



## Policy and Research Paper N°1

Contributions of the IUSSP to the International Conference  
on Population and Development (ICPD)  
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# The Context of the IUSSP's Contributions to the International Conference on Population and Development

## Nature of IUSSP

To clarify the nature of IUSSP it is sufficient to look at the name of the organisation: **INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF POPULATION**. It is an organisation which is dedicated to **POPULATION**. Many other organisations are dedicated to various aspects of population dynamics. Some of these promote a particular point of view on specific population issues such as the interrelations between population and the environment, the advantages and disadvantages of international migration, the impact of urban population dynamics on economic development. Some of them may even actively lobby in favour of concrete population policies such as policies to reduce rapid population growth, policies to restrict or to liberalize abortion, policies to stimulate or to discourage international migration.

IUSSP, in contrast, does not hold any particular points of view on population issues, nor does it lobby on behalf of specific population policies. However it holds to a crucial perspective on population: the **SCIENTIFIC STUDY** of population. This requires a certain detachment which is sometimes misunderstood by persons, faced with the realities of population problems in daily life, as a disinterest in practical problem solving. However the scientific perspective is the best guarantee that any population problem can be analysed within a framework which will supply, test and improve the necessary data to know population issues in all their dimensions, which will provide the theoretical underpinnings to draw correct inferences about the interrelations between demographic and other variables and which will scrutinize the rationale and evaluate the possible impact of population policies and programmes.

IUSSP as such is not a research organisation, nor is it an institutionalized training outfit. It is a **UNION** of professionals who are interested in the Scientific Study of Population. Their interest comes through a variety of paths. Many members teach and do research in the academic context. Others work within the context of government, of international institutions or of the private profit and non-profit sector. Other members are not directly engaged in research or training but have a direct need for scientific insights in population issues for policy making or for the conduct of population programmes. IUSSP furthermore organizes these professionals in a Union which spans the world. It is an **INTERNATIONAL** Union. Currently the Union has about 2,000 members with a consistent upward trend in the share of members from developing countries.

## Short History of the IUSSP

The history of the IUSSP shows its ever-present desire to maintain its scientific and international character. The roots of the modern IUSSP go back to the first World Population Conference, organized at the initiative of Margaret Sanger in Geneva in 1927. As a result of this conference a temporary Committee was set up. Its responsibility was the establishment of a permanent international organisation, **independent of any particular ideology**, with the aim to establish international scientific collaboration for the study of population problems. Its name was the International Union for the Scientific Investigation of Population Problems. By its constitution the Union was originally a federation of autonomous national committees. The last assembly of the old Union was held in Paris in 1937. This conference was successful in establishing the primarily scientific aims of the Union. After the Second World War the structure of the Union was radically modified **to avoid any political pressure**. The federation of national committees was transformed into an association of individual members because experience had shown that the autonomous national committees were sometimes subject to unwanted political influence, incompatible with the scientific objectives of the Union. At the same time the Union received its current name and brought into existence a new constitution which clearly states its basic objectives.

### **Box 1: The Four Basic Objectives of IUSSP**

- 1. To encourage research into demographic issues and problems worldwide.*
- 2. To stimulate interest in population questions among governments, international and national organisations, the scientific community and the general public.*
- 3. To foster exchanges between population specialists and those in related disciplines.*
- 4. To disseminate scientific knowledge on population as widely as possible.*

## **International Conference on Population and Development**

The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development is the fifth global population conference organized under the auspices of the United Nations. At the same time it is the third Intergovernmental World Population Conference. The first conference, held in **Rome 1954** at IUSSP's initiative and organised jointly and on equal footing by IUSSP and the United Nations promoted the establishment of statistical and demographic systems, the collection of data for population analysis and economic and technical assistance to developing countries to establish accurate and comprehensive data bases. The second conference, also under the joint auspices of IUSSP and the United Nations took place in **Belgrade, 1964**, and for the first time focused on topics such as fertility and family planning, themes which before had not been discussed systematically at United Nations meetings. An important conclusion of this conference was that fertility is a significant factor in socioeconomic development.

The first Intergovernmental World Population Conference took place in **Bucharest 1974**. At that conference the World Population Plan of Action was accepted. The explicit aim of this Plan is to help coordinate population trends and the trends of economic and social development. The second Intergovernmental World Population Conference was organized in **Mexico City 1984**. The conference reaffirmed and expanded the World Population Plan of Action. It emphasized that social and economic development is a central factor in the solution of population and interrelated problems and that population factors are very important in development plans and strategies and have a major impact on the attainment of development objectives.

