

celade

Internal Distribution

CELADE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON
1957 AGREEMENT AND SPECIAL FUND
PROJECT 1966. Resources and
Activities, with special reference
to the period 1957-1965

FIRST MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
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CENTRO LATINOAMERICANO DE DEMOGRAFIA (CELADE)

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1. Establishment of the Centre

The Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) was established under the joint sponsorship of the United Nations and the Government of Chile by virtue of a technical assistance agreement signed in August 13, 1957. The Government of Chile entrusted the implementation of the agreement to the University of Chile.

Such project had its basis on the United Nations Economic and Social Council resolution 571 (XIX), of May 1955, requesting the Secretary General to explore the possibility of establishing in the developing regions of the world, centres for the study of their population problems and to train personnel in demographic analysis techniques. This initiative was favourably received in the session on Demographic Training and Research in Latin America, of the Latin American Seminar on Population held in Rio de Janeiro in December of the same year, where the need of preparing qualified personnel was pointed out.

The 1957 agreement laid down the fundamental objectives of the new organization (training, research and technical assistance) which continue to be the guiding lines of its action. Such agreement, whose initial duration was established until December 1960, was extended almost without modifications for

another 6 years until the end of 1966 at the request of the government of the host country.

Since May 1966, the Centre functions under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (Special Fund) with its financial support and that of 13 countries of the region, in accordance with the Plan of Operation signed in New York in October 20, 1967. The purpose of the project is to assist CELADE for a 5 year period, to intensify and expand its teaching, research and technical assistance activities in the field of demography in Latin America.

This project contemplates also the establishment of a Sub-Centre in San José, Costa Rica, to take care of the specific needs of the Central American subregion; it has been operating since mid 1967.

According to the Plan of Operation, which establishes the rules under which the project is to operate, CELADE functions under the aegis of the University of Chile in close collaboration and coordination with the Economic Commission for Latin America, and the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. The executive responsibility falls upon the Director/Manager of the project; the general policy is to be laid down by the Governing Board, presided over by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and constituted by representatives from the governments of the signatory countries and from international organizations.

This project is the materialization of the request presented to the Special Fund in July 1964, by the Governments of Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador and Peru. Such request was based on the recommendation made in Resolution 238 (X) adopted during the Tenth Period of Sessions of the Economic Commission for Latin America, held in Mar del Plata (Argentina) in May 1963. Paragraph 5 of that Resolution read: "To point out to the governments the advisability of negotiating as soon as possible before the United Nations Special Fund and other international organizations interested in CELADE activities, such as UNESCO, ECLA, ILO and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) the granting of the financial support required for the continuation and expansion of CELADE functions and the establishment of the Demographic Research Centre for Central America".

2. Resources (finance, personnel and building)

Since its establishment and for several years the Centre's activities were financed mainly with funds from the United Nations Technical Assistance Regular Programme and the Population Council, New York. Professional staff salaries, fellowships and other minor expenses were defrayed with United Nations funds, while the latter provided resources to pay local personnel salaries and expenses of the research programme. On the other hand, the University of Chile provided quarters, office supplies, and equipment as well as payment for part of the local personnel.

From 1964 on, the financial resources were reinforced by a grant from the Agency for International Development (AID), with an initial contribution of US\$ 100,000, part of which was utilized in 1965 to pay professional and local personnel salaries, fellowships, travel and other minor expenses.

The increase on the budget which can be observed in the figures below, reflects mainly the constant expansion of the Centre's activities:

<u>Year</u>	<u>US\$</u>
1958	106,500
1960	143,900
1962	221,000
1964	216,000
1966	330,000
1968	720,550

These amounts do not include resources which were channelled through CELADE to carry out research in countries of the region, such as the comparative fertility surveys undertaken in seven cities in the years 1963-64, which were financed mainly with Population Council funds.

