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INTEGRATION OF POPULATION VARIABLES AND POLICIES  
IN DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN AFRICA

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PREFACE

In the 1984-1985 approved work programme of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Population Division was required to prepare a study on "Integration of Population Variables and Policies in Development Plans". This study has been prepared in accordance with that work programme.

Population issues have now been recognized widely by most leaders in Africa as a central component of socio-economic development. Its integration in development planning is essential in resolving various development issues related to population. This is the reason why the ECA Ministers responsible for economic development and planning adopted in April 1985 a second memorandum on Africa's Economic and Social Crisis which views population issues and their implication for economic development to form integral parts of long-term measures to resolve Africa's socio-economic problems.

Integration of population with development is a recent phenomena in Africa. There has not been much done in this area in Africa. It is hoped that from the experiences gained so far, it should be possible to build on them and move ahead to make improvements. It may take a long way to reach a reasonable degree of integration of population and development but we should not be discouraged by this. It is gratifying to note that the United Nations Population Division in New York is preparing a manual to guide developing countries in integrating population variables and policies in development planning. The ECA is also taking efforts to prepare a similar manual for specific conditions in Africa.

Appreciation is acknowledged to the governments of Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria, United Republic of Tanzania, Tunisia and Zambia for providing data for this study.

## INTRODUCTION

After the 1974 World Population Conference in Bucharest which adopted the World Population Plan of Action, there has been an increased awareness of population issues in many African countries. The Plan recognized the fact that population and development are interrelated in such a way that population variables influence development and vice versa. The Lagos Plan of Action took up this issue and recommended that appropriate machinery should be established, where necessary, to ensure greater integration of population variables in development planning <sup>1/</sup>. This has been reinforced at the Second African Population Conference held in Arusha, Tanzania in 1984 and at the International Conference on Population held in Mexico in 1984.

Discussing the role of demographic variables in the formulation of development policies and plans in March 1984, the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers acknowledged also the need to integrate population variables in development plans. Now the problem is how to go about to achieve this integration. As a way of finding solutions to the problem, the Conference called on the ECA to develop necessary methodologies and guidelines for this integration. Work to this effect has been initiated.

This study attempts to look at the African experiences on the integration of population variables and policies in development plans, problems being encountered and possible solutions. Thus the orientation of the paper on the experiences reflect what member States have communicated to ECA and other available data at the Secretariat. There does not seem to be in existence a commonly agreed definition of the concept of "integration of population and development". Since definitions of concepts usually cause problems regarding their acceptance, no attempt is made to offer any definition. However, it is suggested that integration of population variables in development plans should go beyond mere inclusion of population variables in the plans. It should include discussions in the plans of population trends and their implications on socio-economic development in the different sectors, policies and strategies to help resolve the adverse effects of these population trends on socio-economic development. Similarly, the impact of socio-economic development on population trends should also receive discussions in the development plans.

The following may serve as an illustration of taking into account population variables in development in the case of education: (a) where population of school age surpasses school places and services, a government would need to adopt targets and policies to increase school buildings, to train more teachers and to provide more materials like textbooks, notebooks, pencils, chalk, etc. This would require mobilization and utilization of various available resources. Governments can complement this with policies intended to reduce population growth in easing population pressure on education development. This example may also apply to sectors like health,

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1/ Organization of African Unity: Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa, 1980-2000, 1981 para 348, n. 124.

employment, etc. (b) where school-age population declines significantly as to render some schools not be used effectively due to smaller numbers of pupils, it would be necessary for governments to take action to close some of the schools and redeploy the teachers in other sectors of the economy. Thus re-training programmes would be necessary for the teachers to fit in other sectors. The buildings for the schools closed could be converted and used for some other purposes. A second example relates to the problem of aging: in cases where rapid fertility decline increases the elderly population, governments need to take measures to provide for social security to help the support of the growing numbers of the elderly. What these illustrations show is that the integration of population and development requires taking adjustment measures i.e. demographic, economic and social to counteract the adverse effects of population on development and vice versa.

Recently in a number of African development plans, population growth and family planning are being discussed. A number of leaders have expressed interest publicly to formulate population policies or to improve the implementation of existing population policies.

The study briefly presents perceptions on population issues in some African development plans and from official statements. It then deals with African experience in integration of population variables and policies in development plans. Discussion is presented on the institutional framework for this integration.

The secretariat had issued a questionnaire to African Planners at the Third Session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers in 1984 to complete for this study. The planners were to examine their most recent two development plans and indicate if the following were included in these plans: (1) population growth rate, (2) total population size, (3) population projections/estimates, (4) age structure of the population, (5) rural population projections/estimates, (6) urban population estimates/projections, (7) manpower requirements estimates, (8) labour force participation rates, (9) fertility estimates, (10) mortality estimates, (11) agricultural population estimates, (12) school enrolment estimates/projections, (13) household size, (14) inclusion of a chapter on population, (15) inclusion of discussion of population and development interrelationships, (16) family planning programmes, (17) population policy on fertility, (18) population policy on mortality, (19) population policy on internal migration/redistribution of the population, (20) population policy on urbanization, and (21) policy on population growth. In addition, the planners were asked to indicate achievements made and problems encountered as well as actions taken to overcome these problems. They were also asked to make recommendations for future action in this area. It had been hoped that by giving the questionnaire to the planners who attended the Third Joint Conference the response rate would be high. However, out of 31 countries, only 8 responses were received by the secretariat. These responses and other data available at the secretariat were used in this study.

PERCEPTIONS ON POPULATION ISSUES IN SOME AFRICAN  
DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND OFFICIAL STATEMENTS

African development plans soon after independence gave too much attention to population size rather than to population characteristics like high fertility, high proportion of children in the population with the consequent high dependency ratio <sup>2/</sup>. Moreover population estimates or projections of the various population components like school-age population, labour force, etc. were not available for use in planning although the development plans had the objective of improving the general standard of living of the population. A study done by Stamper covering 60 development plans in the 1970s indicated that population issues in 22 African countries included in that study in general did not view population as having significant problems on development. This is illustrated by the following observations at that time <sup>3/</sup>: of these 22 African countries, 32% only viewed an increase in school-age population as a population problem; 27% expressed population pressure on social services; 32% expressed that population growth reduced economic growth; 14% expressed population pressure on housing; 14% expressed population pressure on food or agricultural systems and only 9% viewed high population density as a population problem.

