been laid on identifying the public policies which at different levels affect the factors determining the population trends it is desired to modify, and the evaluation of how far these policies could be modified in order to achieve the desired demographic changes.

Research on the three major topics mentioned above takes different forms which buttress each other: diagnosis studies of specific countries; studies in which the cases of different countries form part of comparative research and, lastly, basic studies to quantify the relations between population behaviour and economic and social factors earmarked as inputs for economic-demographic simulation models.

/The first

The first type of research which corresponds to one of the phases in the programmes of technical assistance to the Governments, is being undertaken at the request of the latter and its objectives are: a) to establish in the specific conditions of each country the relationships existing between socio-economic and demographic factors, so as to determine the consequences which past population trends have had and are having on some aspects of central importance for socio-economic development; b) to project future trends and their probable economic and social effects; and c) to produce elements which make it possible to identify the most suitable government policies for changing future trends, when these are seen as obstacles to development.

The level of direct participation of the Population and Development Area in activities of this type is subject to the desires of the Government concerned. It is probable that in the majority of cases the Area will restrict itself to suggesting the topics for study and to advising national researchers in planning them and carrying them out. CELADE's advisory services in the studies included in the Government of Paraguay's project on population studies for development constitutes an activity of this type.

The second type corresponds to activities undertaken directly by the Population and Development Area. Its aim is to elucidate some problems of relevance to population policies, or to spell out for different socio-economic contexts some of the relationships involved. In response to the interest expressed by the Governments in studying the problems of the spatial distribution of the population, CELADE has given special emphasis to this topic. Comparative research is therefore being carried out on regional development, public policies, migrations and urban predominance in Colombia, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, with the participation of national research centres in the social sciences. At the same time, the relations between regional development and population distribution in Argentina and Chile have been analysed, and a study completed on the last 20 years of urbanization in Latin America. Lastly, as part of this same topic, it is intended during the next few months to undertake a study of needs and resources in the emerging metropolitan areas in the region, in relatively less developed countries.

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Another topic in which the Governments have shown interest is that of the factors relating to differences in fertility among regions within the countries, and among different socio-economic groups. Both topics have been dealt with in connection with development strategies and population policies in the cases of Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile and Cuba. Independently, another piece of research has concentrated on the low income groups of the countries, and on detecting in them factors leading to high fertility, and its effects on the levels of living of these groups. The above studies will be complemented by others at present in preparation on factors relating to rural fertility, and particularly, the possible impact on them of changes in the labour participation of women and children, brought about by new methods of agricultural production.

The study of international migration within Latin America has also been tackled, so as to identify elements of diagnosis which could be of use to the Governments of the region in formulating, implementing and evaluating policies on the emigration of highly qualified personnel.

Lastly, as part of the research intended to serve as a direct input in constructing economic-demographic models which can be used in planning, work is being done on quantifying the relations between socio-economic variables and population dynamics and on the analytical solution of a demographic sub-model which could be integrated in the broader development planning models.

In addition to the above activities, the Population and Development Area is collaborating closely with other units of CEPAL in three projects aimed at dealing with problems defined as top priority by the Governments of the region. These are: the long-term prospects and trends of development in the region, extreme poverty and rural social development.

Technical assistance in population policies

The area is also engaged in technical assistance in population policies. One of its tasks concerns the creation and strengthening when they exist -of suitable government bodies for the overall treatment of the topic. This means

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collaborating with the Governments of the region in determining their basic requirements in population matters and in designing and implementing the studies required for formulating population policies and putting them into practice. Another task is the follow-up and constant evaluation of the progress which the countries have made in integrating population policies in their development plans.

In a close link with the above tasks, the Area keeps a permanent record of the state of the region's population policies. The regular publication of periodic reports on the state of population policies is expected to be achieved during 1978 or 1979.