The third Intergovernmental World Population Conference, again organized by UNFPA and the UN Population Division, will be held in **Cairo in September 1994**. The theme of the conference is population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development. The Conference seeks to forge a new international consensus recognizing that population concerns are at the heart of all political, social, economic and environmental issues and to adopt a programme of action for effectively implementing the decisions resulting from this consensus. The ICPD, although extensively prepared from a scientific view, does not intend to shed more scientific light on demographic themes but to extract a political commitment from sovereign states that specific actions should be taken to influence population change.

The Conference will also result in a new important document which will stand on its own. This document will be action-oriented and address key population issues and their interrelationships with sustained economic growth, sustainable development and gender equality in a 20-year time frame. The final document will include the means of implementation, commitments and follow-up agreed to at Cairo.

The Conference builds on a great deal of agreement on a broad range of issues of which three merit singling out: population is not an 'optional extra' but is an essential ingredient of economic and social development and the environment; broad recognition of the importance of the rights and needs of the individual in population decisions and of finding the proper balance between individual and societal responsibilities; full empowerment of women including their role and status as full partners in population and development.

To prepare this conference **three Preparatory Committee Meetings of Governments** have been convened at United Nations Headquarters. Second, **five Regional Intergovernmental Conferences** have taken place in Africa, the Arab World, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific. These regional conferences adopted a range of recommendations, geared specifically to the needs of each region. Third, six Expert Group Meetings were convened to examine clusters of issues that were considered by the first

Preparatory Committee and endorsed by the United Nations Economic and Social Council, to be of the highest priority (see Box 2 for themes of expert Group Meetings).

In addition, more than 100 countries are drafting national reports on population. The ICPD secretariat has analysed these reports and will formulate a Synthesis Report, highlighting their principal themes and salient features. The Synthesis Report will also discuss the demographic and development trends in relation to national policies, legislation and programmes. It will also compare similar approaches taken in different countries and indicate possible directions to be taken into the future.

#### **Box 2: Topics of the Six Expert Group Meetings**

- 1. Population growth, changes in demographic structure, including ageing of population and the regional diversity of such changes.*
- 2. Population policies and programmes, with emphasis on the mobilization of resources for developing countries at both international and national levels.*
- 3. The interrelationship between population, development, environment and related matters.*
- 4. Changes in the distribution of population, both internal and international migration.*
- 5. Linkages between enhancing the roles and socio-economic status of women and population dynamics.*
- 6. Family planning programmes, health and family well-being*

## **Contributions to ICPD in the Broad Context of IUSSP's Activities**

IUSSP's contributions to ICPD can be subdivided into two broad groups. On the one hand there are IUSSP's ongoing contributions in the broad context of its own activities to promote the professional interests of its members and the advancement of the scientific study of population. On the other hand there is IUSSP's special contribution, directly linked to the Cairo Conference. This consisted of a one-day session, set aside especially at the last international conference of IUSSP at Montreal, for the discussion of the results of the Expert Group Meetings.

IUSSP's contributions in the broad context of its own activities are multiple and take on a diversity of forms. Here we single out its members, its international conferences and Scientific Committees and Working Groups.

### **IUSSP Members**

The members of IUSSP are the life and blood of the Union. Many persons directly or indirectly involved in the preparation of ICPD are members of IUSSP. Many members are staff members or regularly serve as consultants for UNFPA, the UN Population Division and many other international agencies. Other members work in non-governmental organisations active in the population field and normally directly interested in the Conference. Many of the experts and discussants participating in the Expert Group meetings and the regional meetings are members of the Union. Members of the Union are engaged in a variety of professional careers from academic teaching and research to daily decision making in development planning or social welfare policies. Some members are engaged in large scale collection of data such as censuses or world wide comparative surveys on the model of the World Fertility Survey or the Demographic and Health Survey. Others in the quietness of their office may reflect on the nature of population-society relationships or may devise schemes to make population programmes more efficient. An example of a thought piece on contraceptive distribution originating from the brain of one of the members of the Union and put forward on the occasion of the one day special session dedicated to the Cairo Conference at the IUSSP International Conference in Montreal is presented in the Box 3.