Since the beginning of the 1970s there has been a steady change in perceptions on population issues in relation to development as has been reflected in the development plans of some of the countries and in official statements by leaders. Some examples are given below.

The 1970 to 1973, 1973 to 1978 and 1979 to 1985 development plans of Botswana have all discussed the adverse effects of population on socio-economic development. The following quotations from these plans are worth citing. The 1970 to 1973 development plan stated "At Botswana's stage of development, economic growth is in no way assisted by the rising population. Living standards are reduced in direct proportion to the growth of population. ... Although Botswana is a large country in terms of area, it is not markedly under populated in terms of resource endowment". The 1973 to 1978 plan reiterated this by saying "a relatively rapid rate of population increase if sustained over a number of years, could seriously reduce and retard the general impact of economic development on the lives of Botswana's people". Similar views were again stressed in the 1979 to 1985 plan. Regarding employment, this plan states: "Population estimates indicate that the labour force will grow by about 13,000 each year during the 1980s. Over the plan period there is also likely to be a decline of about 3,000 to 4,000 jobs per year for Botswana in South Africa. Thus 16,000 to 17,000 jobs would have to be provided

<sup>2/</sup> Economic Commission for Africa, "A review of the demographic content of African Development Plans" (E/CN.14/POP/50) 24 November 1971, paper presented at the African Population Conference, Accra, Ghana, 1971.

<sup>3/</sup> Stamper, B. Maxwell, Population and Planning in Developing Nations, Population Council, New York, 1977, p. 26.

each year simply to prevent the numbers of Botswana's dependent on the traditional sector from increasing".

In trying to resolve these problems associated with population growth, the Botswana Government is putting emphasis on child spacing, family planning programmes integrated in the Mother and Child Health (MCH) services and family life education activities for the young people. Efforts are underway to make family planning supplies and advice to those who need it.

In the case of Kenya, the following excerpts from the development plans are relevant: The 1979 to 1983 plan states: "As the rate of population growth has been increasing since independence, more output growth has been used for additions to population and less has been available for improving the quality of life. Efforts to improve family welfare have increasingly been diverted to the support of larger numbers. ... The higher rate of population growth in turn has magnified the problems of creating income - earning opportunities for the larger numbers seeking work, and postpones the date at which all Kenyans can have primary education, decent housing and adequate medicare. Higher population growth rates mean lower average levels of living". Population problems identified in the 1979-1983 plan were again emphasized in the 1984 to 1988 plan. The Kenya Government is implementing policies and programmes to reduce the high rates of population growth. These include family planning programmes. In 1982 a National Population Council was established to co-ordinate and supervise the implementation of inter-agencies multi-media information and education programmes which aim at enhancing public understanding and to accept the need for family planning.

The previous Nigerian leader, Major Buhari, called for the need to reappraise the earlier view that population growth was not a matter of great concern in Nigeria because the country was blessed with a larger area of arable land and abundant natural resources which could be exploited to achieve a better life. He expressed concern over rapid population growth and rural to urban movement saying, "It is the government's view that something has to be done to ensure that the galloping population growth rate and over-urbanization do not eclipse efforts being made by government to improve the economy and enhance the quality of social services available for the people". He also noted the adverse effects of a youthful population in terms of the heavy burden it poses on the working population; and the fact that rapid population growth diverts resources away from revenue earning capital investments to provision of social amenities. Major Buhari then indicated that a well articulated population policy was necessary and that such a policy should focus on guidance in fertility behaviour and emphasise the benefits to the health of the mother and the child arising from adequate birth spacing 4/

In Algeria emphasis is on the need to integrate population into development planning as a strategy of responding to social and economic needs. The 1980-1984 Development Plan considered both short-term and long-term demographic implications

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4/ POPLINE Volume 6, No. 12, December 1984.

for socio-economic development. Development of institutional framework to handle population and development issues is considered essential. Addressing the fifth congress of the National Liberation Front in December 1983, President Chadli Benjedid of Algeria called for the formulation of a population policy consistent with economic, social and cultural development goals and based on a firm awareness of the importance of the family, women and children in the society. The President considers that though population growth is not the only cause of population problems which affect development, it remains, however, a basic determinant. Furthermore, the President is of the view that ignoring population growth or to leave it unchecked might ruin some of the gains achieved in economic development. Consequently, he wants a population policy formulated now rather than leaving the burden to future generations.

Some other countries which have recently expressed concern regarding the effects of population trends in their development plans or in official statements and want to do something on these problems either through voluntary family planning programmes emphasizing child spacing or through official population policies adopted with the view of reducing population growth include Burundi, Egypt, the Gambia, Ghana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zambia.

The 1981 to 1986 Fifth Development Plan of Cameroon notes that there are considerable problems of school attendance, and health during the plan period. It warns that if measures are not taken during the plan period to improve the environment of farmers, the rural areas run the risk of being gradually deserted and that this would contribute to serious problems of employment, housing, training and nutrition in urban areas with possibilities of increasing social tension. The plan then calls for measures to increase facilities in the different social needs of the anticipated population growth. It does not however, say anything regarding the need to influence population size and growth. The solution to population related problems are seen to be found in socio-economic development. Regarding family planning and child spacing, the Government leaves to the individuals to decide on the number of children they want to have. However, the need to establish a National Commission on Population to help the Government formulate a coherent population policy aimed at improving family welfare has been recognized.

In countries like Zaire, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Somalia, Sudan, to mention a few examples, family planning programmes are carried out for non-demographic reasons. Their main concern is on child spacing, in order to improve the health of the mother and child. Emphasis in these countries is on improving economic development in resolving population related problems.