Another activity aimed at permitting the divulgation of experiences in this area is the organization of exchange meetings among government bodies responsible for population problems. The first meeting for this purpose was held in San José, Costa Rica, in November 1976 and provided useful experience for future exchange activities.

3. Teaching and training

Since the creation of CELADE, one of its main responsibilities has been to maintain a regional teaching programme. In the course of time, in view of new needs and the expansion of the Centre's teaching capacity, this programme has been expanded and diversified in order to benefit a larger number of students and cover a broader range of training opportunities.

This process responds to new demands which the countries have brought to notice in recent years, which are expected to continue in the immediate future. At the present time, the teaching programme operates using different modes of work which include different types of courses. Four main training modes may be distinguished:

a) Postgraduate programme. This programme responds to the need to train professionals in population studies, using a multidisciplinary approach at an

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adequate academic level. At the present time two training possibilities are offered. The first is the Master's Degree in Economics with Specialization in Demography, organized jointly with the Department of Economics of the University of Chile. This course lasts two years and is directed at professionals from the entire region, basically economists and professionals in the social sciences in general. It aims at enriching the study of economics with an appropriate consideration of demographic variables.

A second opportunity is the course on social studies of the population, organized jointly with the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO); it is aimed at training specialists in population studies, approaching demography in an interdisciplinary context. The first course of this programme of social studies should start in the second half of 1978.

b) Regular teaching programme and intensive national courses. The regular programme includes Basic and Advanced courses in Demographic Analysis, which have been given annually over the last 20 years.

The Basic Course is aimed at training staff from government offices and teaching and research centres in the basic techniques of demographic analysis. The Advanced Course provides specialization in analysis techniques and at the same time expands the range of demographic studies by placing them in the economic and social context.

The growing demand for trained personnel to generate basic demographic inputs raised the need for complementing these regular courses. With this aim, as from 1966, CELADE has been offering national intensive short-term courses in demography (12 to 16 weeks); twenty-two courses have already been given, with an average of 2 to 3 courses in recent years.

c) Training courses in techniques and methods applied to specific fields. In recent years the field of population studies and activities has considerably expanded in connexion with development problems. This situation has generated a demand for the training of professional staff with different specializations in substantive and operational aspects of the use of data and population studies. Depending on its resources, CELADE has been able to materialize

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a large number of training initiatives, through seminars and courses and subjects such as electronic data-processing, evaluation of the demographic effects of family planning programmes and the design of population policies.

d) Specialization seminars. This activity is aimed at communicating to Latin American professionals recent advances in substantive and methodological aspects of demography and related fields. It also constitutes a means for scientists of international status and prestige to make contributions, systematically and in depth, on specialized aspects considered to be important for the progress of population research in the region. In practice, over the last decade at least one seminar of this kind has been held every year.

Some brief remarks may be made on some elements of the teaching and training programme mentioned above, considering its present situation and its future prospects.

In addition to the process of expansion and diversification already mentioned, efforts may be observed to ensure the consolidation of the different programmes by two means. One is the extension and updating of the communication mechanisms with the countries, with a view to expanding the list of potential candidates and including students from a larger number of national institutions. The other is to ensure the continuity of the different courses by means of a suitable provision of fellowships from the Centre's budget, so as to have the necessary financial resources on hand in good time.

At the same time, this process of consolidation has been extended to bilateral relations between the Centre and other national institutions in conjunction with whom joint postgraduate level teaching programmes are being carried out.

Another feature of recent years which will certainly take on impetus in years to come, concerns the efforts which are being made to train high-level government personnel for an adequate understanding and introduction of demographic variables in planning and strategies for economic and social development.

4. Storage, retrieval and processing of population information

Since the processing of demographic data and the interchange and dissemination of the results of population studies are fundamental to the creation of the capacity, knowledge and inputs needed for the design of population policies and development plans, and since the purpose of CELADE is to develop these skills, the Population Information Programme in Latin America (INFOPAL) has been organized with a view to contributing to the solution of some of the major information problems concerning population in Latin America.