### **Box 3: Wiping out Contraceptive Supply Constraints**

*Recent research has shown that access to modern contraceptives is crucial to the rapid reduction of fertility in the developing world? However substantial proportions of the populations in many developing countries have no access to regular supplies of modern contraceptive.*

*It has been suggested that to make the supply more efficient, an international contraceptive supply facility could be set up with the help of the international donor community. The facility would not have to stockpile contraceptives but would provide vouchers at redeemable cost complementary technical and professional services from a roster of domestic and international suppliers.*

## **General, Regional and Thematic Conferences**

One of the most important activities of IUSSP is its international conferences which take place every four years. These conferences are intended to include the whole field of population studies worldwide. They aim to review the development of knowledge at a given time and to point the way to new research in areas previously neglected. They also provide an opportunity for scientists to present their views to administrators and policy makers who are normally strongly represented at these conferences. A quick overview of the location of these conferences since the seventies shows the international character of IUSSP: Liège (1973), Mexico City (1977), Manila (1981), Florence (1985), New Delhi (1989) and Montréal (1993). The themes treated at these conferences reflect changes in the nature of population dynamics as well as the importance attached by policy makers to various aspects of these changes. They are thus very close to the interests of the International Population Conferences organised by the United Nations. Independent observers agree that IUSSP has been eminently successful in grasping the prominent aspects of these changes and in having them reflected in its international conferences. For example, at the Montreal Conference there were several sessions dedicated to the population dynamics of health and to the problem of equity in the distribution of benefits which have a population content. IUSSP, in addition to the regular worldwide international conferences, also organizes regional and thematic conferences. The last regional conference, organised with supporting national organisations in 1992 in Mexico, was dedicated to The Peopling of the Americas. The last thematic conference took place in Oslo, 1988 on the theme of Women's Position and Demographic Change in the Course of Development.

## **The Scientific Committees and Working Groups**

The Scientific Committees and Working Groups are the principal **way** in which the scientific programme of the IUSSP is implemented. Generally they have a life of about four years. Scientific Committees are active in well-defined fields of research whereas the Working Groups are often established in newer areas in which the Council of IUSSP thinks further development and definitions of scientific issues are required. An overview of the current Committees and Working Groups in the Box 4 shows that the Committees and Working Groups share common interests with the six United Nations Expert Groups and that many of the activities of the Committees and Working Groups are of direct interest to the Cairo Conference. Special policy monographs, based on the work of a selected number of Scientific Committees and Working Groups are in the process of being prepared in view of ICPD and for the general interest of policy makers, the interested academic community and educated laymen.

### **Box 4: Scientific Committees and Working Groups of IUSSP**

- *Committee on Comparative Analysis of Fertility*
- *Committee on Adult Mortality*
- *Committee on Historical Demography*
- *Committee on Population and Health (including Family Planning)*
- *Committee on Gender and Population*
- *Committee on South-North Migratio*
- *Committee on Anthropological Demography*
- *Committee on Population and Environment*
- *Committee on Economic Demography*
- *Working Group on Demographic Software and Micro-Computing*
- *Ad Hoc Working Group on AIDS*

# Contributions of IUSSP Directly Geared to the Preparation of the ICPD Conference

IUSSP, in view of the importance of the ICPD conference, dedicated a full day to the ICPD conference during its last International Conference in Montreal. This one-day programme, under the title 'Contribution of IUSSP to the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development' focused on the recommendations resulting from the six Expert Group Meetings, convened for the preparation of the Cairo Conference. The programme of this one-day session is presented in the Box 5. The discussion and conclusions of this one-day programme should not be considered as the official position of IUSSP on the ICPD conference. In fact IUSSP does not have an official position in this matter. Rather the one-day programme should be perceived as a forum for the discussion of policy issues related to the Cairo Conference in an informal scientific setting. The remaining pages of this publication highlight some of the major points which emerged during that one-day session. Some of them come from the invited speakers and commentators. Others originated from the participants during the discussion time dedicated to each of the Expert Group Meetings.

## Population and Women

The 32 recommendations, contained in the Expert Group Meetings, can be grouped in five thematic areas: health, education, economic opportunities, the role of adolescents and the role of men. The research community has contributed a great deal in defining these areas and in broadly outlining gender disparities and their consequences for women's lives, for development and population concerns. Yet a large number of issues remain at a general level and many of the pathways remain unclear. For example the sociocultural profiles of abortion seekers, in contrast to contraceptive users, are much less known. Especially in the health area there is a glaring gap in knowledge in many developing countries about women's reproductive health and sexuality. This is especially important for programmes to combat AIDS.