During the Second African Population Conference the representatives of African Governments adopted the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action on Population containing 93 recommendations. The first 16 recommendations, addressed to African Governments, relate to population and development strategy and policy. These recommendations call for: population to be a central component in formulating and implementing policies and programmes for accelerated socio-economic development; national efforts to enhance the use of demographic data in development planning since population and development are interrelated; greater efforts to increase awareness of the importance of population in the development process; creation or strengthening of high-level population units which would ensure adequate integration

of population and development policies and programmes; national plans to aim at ensuring a balance between population and economic growth; introduction of legislation on population matters to protect the fundamental individual human rights.

Recommendations on fertility and family planning have accented generally that family planning is essential to the welfare of the individual, the family and society as a whole. Governments have been called upon to ensure the availability and accessibility of family planning services to all who need such services. This is a great and welcome change in African Governments' views regarding family planning from the position taken in 1974 at the Bucharest World Population Conference when most countries did not accept family planning programmes.

With this background on population issues in development planning and family planning programmes, there is justification for Governments to integrate population variables and policies in development plans in order to improve the socio-economic well-being of the people. The next section therefore looks at attempts being made at integration of population in development plans.

#### EXPERIENCE IN INTEGRATION OF POPULATION VARIABLES AND POLICIES IN DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN ECA MEMBER STATES

##### (a) Findings from other studies

Earlier studies by ECA have indicated that the integration of population variables and policies in development planning in African countries has been made difficult due to a number of factors including the following: 5/ (a) lack of relevant population data for planners to use in planning or the data may not be in the form required by planners; (b) lack of proper skills for the integration of population and development; (c) lack of well-established institutional framework; (d) lack of methodologies and guidelines on how to integrate population and development. These same problems have also been repeated in (a) the various United Nations Fund for Population Activities reports on population needs assessment missions to various African countries, (b) the UN Expert Group Meeting on Population, Resources, Environment and Development held in Geneva 25-29 April 1983, (c) Seminars on population and development in many countries as shown in the examples below.

A seminar held in Abidjan in March 1985 on the role of population variables in different plans of some West African countries (Benin, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Senegal and Togo) had as one of its purpose to sensitize the participants on the necessity of integrating population variables in socio-economic development planning. The seminar noted with satisfaction the efforts some of the countries were taking towards the integration of population and development. It, however, deplored the lack of guidelines and methodologies for integrating population and development. Among some of the other problems the seminar noted as obstacles to the integration of population variables in development planning include problems of data collection, and analysis, which do not always make results to be of maximum

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5/ Economic Commission for Africa: "Use of Population Data in Development Planning in Africa" ST/ECA/PSD.2/3. 10 December 1981 (paper presented at the 2nd session of the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, Addis Ababa, 2-17 March 1982); and ECA, Population Division. "The Demographic Content of African Development Plans" ECA/PD/WP/1983/10 (paper presented at a Seminar held in USSR on Application of Demographic Data in Development Planning, 21 August - 4 September, 1983).



use and lack of qualified personnel. 6/ The same reasons have also been stated in the case of Cameroon by Disaine Bruno an ILO Expert involved in the setting up of a population unit in the Planning Office 7/.

A national seminar on utilization of demographic data in development planning in Mali in September 1984 observed that demographic data was not utilized much in socio-economic development planning 8/. In order to facilitate the integration of population variables in socio-economic development planning the seminar identified a number of socio-economic and demographic indicators to be used.

(b) General observations on experiences of the countries which responded to the questionnaire for this study

One of the essential considerations in integration of population variables and policies is to include a chapter or section on population in development plans and the discussion of the interrelationships between population and development as well as strategies on how to deal with population problems related to socio-economic development. Observations of the 8 countries which had replied to the questionnaire for the study show that Egypt, Kenya and Tunisia each had included a chapter on population and the discussion on population and development interrelationships in the two most recent development plans. The Nigeria 1975 to 1980 development plan included discussion on the interrelationships between population and development only while the 1981 to 1985 plan included both a chapter on population and discussion of the population and development interrelationship. In the case of Tanzania each of the two most recent development plans included a discussion of the interrelationship between population and development but there was no chapter devoted to population as such. The Ethiopian 10 year Prospective Plan (1984 to 1994) included a paragraph on population which expressed the need for a population policy and the same paragraph implicitly referred to the interrelationships between population and development. The two most recent development plans of Lesotho and Zambia neither included a chapter on population nor the discussion of the population and development interrelationships.

There is a noticeable variation on the degree to which population variables are included in development plans. Tunisia used all the 21 population related variables specified in the study in each of the two most recent development plans.

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6/ République de Côte d'Ivoire, Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances et Fonds des Nations Unies pour les Activités en Matière de Population, Actes Du Séminaire - Atelier, Abidjan, 4-9 mars 1985.

7/ Republic of Cameroon, Department of Plan "Organisation de la Recherche en Population et Développement a l'Unité de Planification de la Population en Vue de la Préparation du VIème Plan Quinquennal 1986-1991 au Cameroun" par Disaine Bruno, en Population et Développement, Population Planning Department Review No. 1, 1985.

8/ République du Mali, Direction Nationale de la Planification. Rapport Final du Premier Séminaire National Sur l'Utilisation des Données Démographiques dans la Planification du Développement des Ressources Humaines. Bamako 24-29 septembre 1984.

Egypt and Kenya ranked second with the number of variables included as follows: Egypt 1980-1984 Plan 17, 1982 to 1986 plan 20; Kenya 1979-1983 plan 20, 1984-1988 plan 19. In the case of Lesotho, 10 variables were included in the 1975-1980 plan and 9 in the 1980-1985. For the other countries see Table 1.

The variables commonly included in the plans are: population projections/estimates, age structure of the population, urban population estimates/projections, manpower requirements estimates, labour force participation rates, mortality estimates, agricultural population estimates, school enrolment estimates/projections, and household size. Those variables which are omitted in most development plans are those relating to family planning programmes and policies relevant to population issues of fertility, mortality, population distribution and internal migration, urbanization and population growth.