After 5 years of the Centre's inception and due to limited resources, its personnel was rather small in relation to the objectives of its programme. Actually, by the middle of 1962, besides the Director, six internationally recruited

professionals were working, while other 13 persons carried out administrative, clerical and research assistance functions. At the time of initiation of the Special Fund project, in 1966, the international professional personnel had duplicated and the local personnel was two and a half times that of 1962, both occupying 46 posts. At the end of the first year of existence of the project, the international professional staff had grown from 13 to 21, while the local personnel was benefitted by only 5 additional posts. The lack of appropriate quarters that CELADE suffered until the end of 1966, was undoubtedly an obstacle to the expansion of its activities within the limits of the available resources and a source of continuous preoccupation of its authorities. For its initial installation and with a provisional character, in accordance with the agreement signed, the University of Chile provided a small pavilion (approximately 100 m²) in the campus of the "Instituto Pedagógico". This pavilion housed the offices of the Director, the secretariat, the administrative offices, the library, the class-room for the Basic Course, working rooms for two professionals and two research assistants. In order to meet increasing needs, such as the Advanced and the Specialization Courses, the Editorial office and additional space for professionals and research assistants, it was necessary to rent two nearby houses. Anyway, besides being non-functional,

these installations soon became insufficient for the normal activities. Several solutions which were discussed with the university authorities, including the building of new and larger quarters in the campus of the "Instituto Pedagógico", did not materialize. Finally, in December 1966, the Centre moved to its present building, which had been occupied until then by the United Nations Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning. This, while representing a remarkable improvement, continues to be insufficient due to the expansion of CELADE activities.

3. Activities carried out by the Centre

a) Teaching. The initial objective to which higher priority was assigned, was that of teaching. In the year 1958, the first Basic Course for fellows from Latin American countries was organized. This intensive training course of ten and a half months duration, has been attended by 114 students from 20 countries of the region during the first 8 years (1958-1965). During the following 3 years (1966 to 1968) other 56 students were admitted to this Course.

The Basic Course is devoted to the training of medium level personnel of national bureaus of statistics, planning institutions, universities and other organizations that demand demographic studies. In it knowledge on basic demography through theoretical classes and laboratory work covering a

wide curriculum is imparted, (See document "Programa Regular de Enseñanza). Although the teaching programme has not undergone important general modifications, the subject content has been revised from time to time in order to adjust it to the level of knowledge of the fellows, to achieve a better coordination among the different subjects, to incorporate bibliography with new contributions of interest in specific fields and to follow recommendations from its Advisory Board, which met in 1957 and 1962.

In 1959 the first training programme of a more advanced level was established. Addressed at a selected group of students of the Basic Course, for several years it was designed mainly to exercise them in the execution of actual demographic research under the guidance of the Centre's teaching and research personnel. Nevertheless, from the first years, this activity was complemented with brief courses on sampling and on economic and social aspects of development. The need of intensifying the study of some demographic subjects dealt with in the Basic Course, the recommendations of the Advisory Board of broadening the teaching of methods of social research and the lack of sufficient mathematical training on the part of most students, led to the introduction of several courses until the present structure with 11 specialized subjects was reached (see document "Programa Regular de Enseñanza"). Until the 1965

course, 36 fellows had received such training; during the period 1966-67, 13 fellows received it and in 1968, there are 6 fellows in this category.

A small number of students selected among the fellows of the Advanced Course received training at a higher level in the Specialization programme that the Centre has been maintaining since 1963. Within this programme, the fellows are incorporated into the ongoing research projects and participate in different aspects of the teaching programme. Until 1965, 8 such fellowships had been granted and since then, 4 other students have undergone this training.

Also professionals with experience in the field of demography, not participating in the already mentioned courses were admitted to the training programme to carry out research under the guidance of the staff of the Centre. These research fellows generally attend the formal classes devoted to the Advanced Course. Seven fellowships have been granted under this programme, of which only 2 are prior to 1966.