The documents reflect a deeper understanding of the relationship between women's concerns and population policies. This Conference, more than has been done in the past, will bridge the tension between women as human beings and the need to promote a change in women's roles in order to attain fertility reduction goals. The 1984 World Population Plan of Action, while recommending the integration of women in the development process and their greater participation in economic, social, educational and political areas, emphasized that improvements in women's condition in the family and in society could contribute to a smaller family size and conversely that the possibility of fertility planning would lead to an improvement in women's individual situation. The Mexico City Declaration on Population and Development went a step further because two analytical levels were clearly identified. First, it was recognized that the improvement in women's condition is an objective important in itself and second that this will influence positively the life and size of families. The Cairo Conference is expected to clearly state that the advancement in the status of women is a goal in itself. The recommendations of the Expert Group Meeting stress that women's advancement in health, education, employment, sexuality and family planning are mutually reinforcing and should be pursued in a holistic manner.

This population conference, like the previous ones, has always linked the concern with women with the broad issue of development and social change. In the past, however, the emphasis tended to be on the economic aspects of this process. Fortunately in the preparatory document to the ICPD, a more comprehensive conception of development and social change is present. The link between the productive and reproductive sphere is explicitly established. It is also made clear that the empowerment of women should be promoted in their public and private lives. Finally domestic work and child rearing are more explicitly taken into account. As a consequence more attention is given to gender relations at the household level and to measures which harmonize their economic and parental responsibilities. Also social problems such as violence towards women and children receive more attention.

The document mentions that efforts should be made to ensure greater involvement of men in all areas of family responsibility. It also points to the disproportionate share of women in contraceptive use and to the need for men to take on a more active role. The document, however, does not give full scope to the key role that men can play in advancing women's general conditions, both inside and outside the home and women's reproductive health in particular. Therefore greater efforts should be made to raise awareness of these issues among men, especially young males who are at the threshold of their sexual and reproductive careers.

## Population Growth and Demographic Structure

Attention to the course of world population growth and to the issue of its eventual stabilization remain issues of persistent interest. The efforts of the United Nations and of other organisations and persons to project the population of the world, of the world's major geographic subdivisions and of individual countries, has brought into

focus the size and timing of population stabilization. Initially the stabilization date, based on the medium fertility hypothesis, was set for the year 2100 with a total population of 10.2 billion. Subsequent projections, also based on the medium hypothesis, put this date in 2150 with a population of 11.5 billion. Of course the figures for size and timing depend on the assumptions. With an assumed ultimate fertility of 2.5 children per woman, slightly above replacement level, world population will grow beyond 2150 when it would reach 28 billion while, with an assumed ultimate fertility of 1.7 children per woman the population would start to decrease well before 2150 when it would reach 5.6 billion.

Growth patterns will be very different from one region to the other and their regional specificity needs to receive adequate attention. Differences in the growth rates of developed regions versus developing regions will result in a ratio of 1 to 9 compared with a ratio of 1 to 3 in 1950. One of the most important uncertainties in these projections is the future course of Africa's population with currently the highest growth rates and with many uncertainties about the evolution of its fertility.

Concern with high fertility and rapid population growth should not obscure the need to think of those demographic additions which are certain in the immediate future. In the near and medium term future, that is in the next decades, the high and low fertility hypothesis projections do not lead to radically different results in regard to population totals. The high fertility hypothesis results in 9.4 billion by the year 2025, the low hypothesis in 7.6 billion, to be compared with 8.5 billion for the medium hypothesis. In 2050 these figures respectively will be 12.5 and 7.8 billion to be compared with 10.0 billion for the medium hypothesis. A sharp increase of the world population is, under any assumption, a certainty for the near future. The solutions to the problems created by these additions cannot be demographic but must be economic and political.

The effect of AIDS on the growth of population needs to be further explored. This will require much better estimates for the prevalence of the epidemic. This is especially important for Africa but it could reach the same importance for certain parts of Southeast Asia and Latin America. In general, the results of studies and models do not seriously put in doubt the projections for the population of Africa. Prevalence will have to reach 50 percent of the population to have an effect on these projections. However there is no doubt that AIDS will impact on average life expectancy and infant mortality.