Table 1: Number of population related variables included in development plans

<u>Country</u>	<u>Development Plan</u>	<u>Number of variables</u>
Egypt	1980 - 1984	17
	1982 - 1986	20
Ethiopia*	1984 - 1994	12
Kenya	1979 - 1983	20
	1984 - 1988	19
Lesotho	1975 - 1980	10
	1980 - 1985	9
Nigeria	1975 - 1980	11
	1981 - 1985	12
Tanzania	1976 - 1981	14
	1981 - 1986	14
Tunisia	1977 - 1981	21
	1982 - 1986	21
Zambia	1972 - 1976	13
	1979 - 1983	13

\* Information was provided for one plan only.

- (c) Specific country experiences for the countries which responded to the enquiry for this study

Egypt

The 1980 to 1984 Development Plan included 17 of the 21 specified population and policy variables (i.e. 81%); the 1982-1986 Development Plan incorporated 19 of the 21 population and policy variables (90%). The following were included in both plans: population growth rate, total population size, population projections/estimates, manpower requirements estimates, labour force participation rates, fertility estimates, mortality estimates, school enrolment estimates/projections, household size, chapter on population, discussion of population and development interrelationships, family planning programmes, population policies on fertility, mortality, internal migration/redistribution of the population, urbanization, and population growth rate. While the 1980-1984 Development Plan did not include age structure of the population, rural population estimates/projections, and urban population estimates/projections, the 1982-1986 plan included these variables. However both plans did not include agricultural population estimates. See Annex II for details.

In trying to reduce the adverse population effects on socio-economic development the Egyptian Government implemented a National Population and Family Planning Policy (1973-1982) whose objective was to reduce population growth rate. The reduction was to be achieved through improvements in other socio-economic factors including the following: the socio-economic standard of the family, education, women's employment, mechanization of family, industrialization, reduction of infant mortality, social security, communication and quality and provision of services (including family planning services).

Government ministries and non-government organizations contribute to ensure the incorporation of population related activities in the plans. The Ministry of Education, for example, prepares leading teachers to impart to the students knowledge on population problems and bring to their awareness the need for family planning; the Ministry also supports various activities of agencies working in the field of population and family planning.

The Supreme Council for Population and Family Planning is the organization responsible for the formulation of population related policies. It has the Population and Family Planning Board which co-operates with each organization represented in the Supreme Council for Population and Family Planning, for incorporating population related activities in the development plans, then monitor and evaluate their implementation.

It is the Government view that the system has been working successfully during the last ten years. One of the major problems identified by the Government which still needed action was the low institutional capability for each organization to undertake analysis of population issues that are part of their work and developing plans for action programmes. The Government considers that this problem can be overcome by supporting each organization with needed technical assistance in the conduct of policy analysis, training their staff, identification and development of specific methodologies that can be used in the ministries planning operations.

### Ethiopia

The Ethiopian 10 year Perspective Plan, 1984 to 1994 included the following 12 population variables: population growth rate, population size, population projections/estimates, age structure of the population, rural population estimates/projections, urban population estimates/projections, manpower requirements estimates, labour force participation rates, mortality estimates, agricultural population estimates, school enrolment estimates/projections, and household size. In one paragraph the plan refers to the need for a population policy. There is also an implicit mention of the interrelationship between population and development. For the first time the Government response to the Fifth UN Population Inquiry on Population considered its population growth rate and fertility as being too high, however, there are no policies to reduce them.

Among the problems encountered in the integration of population variables and policies in development plans, as identified by the Government are: lack of detailed and reliable data on population characteristics and their trends (the first population and housing census was carried out in May 1984); lack of a population policy; lack of full awareness on the part of planning experts on population issues and problems; and lack of a population unit within the planning Supreme Council to help in the integration of population variables in development plans.

With the availability of the 1984 census results it is hoped that there will be a better understanding of the population situation to evolve appropriate population programmes and policies. Arrangements are underway with UNFPA assistance to establish a population unit within the Planning Supreme Council. Other actions seen by Government as necessary to help improve the integration of population variables and policies in development plans are: establishment of a national population commission, formulation of appropriate population policy, strengthening of population research and evaluation capability, increasing awareness of planning experts on population issues and problems, and training of planners in population related areas.

### Kenya

Both the 1979 to 1983 and 1984 to 1988 development plans included nearly all the population related variables specified in the questionnaire. Those not included were the household size in both plans and manpower requirements in the 1984 to 1988 development plan. Both plans included a chapter on population and discussion on population and development interrelationships. Kenya is one of the countries in Africa which adopted a population policy to reduce fertility and population growth rate. However, there has not been any reduction in fertility since the programme started. The policy to reduce population growth and those on urbanization, mortality, internal migration are referred to in both plans under study. Family planning programmes are also covered in these two plans.

Efforts are being made to integrate population in development plans upto district level. In the district plans, the first chapter on "Description of the District", demographic characteristics including population projections are covered. The Government formed a Sectoral Planning Group (SPG) Committee on Population in 1982 with the primary objective of enhancing the integration of population variables and policies in the sectoral chapters of the 1984 to 1988 development plan. The Committee included members from relevant government ministries, e.g. Education, Health,

Agriculture, etc. and research institutions, e.g. Population Studies and Research Institute, Institute for Development Studies, etc. There has been considerable effort made by the Government to enhance awareness of the interrelationships between population and development among Government officials and others involved in development planning at both national and district levels through training, seminars and workshops.

Among some of the problems encountered in the integration of population variables and policies in development plans according to the Government reply are: insufficient data, insufficient research, lack of adequate personnel trained to handle demographic data; and inadequate awareness among those involved in planning, especially on district level, on the interrelationship between population variables and socio-economic development.

Suggestions to improve the integration of population variable and policies in development plans from the Kenya reply on this study included: continuation of collection and analysis of demographic data and their timely availability for planning purposes; continued efforts at dissemination of research findings by individuals and institutions on the interrelationship between population and socio-economic development; training of planners to enable them to use effectively available demographic data.

#### Lesotho

Both the Lesotho 1975 to 1980 and 1980 to 1985 development plans each included following population related variables: population growth rate, total population size, age structure of the population, urban population estimates/projections, manpower requirements estimates, mortality estimates, agricultural population estimates, school enrolment estimates/projections and population policy on mortality. In addition to these, the 1975 to 1980 plan also included the labour force participation rates.

