

The Population Council

Contract No.: 532-0069-C-00-2005-00

Project No. : 532-0069

Project Title: Assistance in Development and  
Implementation of a Comprehensive  
Population Policy and Plan for  
Jamaica

Quarterly Progress Report  
for the Period : April - June 1985

## The Population Council

Two consultants visited during the second quarter of 1985: Tomas Frejka and Robert Sendek.

Frejka worked in Kingston the week of April 15. Several institutions in Jamaica had requested the preparation of new population projections. With staff of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica, primarily with Mrs. M. Higman, Frejka discussed the data needs for preparing a new set of population projections (See Appendix 1). It was agreed that staff of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica would prepare the needed data as quickly as possible and alternative dates for a next visit of Frejka was agreed upon. During this next visit a final review of the data will be performed and the projections will be prepared.

Frejka also discussed various activities with staff of the Planning Institute of Jamaica. The gathering of data for the cost-benefit analysis (being done in cooperation with D. Nortman) was significantly delayed so that it was difficult to plan Nortman's next visit. There is significant interest, in particular of the National Family Planning Board to obtain the results of a cost-benefit analysis of the Jamaica Family Planning Program. Staff of the Planning Institute of Jamaica should be encouraged to pursue the gathering of data for this project. Also, the need for new labor force projections was discussed. These can be prepared once the new set of population projections will be available. The need for the consultancy of Robert Sendek was discussed and the consultancy was immediately arranged for May 5-9, 1985.

Sendek did indeed come for the above mentioned period and worked with staff of the Planning Institute of Jamaica, training them in the use of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences research (SPSS) and in the use of the computer program for population projections, FIVFIV/SINSIN (Appendix 2).

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Mrs. C. P. McFarlane  
Director General

Mrs. V. Nam  
Director, Censuses and Related Studies

FROM: Merle Higman  
Population Studies Unit

DATE: April 18, 1985

SUBJECT: Meeting with Dr. Tomas Frejka on Preparing  
Population Projections

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As directed, I met with Dr. Frejka on Wednesday, April 17. I invited Miss Priestley to sit in on the discussions. We met in two sessions and identified the following with respect to the project-

Data Needs

- The 1982 Census population by 5-year age groups up to 75 years and over (adjusted to get the best estimate of the population)
- Fertility data - preferably time series data which would give us a range of age-specific fertility rates to establish the trends in fertility
- Mortality data - deaths by age and sex ideally for the years 1981-1983. This may be supplemented by estimates of mortality using the data from the census on children ever born/children surviving by age of mother. The contribution this could make in our situation has to be established. It is a technique used when vital statistics data are very poor.
- Migration - net estimates of international migration by age and sex

Data Sources

The sources of information to be investigated are-

Fertility

- Registrar General's figures on births by age of mother
- The chapter on Fertility in the 1979 and 1983 Contraceptive Prevalence Surveys

- The background data on which the UN projections are based
- Population data in the World Development Report 1984 published by The World Bank.

#### Mortality

- Registrar General's figures on deaths by age and sex
- Census Tabulations

#### Migration

- Migration estimates published by the PIOJ in the Economic and Social Survey
- The data from the International Migration Study
- US Bureau of Census tables on Foreign-Born Population

The projections would be national projections. Dr. Frejka reminded us that parish projections, if undertaken separately would need to add up to the national figures.

#### Implementation

The understanding is that as a first step, the fertility, mortality and migration data will be collected and analysed by this Institute. Data on changes in the educational status, occupations and industrial distributions, particularly among the 15-30 age group, as well as the urban/rural distribution of the population would also be useful in arriving at the assumptions to be used.

In the second phase Dr. Frejka would meet with us to evaluate the information, decide on the assumptions underlying the projections and show us how to use the micro-computer programmes to derive the projections. (These programmes are to be copied from PIOJ and Dr. Frejka will have the documentation made available to us).

Perhaps, a workshop session could be held when Dr. Frejka returns and other institutions invited to participate.

#### Timetable

Dr. Frejka will be travelling throughout the month of June and will not be available for consultations. He has suggested two alternatives periods

- (a) Mid May - 15-20; or
- (b) The first week of July.

The latter is more feasible as the data would need to be collected, analysed and ready for discussion when he arrives. In addition, we would need to make a request to NFPB and USAID in 2 weeks if we wished him to return in May.

ACTIVITIES

ROBERT SENDEK POPULATION COUNCIL N.Y.

MAY 5-9, 1985

1. Trained PIOJ staff in use of SPSS on IBM/PC including how to understand and resolve unexpected errors, and in the use of advanced functions such as time series analysis and hierarchical files.
2. Trained staff in use of FIVFIV/SINSIN population projection package.

*Robert Sendek*  
*5/9/85*