#### **Box 5: Contribution of IUSSP to the International Conference on Population and Development**

*Montréal, 1 September 1993*

##### **Morning (9:30-12:45)**

##### *I INTRODUCTION*

*Overall Plans for the Conference, by Joseph Chamie and Jyoti Shankar Singh*

##### *II PARALLEL SESSIONS*

##### *Session 1: Population and Women/Population Growth and Demographic Structure*

Chair: Carmen Miro  
Speakers: Shireen Jejeebhoy and Jacques Vallin  
Resource Persons: for Women: Mary Beth Weinberger  
for Population Growth: Richard Easterlin  
Rapporteur: Brigida Garcia

##### *Session 2: Population Policies and programmes/Family Planning, Health and Family Well-Being*

Chair: John Caldwell  
Speakers: Massimo Livi Bacci, John Cleland and Steve Sinding  
Resource Persons: for Policy: Ellen Brennan  
for Family Planning: M.A.R. Khan

Discussants:           for Policy: Paul Demeny  
                              for Family Planning Huda Zurayk  
Rapporteur:           Lim Lin Lean

*Session 3: Population, Environment and Development/Population Distribution and Migration*

Chair:                   Charlotte Höhn  
Speakers:             Richard Bilsborrow and Graeme Hugo  
Resource Persons:   for Environment: Johan Scholvinck  
                              for Migration: Lim Lin Lean  
Rapporteur:           Lim Lin Lean

***Afternoon (02:00-04:00)***

*III PLENARY SESSION (2 hours)*

*Verbal report by the Session Rapporteurs.  
Comments by Representatives of the UN / ICPD Secretariat:  
German Bravo-Casas, Joseph Chamie and Jyoti Shankar Singh  
General Discussion  
General Rapporteur: Susanna Lerner*

The phenomenon of ageing in developing countries requires more attention. The process of ageing in developing countries, as a consequence of the rapid decline in fertility in several of these countries, will start more rapidly than in the European experience. European countries needed about 100 to 150 years to go from 6 to 3 children per woman. In Latin America the same process required only 30 years. In Southeast Asia the transition from 6 to 3.5 took 25 years. In China, the transition from 6 to 2.5, the fastest in human experience, took only fifteen years. As a consequence the transition towards an older population will be more rapid. By the year 2025, China, which now has 6 percent of its population 65 and over, will have the current relative figure for Europe, 13 percent. Europe took a century to walk the same road. The same transition, although in a less spectacular way than for China, will nevertheless be significantly shorter for most developing countries.

## **Population Policies and Programmes**

The six Expert Groups came up with 162 recommendations. In addition the regional meetings resulted in 381 recommendations. All together, there are thus 543 recommendations. A substantial proportion of these is directed to the UN's member states. They assume that governments will be motivated and be able to execute these recommendations. Even in countries with experienced bureaucracies and with an informed citizenship this would be a formidable task. Nor would it be desirable. The recommendations exude a vision of the omnipresent and omnipotent state. If there is one great lesson for the end of the 20th century, as recent events have shown, it is that governments are overextended. The actual capacity of governments to deliver, especially in developing countries, is much more limited than was anticipated in the enthusiasm of the decolonization period. The recommendations suffer from the lack of a coherent philosophy by which their amenability to government intervention could be assessed and calibrated. Nor do they reflect any criteria for a hierarchy of objectives which would permit the setting of priorities for national population policies. The recommendations do not distinguish sufficiently between the conception of the government as a doer of direct things and the government as an organiser and guarantor of a legal-institutional framework that allows individuals and their voluntary associations to seek betterment. The recommendations are not lacking in good intentions but they reflect the faulty structural design embodied in the idea of the omnipresent state.

It would be desirable to explicitly recognize the difference between the hard and soft sector of population policies. The hard sector contains those policies where intervention may be autonomously planned, delivered and evaluated, dealing mostly with fertility and family planning. The soft sector contains all other areas where intervention must be - at best - negotiated with institutions and decision-makers in some measures extraneous to the population area. Experience has shown that it is easy to accept the predominance of demographic/population expertise and considerations when dealing with fertility. However such expertise and considerations are not predominant when dealing with health and mortality, mobility, migration, urbanization, family structure and others. Official documents at the national as well as at the international level affirm that migration, mobility, health, mortality are part and parcel of population policies but seldom discuss or indicate the institutional setting, the

decision making processes, the evaluation procedures that should be established in order to integrate population relevant policies into a coherent population policy.