The 1980-1985 development plan recognized the following population related problems <sup>2/</sup>: growth of working age population, school age population growth; reduction of economic growth through population growth, population pressures on health services, on individual or family welfare, on food or agricultural systems; and high population density. Integration of family planning in health services and population and family planning education are among the policies the government is implementing to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population.

#### Nigeria

The reply from Nigeria on population related variables incorporated in development plans show that the following 11 of the 21 variables specified were included in both 1975 to 1980 and 1981 to 1985 development plans; population growth rate, total population size, population projections/estimates, age structure of the population, manpower requirements estimates, labour force participation rates, agricultural population estimates, school enrolment estimates/projections, household size, discussion of population and development interrelationships and family planning programmes.

<sup>2/</sup> Demographic data for Development, Population Policy Review: Lesotho, Westinghouse, Social Sciences International, Columbia, USA, November 9, 1984, p. 7.

Lack of firm population census data has been considered as a major problem in using population data in development planning. This had been made worse by the exodus of population from rural to urban centres when there was an "Oil boom" and a large number of illegal immigrants from neighbouring ECOWAS States. No clear indications of these people were known for planning to take these factors into account.

Among some of the suggestions for future improvements in integration of population variables in development plans according to the reply from Nigeria were: action to depoliticize population census results so that it should be possible to conduct censuses in such a manner that the results will be acceptable and made use of in the planning process; need to improve collection of up-to-date information on fertility, mortality and migration; need to introduce population education in schools at all levels of education.

#### Tanzania

It is observed from the reply from Tanzania that both the 1976 to 1981 and 1981 to 1986 development plans included the following: population growth rate, total population size, population projections/estimates, age structure of the population, rural population estimates/projections, urban population estimates/projections, manpower requirements estimates, labour force participation rates, agricultural population estimates, school enrolment estimates/projections, household size at village level, discussion of population and development interrelationships, policy on mortality and urbanization. Although policy on mortality was included in both plans, mortality estimates were not included in both plans. Tanzania has been pursuing a vigorous programme on population redistribution since the Arusha Declaration in 1967 and family planning programmes since the early 1970, and these are not included in the 1976 to 1981 and 1981 to 1986 development plans according to the reply on Tanzania.

Some of the problems identified as affecting the integration of population variables in development plans in Tanzania are: constraints in data availability to planners who are sometimes not inclined to use population data; planning is mainly biased to investment leaving out population issues; lack of clear population related policies e.g. on fertility, rural and urban migration.

Some of the ways in which future improvements can be made in integration of population variables in development plans as suggested in the reply include: continuation of efforts to improve population data from surveys and censuses; improvement and expansion of vital registration systems as to make it compulsory and universal; need to broaden awareness of population issues through improved ways in dissemination of population information in the country.

#### Tunisia

Tunisia is the only country among those which replied that had included all the 21 population related factors in two recent development plans (the 1977 to 1981 and 1982 to 1986 development plans). A chapter on population, discussion of population and development interrelationships, family planning programmes, policies related to fertility, mortality, migration, urbanization, population growth rate, were among the 21 population related factors in these plans.

Regarding institutional arrangements for the integration of population factors into development planning, the Government in its reply to the Fifth UN Population Inquiry states that the Ministry of Planning and Finance was responsible for the formulation or co-ordination of population policies since 1961. The Institut National des Statistiques and the Department of Human Resources in the Ministry of Planning and Finance have been responsible for taking population variables into account since 1961 10/.

#### Zambia

According to the reply received from Zambia, each of the following population related variables were included in both the 1972-1976 and 1979-1983 development plans: population growth rate, total population size, population projections/estimates, age structure of the population, rural population estimates/projections, urban population estimates/projections, manpower requirements estimates, labour force participation rates, fertility and mortality estimates, agricultural population estimates, school enrolment estimates/projections, and household size. There was no chapter on population in the plans and no discussion on population and development interrelationships.

#### (d) Other countries' experiences

Experiences of the following countries is based on information from development plans examined and other sources such as country statements presented at the 2nd African Population Conference held in Arusha, Tanzania in 1984, etc.

#### Algeria

Although the first four year plan 1970-1973 and the second four year plan 1974-1977 did not give any explicit treatment of population issues, the 1980-1984 five year plan recognized the constraints of demographic trends on socio-economic development and it indicated that the demographic phenomenon was the main issue around which socio-economic objectives should be defined 11/. According to the Algeria reply to the 5th UN Population Inquiry, the Secrétariat d'Etat au Affaires Sociales is responsible for the formulation or co-ordination of population policies since 1982. In the same reply it was indicated that there is a unit within the planning organization that is responsible for taking population variables into account in planning.

#### Benin

Demographic data was taken into account in preparation of the 1983-1987 Second State Plan, however, such data was not fully utilized; it was mostly in the education and health fields where demographic data was used 12/.

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10/ ECA: Fifth Population Inquiry among Governments, ECA member States Perceptions and Policies on Demographic Trends in Relation to Development as of 1982", ECA/PD/WP/1984/3.

11/ "Les Variables Démographiques dans la Planification de Développement en Algérie", Algeria Country Statement presented at a Seminar organized by ECA for ECA member States on Use of Population Data in Development Planning, held in Moscow, USSR, 22 August to 2 September 1983.

12/ ECA: Seminar Report on Use of Population Data in Development Planning, Moscow, USSR, 22 August to 2 September 1983.

Botswana

The 1979-1985 National Development Plan contains population data on size, age-sex composition, rural and urban population, growth rate, dependency ratios, life expectancy at birth for males and females, mortality rates and migration to neighbouring countries.

Ghana

The Ghana country statement at the second African Population Conference in 1984 states that analysis of development plans content since 1963 indicate that much more population data could have been used to improve the qualitative aspects of the plans. Conspicuously absent from the plans are some of the basic demographic parameters such as fertility, mortality, age-sex structure of the population, population projections, and future working age population 13/. The statement also indicated that among the factors which militate against the accommodation of demographic parameters in national development plans are the non-availability of data to planners and/or the existing data were not in a form that could easily be used by planners 14/.