The chief aim of the INFOPAL programme is to facilitate the access of regional governments to microdata, tabulations and documents connected with population and strengthen their ability to store, retrieve and process the information according to their specific needs. The systematic integration, within a single programme, of a documentation system, data bank and computerized unit for processing demographic information enables CELADE to give assistance to users with demographic information problems in a rapid, flexible and co-ordinated form.

Up to only a few years ago, demographic data were chiefly used to carry out measurements of the basic population variables at the national level. The growing need to incorporate population variables in the design, implementation and assessment of development policies, however, has resulted in the formulation of new questions on factors connected with population by an ever-increasing body of researchers and government agencies. Moreover, since the present trend is increasingly directed towards the design of specific policies for concrete situations, it is often necessary to disaggregate population data much more than was required in the past, so that planners can work on the special population categories and the geographic sub-units in which they are interested.

The INFOPAL Programme, which is integrated with the other substantive programmes of CELADE, therefore provides technical assistance for the processing of demographic information and the formation of data banks; it also

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adapts or creates specialized software for computation so that the national institutions can satisfy their needs with their own material and human resources.

A great mass of research material and accumulated experience on population topics exists in the region, but most of it is unpublished and is of value only if those interested can readily locate it. Up to 1976, when CELADE initiated the Latin American Population Documentation System (DOCPAL), it was not easy to retrieve this information, since most of it was not recorded in a systematic form. The chief aim of the INFOPAL Programme is therefore to establish at the regional level the instruments and services which the countries require, and also to give them the specialized technical assistance and training necessary for the utilization of demographic information.

Latin American Population Documentation System (DOCPAL)

In March 1976 CELADE began to develop the DOCPAL system with the following long-term aims: a) to locate and catalogue the literature on population written in Latin America or about this regions from 1970 onwards, and b) to improve the capacity of regional users to obtain this information, taking in to account the different characteristics and needs of the countries and their institutions. During the first stage of developing the system, from 1976 up to the present time, efforts have focused on increasing CELADE's own capacity to create a computerized data base with information about each document and on establishing three new basic documentation services at the regional level: the regular publication of a review in Spanish entitled DOCPAL Resúmenes sobre Población en América Latina; the delivery of requested items by terminal; and the establishment of a documents delivery service. By means of these services it is hoped to reduce the duplication of regional research and to make better use of the work already done.

The service most widely used will probably be the review DOCPAL Resúmenes, produced by computer, of which the first two numbers were published in 1977. It contains detailed substantive summaries in Spanish, frequently on each of the chapters of a book or monograph, and is designed to enable people

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working in demography to keep abreast of information relating to their spheres of interest, and also to facilitate the location of highly specialized information by means of different indexes. This periodical, which will eventually contain from about 500 to 700 references per issue, is published regularly twice a year, in June and December, and is widely distributed to individuals and institutions. In addition, any document included in the review will, as far as possible, be delivered free to users in Latin America.

Since the regional services of DOCPAL will not be able to replace the library documentation services of national institutions specializing in demography, the second stage of DOCPAL will be to assist these institutions to improve their own capacity by means of training and technical assistance. As the DOCPAL system is based on a set of international norms and uses a multilingual demographic vocabulary (thesaurus) for indexing, the help given to the national institutions in the use of DOCPAL procedures and in their adaptation to local needs will enable the information from national institutions to be made more readily available for users' needs and ensure an expeditious interchange of information with the system and with other centres. As part of this activity it is hoped to train national centres to carry out the complete indexing and summarizing of the material relating to their countries, a task which at present is performed by CELADE.

Data Bank

The CELADE Data Bank stores and supplies magnetic tapes, required for technical assistance, training and research, which record samples of the 1960 and 1970 Latin American censuses and also various population surveys. Each of the census samples is reviewed for internal consistency and then recorded on magnetic tape in a uniform format to allow for comparative study. A set of tabulations, known as OMUECE tabulations is also produced for each sample and serves to complement the census tabulations normally published by the countries.