There used to exist a strong development rationale for fertility reduction programmes but the field became complacent about it and failed to continuously scrutinise and re-establish its foundations. When an attack was mounted on ' development rationale, primarily from economists, the population field was caught unprepared. Its response was to shift the argument from the development rationale to other justifications for fertility reduction programmes such as health and the satisfaction of the real needs of the clients? These justifications, although they do have their place and reason, probably are insufficient for governments to continue putting high priorities on such programmes. To assure that population considerations receive their due in public policy; the field needs to maintain a systematic analysis of the case for fertility reduction programmes. This can only imperfectly be done through global studies or through models equally applicable to all countries. Analysis must be country specific and must keep up with changing economic and social conditions. Systematic efforts should be made to carry out scientifically sound country studies, periodically updated and renewed, of population-development interrelations for all countries in which population change is a potentially important public concern.

## **Family Planning, Health and Family Well-Being**

The ICPD conference has broadened its perspective on the implications of reproduction and family planning for the health and well being of family members. It calls for the appreciation of the diversity of realities, contexts and situations in dealing with issues of family planning, health and family well being. The Expert Group Report brings out the importance of women's perspectives on these issues and on the need to incorporate these perspectives for establishing priorities and the design of programmes. As a result more emphasis is put on the quality of care of the services and to differentiate services in function of different groups such as adolescents. Fully involving women in the decision processes for improving reproductive health will guarantee that correct priorities, which do not reflect the agenda of outsiders, will be set. However a thorough reading of the Expert Group Report reveals that expansion in the scope has not yet gained the depth required in dealing with reproductive health and family well being.

The question needs to be raised why there is a preoccupation to introduce health concerns into the sphere of family planning programmes? It is done to show that a smaller number of births and better spacing of births is good for the health of women and children in order to provide a rationale for family planning programmes and to mobilize more resources for family planning. Rather the concern with health through family planning needs to take on a more holistic perspective. Family planning should be seen as an integral part but not as the totality of the concern for reproductive health. From a bio-ethical perspective the international community has to emphasise a balanced approach toward family planning and reproductive health, particularly in developing societies where public accountability and the democratic system are not yet fully developed and where an exclusive concern with family planning in authoritarian fashion may reduce opportunities for women to lobby for their own priorities. In the end such an approach will probably be more cost-effective in serving the objectives of both fertility reduction and improvement in the health of women.

The Expert Group Report on Family Planning, Health and Family Well-Being has not dealt completely effectively with the issue of health. It tends to focus on the positive implications of family planning on maternal mortality and child survival. There is a notable absence of concern with negative aspects such as side effects and health risks of contraceptive use. This is especially the case with the expanding use of the IUD in countries where insertions are done in unsanitary conditions.

Maternal mortality, widely used as an indicator of women's health, is too restrictive for an adequate picture of women's health status. There is a need to broaden our representation of women's health when we want to give full scope to problems of reproductive morbidity. The report in fact does address one aspect of reproductive morbidity in its concern with sexually transmitted diseases including AIDS. The implications for sexual and reproductive problems are wider than a unilateral focus on sexually transmitted diseases. For example, we deal with the complications of induced abortion but we should also look at the problems of anaemia and genital prolapse, associated as they are with the reproduction process. The two last problems can be widely prevalent among women and they can have serious consequences for reproductive health and the general welfare of women. The creation of adequate indicators of women's health require knowledge about the communities of which women are members their role, status and integration in these communities.

Recommendations for research, contained in the report, mainly focus on the delivery of family planning services. The need to broaden the health perspective dimension implies that more attention needs to be given to the search for appropriate approaches to expand the scope of services and their respective quality.

This also implies that more emphasis needs to be put on social science research to understand sexuality and sexual behaviour. For example the problems of unmet needs should not be reduced to a simple problem of



contraceptive supplies. Full attention should be given to the social constraints which women face from realizing their fertility desires and to the psychosocial context of women's lives. Nor can men's involvement in concerns with human reproduction be completely solved by Information-Education-Communication campaigns or social marketing. Rather it requires a better understanding of the role within the family, of gender relations and of issues of intra-family power.

## **Population, Environment and Development**

The UN should be congratulated for dedicating a special Expert Group Meeting to this theme. This topic is central to the overall theme of ICPD which Population, Sustained Economic Growth and Sustainable Development. The Expert Group Meeting came up with an excellent summary document containing 19 very sensible recommendations. It should be noted though that while, on the one hand, it is stressed that we do not know enough about the complex interrelations between population, environment and development, on the other hand, the recommendations of the Bucharest Conference are as new today as then.