Mali

One of the problems cited by Mali in integration of population variables in development plans is due to lack of data, particularly on time series. The other reason relates to methodology of development plans themselves as demographic indicators are not considered as objectives but results of a situation determined by other factors 15/. However, in 1983, a population unit was established within the Human Resources Division of the Ministry of Planning to help with the integration of population variables and policies in development planning.

Morocco

It was reported by the Moroccan delegate in the country statement at the seminar on Use of Population Data in Development Planning held in Moscow in 1983 that since Morocco's independence, those responsible for planning started introducing demographic variables in socio-economic development planning; emphasis is on linking the goals of economic growth with demographic variables 16/. Morocco's reply to the 5th UN Population Inquiry indicated that the Centre des études et recherches démographiques (CERED) has been responsible for providing information on population and development interrelationships since 1970.

Seychelles

The 1982-1986 National Development Plan included information on mid-year population estimates for 1981, projected population, rate of natural increase of population and growth rate, total fertility, female population aged 15 to 44 years, life expectancy for males and females, proportion of population in age groups 0-14, 15 to 64, 65+. No link is brought about between population and development. Reference is made briefly to the fact that the increase in population calls for sufficient growth in employment opportunities and states that efforts are being made to achieve the goal of full employment in the shortest possible time.

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13/ UNECA: Second African Population Conference Country Statements. Vol. 3, p.151, July 1984.

14/ Ibid, p. 151.

15/ Ibid. p. 246.

16/ ECA: Seminar Report on Use of Population Data in Development Planning, Moscow, USSR, 22 August to 2 September 1983, p.8.



### Sierra Leone

The Second National Development Plan, 1981/82 to 1985/86 in the chapter on Human Resources included the following population information: size and growth, fertility, mortality, spatial distribution, employment and unemployment, urbanization, population projections by age and sex, projections of the employed and unemployed 17/. A National Population Commission was established in 1982 to be responsible for the formulation and co-ordination of population policies. A Unit exists within the planning office to take population variables into account in planning.

### Uganda

A chapter on population policy was included in the 1980-1990 Ten Year Reconstruction and Development Plan. The chapter discussed size and growth of population, objectives of a population policy which aim at influencing mortality and fertility in order to lower population growth from 3% in 1981 to 2.6% in 1995 as one of the ways to improve the general well-being of the people. The strategy to implement the policy include efforts to integrate population education into all levels of education, both formal and non-formal; government's active participation in delivery of family planning services, improvements in health and nutrition of the population, improving the awareness of population and development inter-relationships 18/.

#### (e) General observation on Integration of Population and Development

It has been observed that although population variables have been taken into account in development planning by many countries to differing degrees, it is not enough just to include population variables. There is lack of demographic target setting that would be used for evaluation and modification of strategies and targets in the implementation of development plans. In some cases where targets may have been adopted there has not been any evaluation that would indicate if there is need to modify the targets or the strategies. In yet some other cases it has been known that the targets have not been achieved and no action has been taken to revise the targets or the strategies. If integration of population and development is to be meaningful in achieving socio-economic development objective of improving the living conditions of the majority of the population, adjustment in both population and development policies must be associated with target setting and modifying these targets if not met as well as applying those strategies that would help the attainment of desired goals and objectives of development plans.

#### INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE INTEGRATION OF POPULATION VARIABLES AND POLICIES IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Although some references have been made on some countries in the previous section regarding institutional arrangements for taking population variables into account in development plans, an indenth treatment of this issue is given here. It has repeatedly been mentioned and recommended at various meetings and conferences on population that necessary institutions and mechanisms should be established to

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17/ UNECA: Second African Population Conference, Country Statements, Vol. 3, July 1984, pp. 330-331.

18/ UNFPA: Uganda Report of Mission on Needs Assessment for Population Assistance, New York, January 1984.

enhance the interrelation of population variables in development planning. Such institutions should include population units and population commissions.

### Units for integrating population variables in planning

The Fifth UN Population Inquiry on Population among Governments in 1982 included questions on institutional arrangements for integrating population variables into development planning. Analysis of 39 ECA member States which replied to this inquiry shows that in 26 countries either a unit or office exist for taking population variables into account in planning. The number of population units specifically established to perform the task is rather limited. Generally the economic planning ministries have the responsibility of taking population variables into account in planning. In only 7 countries, namely Burundi, Cameroon, Libya, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Tunisia, there was explicit mention that one of the main functions of units within the planning organizations as being the integration of population variables in planning. It is observed that lack of explicit mention by most countries of integration of population variables in planning as a major function of those units responsible for taking population variables in planning shows that integration of population variables in development is not in practice given priority.

In order to facilitate the integration of population variables in socio-economic development, functions and responsibilities of units to perform these tasks in the planning organizations should clearly be indicated. These units are sometimes called population units but they could be known by any other name. A major function of the population unit would be to provide planners with the technical advice on the integration of population variables and policies in the planning process, both at the central planning ministries and in sectoral ministries. The unit would also review the role of population variables in formulating, implementing and evaluating development programmes and projects. It would also co-ordinate population related activities in various ministries and departments. The unit would disseminate information on population and development activities. It would prepare an inventory of research activities on population and development and indicate gaps for further research and undertake some specific research on population and development 19/. Conducting of training in the form of seminars and workshops for planners would be another important function of a unit responsible for integrating population variables in planning. Furthermore, the unit should also monitor the effects of population trends on development and vice versa and devise strategies to remove the imbalance between population and development.

To enable a population unit perform its functions properly and effectively, it is essential that it is staffed with trained personnel who have a multidisciplinary background; they need to have adequate orientation in the integration of population variables and formulation of population policies as well as evaluation of population programmes and policies.

Horlacher, Luu, and Rao state that the unit responsible for integrating population variables in planning should be within the planning ministry. They consider that if this is not done, the necessary technical competence is likely to be lacking, responsibility diffused and the incorporation of demographic factors into planning may result in little more than general statement in the planning documents 20/.