Various national institutions have requested help in organizing their own demographic data banks, with special emphasis on the rapid and easy

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production of specialized tabulations. In order to be in a position to accede to such requests -which are expected to increase- and also to improve the CELADE Data Bank, the Processing of Population Information Services and Systems Unit will begin towards the end of 1978 to work on the adaptation of Canadian software in order to be able to obtain tabulations of large sets of microdata at high speed and low cost. Once this work is completed, its results will be put at the disposal of the national institutions together with the technical assistance and training needed for their implementation and use. The new system will also enable the students and researchers of CELADE and other institutions to obtain complex tabulations from the CELADE Data Bank much more rapidly and at a lower cost than at present.

Processing of Population Information Services and Systems Unit

Although in most of the countries there are computers suitable for population studies, many national centres often fail to produce worthwhile results owing to lack of technical assistance. One of the main contributions of the INFOPAL Programme to the work on population in the countries is therefore technical assistance and training in information processing. During 1977 the INFOPAL systems analysts and programmers carried out more than 20 technical and training missions. These missions were especially useful in helping institutions to make use of the existing packages of programmes which serve to carry out complex tabulations and other manipulations without the help of highly-trained programmers, who are very difficult to retain in government institutions which normally have low budgets. One of these missions assisted with the processing of the Bolivian census of 1976, another with the international migration data of the Peruvian census in 1972. The specialists in population data processing also worked in close collaboration with other CELADE programmes concerned with technical assistance to the countries in research projects such as the demographic surveys carried out in Argentina, Bolivia, Peru and Paraguay.

In view of the fact that its programmers and systems analysts have wide experience in the processing of specialized population surveys, CELADE was

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selected to give assistance to seven Latin American countries taking part in the World Fertility Survey. It is noteworthy that CELADE is the only United Nations organization giving assistance to the countries of the region in the processing of the data of this Survey.

Just as the processing unit has helped to adapt and transfer suitable technology from the developed countries to Latin America, it has likewise contributed to the development of new software when this has not existed in a form appropriate for regional needs. In this last respect, one of CELADE's most notable contributions is the development of the data consistency and correction system (CONCOR) which is being widely used throughout Latin America for the editing of censuses and surveys and has been adopted by the organizers of the World Fertility Survey Organization for use throughout the world. CELADE is at present rewriting CONCOR in a language which will enable this programme to be used in a great variety of computers, and this version will be available for the processing of the 1980 censuses.

5. Publications

CELADE has quite an active publications programme which includes studies, technical reports, information documents, manuals and literature on demography and related subjects in general. Most of the material published is produced in CELADE as part of its work in training, research and technical assistance to the countries.

The editorial and printing service maintains the following principal series of publications for general distribution:

a) Periodicals:

- CELADE Boletín Demográfico (biannual), a bilingual document which contains estimates, levels and trends of demographic variables together with updated population projections for the countries of the region.

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- Notas de Población, a review which comes out every four months and is designed to disseminate among Spanish-speaking readers scientific articles and results of research carried out in Latin America.

- DOCPAL Resúmenes sobre Población en América Latina (biannual), a bilingual publication designed to disseminate summaries of articles or studies on the subject of population in Latin America. It is also a vehicle for communication between researchers and specialists and the documentation system (DOCPAL) developed by CELADE.

There are some 600 subscribers to one or more of the above periodicals.

b) Books:

Twenty-four titles have been published during the last twelve years. This fact, in addition to signifying a considerable contribution by CELADE to technical bibliography in the Spanish language, has facilitated the access of researchers and students to texts not previously available in Spanish which are regarded as classics in the field of demography and related subjects.

c) Monograph series:

This series is designed to disseminate the results of research conducted by CELADE staff, technical documents prepared for seminars, and translations of various kinds which serve both the needs of the Centre and those of researchers and institutions.