It is worthwhile pointing out the initial efforts which were necessary to organize the Basic Course, which implied the preparation of teaching material, such as class-notes, laboratory exercises, tables, bibliography, etc. Later on, with the introduction of cycles of classes in the Advanced Course, the same kind of work had to be developed.

Other teaching activities which were present from the first years are the assistance rendered by professional staff of the Centre, by giving classes on demography in courses organized by national and international organizations. At the beginning, such assistance benefitted particularly various centres of the University of Chile, such as the School of Economics, the Planning Centre, the School of Political and Administrative Sciences and the School of Public Health. Besides, CELADE participated in international courses such as those of the Inter American Centre for Training in Economic and Financial Statistics (CIEF), Latin American Faculty of Sociology (FLACSO), and in several training courses in different specialties (health, housing, education, human resources) organized first by ECLA and afterwards by the Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES).

From the year 1965 CELADE staff have had teaching responsibilities in courses on demography in programmes devoted to medical and paramedical personnel, such as the Course on Health and Dynamics of Population which is sponsored by the Pan American Health Organization and the Latin American Programme of Training in Family Planning, by the "Asociación Chilena de Protección de la Familia", and the Latin American Course on the Biology of Reproduction.

The cooperation lent since the year 1965 to "El Colegio de Mexico," with classes on demography at the "Centro de Estudios Económicos y Demográficos" must also be mentioned.

b) Research. The reduced number of professionals and the priority which had to be given to the development of the teaching programme during the first years, limited research activities considerably. The contributions were particularly related to the teaching programme, especially the assistance to students in the preparation of many monographs, some of which represent interesting contributions to the knowledge of the demographic situation of the countries of the region, or the application of a methodology adapted to the quality of the available statistical information. During the first 5 years (1958-1962) more than a hundred of such monographs were prepared, from which 70 corresponded to students of the Basic Course; in the years 1963, 1964 and 1965, fellows attending that Course prepared other 41 monographs, while students of the Advanced and Specialization Courses produced a similar number of reports. The production of this kind of work continued at a similar pace during subsequent years; this is how in 1967, 33 monographs were completed. As it can be seen in the recent publications catalogue this Centre has published more than a hundred of these works under Series C.

The research work carried out during the first years is also reflected in several individual studies undertaken by professional staff members, among which some appearing under Series A in the list of publications could be mentioned, such as "Demographic Analysis of the Educational Situation in Latin America", "Some Aspects of the Economic Activity of Women in Latin America" and "Population and Labour Force in Chile, 1930-1975".

Within the limits of the resources available, research through surveys also received some attention during the first years. In the period 1959-1962, the following three studies were carried out, in chronological order: i) A survey on fertility and on attitudes related to family formation, undertaken in Santiago, Chile; ii) Guanabara (Brazil) Demographic Pilot Survey, undertaken in order to determine demographic rates in the absence of vital statistics; iii) Immigration Survey into Greater Santiago, the main purpose of which was to study trends, differentials and assimilation of immigrants. A report has been published for each one of these studies.

By the year 1964 the research programme was given a big impulse with the Comparative Fertility Surveys (Urban) in Latin America, which covered 7 cities. This project was initiated with a workshop attended by representatives of

the national organizations participating in the study. In the same year -1964- in the Area of Cauquenes (Chile) a longitudinal study was undertaken with purposes similar to those of the above mentioned Guanabara study, but applied to a rural area and to a small city. By the end of 1965, a second immigration survey into metropolitan areas, was undertaken. In this case, it was the City of Lima.