The need for more research in this area cannot be sufficiently stressed. If migration research is forty years behind research on fertility, then research on the links between population, environment and development is forty years behind migration research. Topics which especially deserve more attention are migration and deforestation, population growth and desertification, problems posed by population growth and concentration in industrialised areas and mega-cities, women and the environment, the relationship between poverty, population dynamics and the environment, health effects of environmental problems, the nature of environmental problems in developed and developing countries, and the globalisation of environmental and population problems.

## **Population Distribution and Migration**

Since 1984, there have been dramatic changes in the scale and complexity of migration and in its social, economic and political implications. These changes have been accompanied by a mismatch between the growing importance placed by governments on migration issues and the relative neglect of the research community. There is a vast need for better data on migration and more and better research on the interrelations between migration, both national and international, and socio-economic development. Compared with fertility and mortality, migration data are far more scattered in nature and extent. Furthermore quality problems are more serious than for either fertility or mortality. Migration is a field which now deserves a concerted effort on the model of the World Fertility Survey two decades ago. Topics which should receive priority attention are the links between internal migration and sectoral development policies; the links between internal migration and the environment; the relation between international migration, trade, investment and information flows; temporary and cyclical migrations; international migration and fertility change; the migration of women and implications for the labour market, the causes and consequences of migration. The process of data collection and of analysis has suffered from the lack of a clear identification of the policy issues and from the political confusion which often surrounds the issue of migration, especially of international migration. Migration research should fully recognize the complexity of the issues and not lend itself to simplistic slogans. For example the idea that outmigration is automatically negative for countries of origin should be seriously questioned.

Policy issues of migration remain confused and ambiguous. Efforts to directly or indirectly influence population movements should be formulated explicitly in line with clearly stated development objectives and with a clear understanding of the micro- and macro-context of development. Policies have to take into consideration that the dynamics of internal and international migration, because of improvements in transportation and communication, cannot always be neatly separated. The increasing globalization process and the tendency to regional decentralization are creating new and complex challenges. Policy recommendations will have to address the concerns of local authorities, national governments and international organisations. Economic integration, even if it does not automatically mean unrestricted labour movement, will have enormous impact on the structure of multi-country labour markets.

Policy research and policy formulation concerning migration will have to give more consideration to the welfare of the migrants and to the communities they leave and settle in. How such policies can enhance the beneficial impact and mitigate the adverse consequences of mobility for both the migrants themselves and the communities of origin and destination should receive more attention from researchers and policy makers. Migration policies will have to become more concerned with the protection of the rights of the migrants and with the problems of vulnerable migrant groups, including asylum seekers, refugees, migrants exposed to serious exploitation and those affected by degradation, by natural and technological disasters and by armed conflicts.

## Credits

This publication is based on the following publications, papers and reports from which often it has literally borrowed.

Caldwell, John C. 'The Role of Funding Assistance in the Population Field. Lessons from the Past and Directions for the Future'. Discussion delivered at 22<sup>nd</sup> IUSSP General Conference, Montréal 1993.

*Chamie, Joseph 'Statement'. Discussion delivered at 22<sup>nd</sup> IUSSP General Conference, Montréal 1993.*

*Demeny, Paul 'On Population Policies and programmes'. Discussion delivered at 22<sup>nd</sup> IUSSP General Conference, Montréal 1993.*

Eastertin, Richard A. 'Demographic Research and Policy'. Discussion delivered at 22<sup>nd</sup> IUSSP General Conference, Montréal 1993.

*Garcia, Brigida 'Population and Women'. Discussion delivered at 22<sup>nd</sup> IUS5P General Conference, Montréal 1993.*

IUSSP 'International Union for the Scientific Study of Population'. Liège, IUSSP, 1992.

IUSSP 'Population Assistance and Directions for the Future'. IUSSP, 1993.

IUSSP 'Contribution of the IUSSP to the 1994 United International Conference on Population and Development'. Discussion of the Reports and Recommendations of the six UN Expert Group Meetings 1993.

*Jejeebhoy, Shireen J. 'Population and Women'. Introduction delivered at 22<sup>nd</sup> IUSSP General Conference, Montréal 1993.*

*Livi Bacci, Massimo 'Population Policy and programmes'. Introduction delivered at 22<sup>nd</sup> IUSSP General Conference, Montréal 1993.*

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