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19/ IUSSP: David E. Horlacher, Mau Thanh Luu and ELN Rao: "Issues and Organizational Arrangements for Integrating Population Factors into Development Planning", in the proceedings of the International Population Conference, Manila, 1981.

20/ Ibid.

### Population Commissions

There is need to have also institutional framework for the formulation of and/or co-ordination of population policies. In some countries the formulation or co-ordination of population policies is handled by a special commission. In other countries such matters are given to the Ministry of Economic Planning. The results of the Fifth UN Population Inquiry show that in 17 countries there were government institutions responsible for the formulation or co-ordination of population policies. See Annex I for details.

It is desirable that institutions given the responsibility of the formulation and co-ordination of population policies and programmes should be placed in high authority to influence politicians to support the policies evolved. The main responsibility of a population commission should be:

- (a) the evolution of relevant population policies to reflect the socio-economic development needs of the country and to ensure co-ordination of various policies;
- (b) to ensure that population is integrated in socio-economic development.

Population Commissions should establish mechanisms to help them perform their functions well, e.g. establishment of population units to act as secretariat to the commissions. It is necessary to make sure that the commissions meet periodically to review population policies and programmes in development planning. In some countries where population commissions have been created, they have not made any impact because the meetings of these commissions are not convened or are not convened regularly to do their business. This has hindered the effectiveness of such commissions. It is suggested that population commissions should be under the chairmanship of a high ranking official, e.g. Minister, and that members of the commissions should include representatives from all ministries, private institutions, e.g. family planning organizations and some representatives from institutions of higher learning and research.

Some information on institutions responsible for formulation and/or co-ordination of population policies and programmes in Egypt, Kenya, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Rwanda is given below.

#### Egypt

The Supreme Council for Family Planning established in 1965 and later named the Supreme Council for Population and Family Planning is the national institution responsible for population matters including the formulation of population policies. The Supreme Council is an inter-ministerial body. At one time this body was headed by the Minister of Social Affairs, at a later stage it was headed by the Prime Minister and in 1973 the Minister of Health was delegated to be the Chairman of the Council. The members of the Council include: Ministries of Education, Social Affairs and Security, Agriculture, Planning, Labour Force and Training, Culture and Information, Youth, President of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, Local Government, Religious Affairs, the Chairman of the Population and Family Planning Board (the technical body that assists the planning, programming, monitoring, co-ordination, and evaluation of policies and programmes).

Kenya

The National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) has the responsibility of population policy development and co-ordination of activities of the various government and non-government organizations involved in population education, research and training, analysis and evaluation of population programmes. The Secretariat of the NCPD is in the Office of the Vice-President in the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is headed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nairobi.

Senegal

Commission Nationale de la Population (COMAPOP) has the responsibility to advise the government on the formulation and implementation of a population policy. Representatives of the Commission come from various ministries, ethnic and religious groups.

Sierra Leone

The terms of reference for the National Population Commission are:

1. to formulate a population policy;
2. to promote and foster an integrated approach to family planning development;
3. to promote and encourage integration of the various aspects of family development;
4. general co-ordination, promotion and integration of population activities into planning.

Rwanda

L'Office National de la Population (L'ONAPO) has the following responsibilities:

1. to study all aspects related to population growth and its impact on socio-economic development;
2. to sensitize all the population on population problems through information, training, and education programmes in respect of human rights, religious and cultural values;
3. to ensure proper application of family planning methods;
4. to study the integration of family planning services and to propose best methods on this integration to those involved in public health;
5. to propose solutions to enable realization of balance between production and population growth;
6. to participate in the formulation of school programmes on population at all levels.

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper has shown that although population issues did not get much attention in African development plans soon after independence, there is at present greater recognition of the importance of population factor in the plans. Various countries have used demographic variables in their recent plans to varying degrees. It has been observed that most plans do not include in the development plans specific policies to influence demographic factors. Some of the efforts taken by some countries to integrate population variables in development plans include establishment of special population units and population commissions. Most of these institutional framework has been established recently and has not had much impact yet. There is need to strengthen them to be effective.

Although the need to integrate population variables in development planning is generally accepted there has not been much headway made yet in this direction. Among the factors noted as contributing to this include the following: (a) lack of awareness by some politicians and planners of the importance of population variables in planning; (b) lack of adequate and reliable population data; (c) lack of relevant skills among planners on how to handle population data in development planning; (d) absence of or weak infrastructural framework for the integration of population variables in planning; (e) lack of established methodologies on integration of population and development; (f) absence of comprehensive population policies.

In order to facilitate the integration of population variables in socio-economic development we reiterate the implementation of the following recommendations most of which have been repeated in various declarations or meetings at various times:

- (a) The member States and ECA should continue efforts of creating greater awareness of the interrelationship between population and development, particularly among political leaders and planners and the public in general.
- (b) There should be continued dialogue among policy makers, planners, statisticians and demographers on population and development issues.
- (c) Development plans should use relevant demographic variables in their preparation; the impact of population trends on development and vice versa should be thoroughly discussed and strategies and policies for resolving any perceived problems clearly indicated.
- (d) Member States should continue to improve data collection and analysis and that data should be made available to planners without much delays.
- (e) Relevant research on the interrelationship between population and development should continue to be undertaken by member States and ECA.
- (f) Member States need to ensure that those responsible for integrating population variables and policies in development planning are adequately trained to perform such tasks.