The most important events in this field, from 1966 on, are the programmes of comparative fertility surveys in rural areas, the surveys on induced abortion and use of contraceptives in cities and a third immigration survey carried out in Caracas. On these programmes, broad detail is provided in the reports on the activities of the years 1966, 1967 and 1968. (See documents G, N° 4 and G N°7).

c) Technical Assistance. The lack of resources did not make it possible either to develop, during the first years, a broad and continued work on technical assistance. Probably, the most important event of those years was the United Nations Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization of Population Census Results in Latin America, whose organization was shared by the Centre with several Headquarters Offices and ECLA. Carried out at the end of 1959, its purpose was to render assistance to countries of the region in connection with the utilization of the results of population censuses to

be undertaken during the 60's, in the preparation of economic and social development plans and in the formulation of policies related to those plans.

Occasionally, assistance was also rendered to bureaus of statistics of several countries, a detail of which seems unnecessary to establish now. Nevertheless, the assistance rendered to the Bureau of Statistics and Censuses of Chile for the 1960 population censuses is worth pointing out.

Some years afterwards, in 1964, agreements to render technical assistance to carry out demographic studies were signed with organizations from three countries: the Instituto Nacional de Planificación from Peru, the Junta de Planificación y Coordinación Económica from Ecuador and the Consejo Nacional de Desarrollo from Argentina. In these organizations or in offices related to them, demographic analysis units were established to develop, with the Centre's assistance, a programme of studies. Similar agreements were signed in the years 1966 and 1967 with organizations from the Government of Venezuela and Panama.

Several of the teaching activities, mentioned in preceding paragraphs may also be considered as technical assistance rendered to national organizations. In the same way, research through surveys, already mentioned, implied assistance to national groups in connection with this kind of studies. All

these types of activities were intensified after 1965, as can be seen from the examination of the Report on CELADE's Activities in the period 1966-68.

d) Conferences and Seminars. The Centre has participated in the main conferences and seminars on population held within the region and in those that, although held in other parts, dealt with demographic problems in Latin America. In most of these meetings, the Centre contributed one or more documents and, generally, sent representatives. A relatively complete list of the meetings in which CELADE had some participation, by chronological order, between 1958 and 1965 is presented below:

- Primeras Jornadas de Desarrollo Económico de Chile (1958)
- Latin American Census Training Centre (Lima, 1958)
- United Nations Seminar on Evaluation and Utilization on Population Census Results (Santiago, 1959)
- International Population Conference (New York, 1961)
- United Nations Seminar on Urbanization in Latin America (Santiago, 1959)
- Conference on Education and Economic and Social Development in Latin America (Santiago, 1962)
- Annual Conference of the Milbank Memorial Fund ("Demography and Health in Latin America", New York, 1963)
- Annual Conference of the Milbank Memorial Fund ("Components of Demographic Change in Latin América" New York, 1965)
- First Pan American Assembly on Population (Cali, 1965)

- World Population Conference (Belgrade, 1965)
- First Seminar on Population and Development (Peru, 1965)
- Latin American Conference on Infancy and Youth in the National Development (Lima, 1965)

The participation in meetings, conferences and seminars was more frequent in 1965, as can be seen from the preceding list, and continued to be high in subsequent years. The complete information on the Centre's activities during last years, is presented in the document Report on the Activities of the period 1966-1968.

e) Publications. Since its initiation, CELADE established the practice of reproducing in mimeographed form class notes, those research reports prepared by students which were considered of value, documents presented to seminars and other meetings on population and the studies produced by the professional staff. In 1964 the Centre started to issue documents under 4 series, improving their presentation and introducing a sales system which has rendered relatively favourable results. A detail of the main series of documents which are published, with an indication of the number of those published by the middle of 1965 and in May 1968 is presented below:

		<u>July/1965</u>	<u>May/1968</u>
Series A	Reports on research projects	36	83
Series B	Class notes and teaching material prepared at the Centre	21	26
Series C	Reports on research conducted by students	82	108
Series D	Translations, papers, lectures, etc. prepared outside the Centre	15	40
Series E	Book editions	-	2
Series F	Periodic publications	-	1
Series G	Documents of an administrative nature	-	<u>2</u>
	Total	154	262

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