- (g) Member States need to establish or strengthen institutional framework necessary for integrating population in socio-economic development. Such institutional framework should include population units in planning offices and population commissions.
- (h) ECA and other United Nations organizations or agencies should continue efforts to develop relevant methodologies and manuals to help member States in integrating population in development plans.
- (i) Member States need to formulate relevant and comprehensive population policies which would enhance the achievement of socio-economic development objectives.
- (j) Member States should not rely completely on external sources in implementation of their population programmes. They should earmark funds from their own resources for population programmes.
- (k) The international organization need to help African countries as much as possible in the integration of population and development. This can be done by providing fellowships for training, funding of research, workshops, seminars, or providing experts.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF POPULATION  
VARIABLES IN SOME AFRICAN COUNTRIES (BASED ON RESPONSES TO THE  
FIFTH POPULATION INQUIRY, 1982)

Name of Country	Name of Institution Responsible for the Formulation or Co-ordination of Population Policies and date when given such responsibility	Name of Unit within the planning organization for taking population Variables into account in Planning and date when given this responsibility	Main functions of Unit Responsible for taking Population Variables into account in Planning
a	b	c	d
1. ALGERIA	Secrétariat d'Etat aux Affaires Sociales, January, 1982	Direction Générale de la Planification de la Ressources Humaines	not indicated
2. BURUNDI	Centre d'Etudes Démographiques pour le Développement, 1980	(i) Centre d'Etudes Démographiques (ii) La Direction Générale de la Planification	Integrate demographic factors in socio-development plans
3. CAMEROON -		(i) Direction de la Statistique et de la Comptabilité Nationale (Ministère de l'Economie et du plan) (ii) Direction de la Planification (Ministère de l'Economie et du plan)	Preparation of sectoral plans; analysis of the evaluation of population and employment programmes in the context of national policies

a	b.	c	d
4. EGYPT	The Supreme Council for Population and Family Planning, 1965	-	-
5. GABON	-	Direction de la Planification de Ressources Humaines, 1980	Analyse and synthesize information for planning regarding manpower and employment
6. GAMBIA	Ministry of Economic Planning and Industrial Development (it was indicated that responsibility was not specific but implicit)	-	-
7. GUINEA BISSAU	-	Ministère du Plan 1981	Planning for national economy
8. IVORY COAST	Comité Nationale de la Statistique et de la Normalisation Comptable 1982	Direction du Plan (Ministère du Plan et de l'Industrie), 1965	Preparation of 5 year development plans and monitoring of their implementation; integration of socio-economic and cultural variables in development



a	b	c	d
9. LESOTHO	-	Social Infrastructure Sector 1975	Preparation of projects and programmes related to social infrastructure and general services
10. LIBERIA	Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs	Population Division in the Bureau of Statistics 1974	Carrying out censuses, surveys and population research
11. LIBYA	-	Directorate General of Demography and Manpower Planning Department 1966	Study and analysis of population trends and their relations with development plans objectives, and to prepare population projections
12. MADAGASCAR	Ministère de la Population et de la Condition Sociale	Direction Générale du Plan 1975	not indicated
13. MAURITANIA	Direction de la Statistique (Centre d'Etude Démographique et Sociale) 1960	Service des Etudes (Direction de la Planification)	not indicated

a	b	c	d
14.	MAURITIUS	Ministry of Economic Planning and Development 1971	(i) Human Resources Section. 1978 (ii) Economic Analysis Research Section 1980 (i) Manpower Planning, and Analysis of labour force (ii) Macro-economic forecasting analysis and research
15.	MOROCCO	Commission Suprême de population 1967	Direction de la Planification (Division de la Planification de Ressources Humaines) 1965 Human resources planning, education, employment, public health
16.	RWANDA	Office Nationale de la Population 1981	Direction Générale de la Planification Division des Ressources Humaines. 1962 Formulation of global national development objectives and their main orientation. 1962
17.	SENEGAL	Commission Nationale de la Population October 1979	Commission Nationale de la Population To define a national population policy; integration of population variables in socio-economic development planning
18.	SIERRA LEONE	National Population Commission of Sierra Leone November 1982	Population and Human Resources Section of the General Planning Unit of the Ministry of Development and Economic Planning. 1978 To integrate population variables into socio-economic planning; to conduct research on population and development; to act as secretariat to the National Population Commission

	a	b	c	d
19.	SOMALIA	-	Ministry of National Planning	To monitor population and related changes and devise appropriate action for planning
20.	TOGO	-	Direction Générale du Plan de Développement 1966	To prepare Socio-economic development plans
21.	TUNISIA	Ministère du Plan et des Finances 1961	- Institute Nationale de Statistiques - Direction des Ressources Humaines au Ministère du Plan et Finances	Preparation of population projections, analysis of demographic data, policies and programmes
22.	UGANDA	Ministry of Planning and Economic Development. 1962	Social Service Section of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development. Since the 1960s.	To prepare social services plans including health, education and population
23.	UPPER VOLTA	Ministère du Plan Direction de la Recherche Démographique, Secrétariat Permanent du Conseil National de la Population. January 1983	Direction de la Planification du Développement	Development Planning; formulation of development priorities and objectives
24.	ZAMBIA	Social and Cultural Committee of the Central Committee. 1973	Manpower Planning Department (National Commission for Development). 1980	Planning the development and utilization of manpower resources.

مَدِينَةُ

COUNTRY AND PERIOD OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN	VARIABLES INCLUDED
EGYPT: 1980-1984 1982-1986	1. Population growth rate 2. Total population size 3. Population projections/estimates 4. Age structure of population 5. Rural population estimates/ projections 6. Urban population estimates/ projections 7. Manpower requirements estimates 8. Labour force participation rates 9. Fertility estimates 10. Mortality estimates 11. Agricultural population estimates 12. School enrolment estimates/ projections 13. Household size 14. Inclusion of a chapter on population in the development plan 15. Inclusion of discussion of population and development interrelationships in the development plan 16. Family planning programmes 17. Population policy on fertility 18. Population policy on mortality 19. Population policy on internal migration/redistribution of the population 20. Population policy on urbanization 21. Population policy on population growth rate
ETHIOPIA: 1984-1993	
KENYA: 1979-1983 1984-1988	
LESOTHO: 1975-1980 1980-1985	
NIGERIA: 1975-1980 1981-1985	

COUNTRY AND PERIOD OF DEVELOPMENT PLAN	VARIABLES INCLUDED																				
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.
TANZANIA: 1976-1981	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x								
1982-1984	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x				x			x	
TUNISIA: 1977-1981	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x													
1982-1986	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x									x	x		x	
ZAMBIA: 1972-1976	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x													
1979-1983	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x													

Source: Replies from the countries on the questionnaire for this study.