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**EVALUATION OF THE POPULATION
INFORMATION PROGRAM (PIP)**

by

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Glossary

AGI	Alan Guttmacher Institute
A.I.D.	United States Agency for International Development
BIG	BIG Country Strategy
CD-ROM	Compact Disc-Read Only Memory: the latest technology in high volume data storage and retrieval
CEDPA	Centre for Development and Population Activities
CERPOD	Research Center for Population and Development
IEC	information, education, and communication
JHPIEGO	Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Reproductive Health
MCH	maternal and child health
MEDLARS	Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System (NIH)
MEDLINE	Medical Information On-line (set of files in MEDLARS)
MOH	Ministry of Health
NIH	National Institutes of Health
PATH	Program for Appropriate Technology in Health
PCS	Population Communication Services (project), The Johns Hopkins University
PIP	Population Information Program
POPLINE	computerized, bibliographic database on population and family planning
POPTECH	Population Technical Assistance Project
S&T/POP	Bureau for Science and Technology/Office of Population (now R&D/POP, Bureau for Research and Development/Office of Population)
STD	sexually transmitted disease
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development (missions)
WID	women in development

Project Identification Data

1. **Project Title:** Population Information Program (PIP)
2. **Project Number:** 936-3032
3. **Contract Number:** DPE-3032-Z-00-7061
4. **Critical Project Dates:**

Contract Signed	August 1987
End Date	August 1992
5. **Project Funding:**

Authorized LOP Funding	\$23,175,000
Funding to Date	\$12,350,000
6. **Scope:** Worldwide
7. **Mode of Implementation:** Contract between S&T/POP and The Johns Hopkins University; subcontracts between Johns Hopkins and the Alan Guttmacher Institute and other institutions.
8. **Grantee:** The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland
9. **Major Activities:**
 - Publication of *Population Reports* series
 - Maintenance of POPLINE (on-line database)
 - Maintenance of Population Resources Center
 - Publication (by the Alan Guttmacher Institute under subcontract to PIP) of *International Family Planning Perspectives*
 - Leadership of the Informed Choice Task Force

Executive Summary

Introduction

The United States Agency for International Development has provided support for the Population Information Program (PIP) since 1972, first through George Washington University and since 1978 through The Johns Hopkins University. PIP provides up-to-date, comprehensive, and relevant information on population, family planning, and related health issues in several languages to a wide range of audiences, from policy makers to service providers and researchers. The current five-year contract ends August 31, 1992.

Outputs under the contract are 1) *Population Reports*, a periodic update on central issues of family planning and population technology, programs, and policy; 2) *International Family Planning Perspectives* (published by the Alan Guttmacher Institute in New York City under subcontract to PIP); 3) POPLINE, the world's most definitive computerized collection of abstracts and references on population issues, available on-line through the United States National Library of Medicine and as POPLINE CD-ROM, which provides instant access to that database all over the world by means of compact discs at selected locations; and 4) the Informed Choice Task Force Report. Also included in this evaluation is the Population Resources Center, maintained by PIP to facilitate the access of developing countries to POPLINE and *Population Reports*.

The contract requires an external evaluation of PIP objectives, outputs, costs, organization, and administration. To reach its conclusions and to prepare this report, the evaluation team conducted on-site interviews with users of program outputs in Ghana, Turkey, and Egypt; analyzed data from readership surveys; reviewed user reports for POPLINE and POPLINE CD-ROM; reviewed cable responses to a query sent to all USAID missions worldwide; referred to relevant program and project records and reports; and interviewed staff of PIP, the Alan Guttmacher Institute, the A.I.D. Office of Population, and A.I.D. Regional Bureaus.

Program Implementation

Population Reports and International Family Planning Perspectives

PIP products are highly regarded. In discussing *Population Reports*, family planning providers and population policy makers in different parts of the world stated that the publication is unique in the field. They appreciate the care with which the publication is researched and edited. They report using it to evaluate new developments and even settle disagreements. They emphasize that it is trusted, and they often describe it as authoritative. The publication offers something for which there is no substitute.

International Family Planning Perspectives reaches far fewer readers than *Population Reports*, but is also held in high esteem. Readers praise the journal for its content, style, and integrity. They characterize it as "highly readable" and "informative." Especially valued are its regular reports on programs in other countries.

In general, PIP coverage of key topics is considered excellent. Each issue of *Population Reports* concentrates on a single timely and important subject selected on the basis of advice from a number of population specialists who have had experience in developing countries. Recent titles, reflecting

this decision process, include "Condoms — Now More Than Ever," "Counseling Clients About the Pill," "AIDS Education — a Beginning," and "Lower-Dose Pills." While *Population Reports* provides in-depth coverage of a selected topic in each issue, *International Family Planning Perspectives* follows a more traditional research journal pattern, reporting high-quality research in family planning and providing news and views on significant happenings in the field.

Comments from users of these publications indicate that they would welcome more guidance on ways to extend local use of PIP materials, especially *Population Reports*. The publication might well devote some space in each issue to suggesting to readers how the content might be used in a country's program. Readers are also interested in following the results of programs like their own elsewhere in the world. PIP could answer this need by increasing its coverage of success in population programs, either in terms of techniques and approaches that have worked especially well or in terms of programs that have made progress toward country goals.

These two PIP products, however, could have a far greater impact. The principal limiting factors are budget-related. The first involves distribution. There are some instances of people who could use *Population Reports* and are not getting it. For example, sometimes the head office of an organization receives the publication but field stations, where it is vitally needed, are without it. In addition, *International Family Planning Perspectives* has too small a mailing list (28,000 copies of each issue), and many persons appear not to know that the journal is available free of charge.

For both *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives*, a more systematic construction of mailing lists might be achieved by a) deciding upon the job titles, employment categories or organizations, that distribution should cover; and (b) within each country, using a local contact person or organization to systematically keep an up-to-date list of names and addresses in each category. Each country needs to have an updated distribution list based on an information strategy for PIP, A.I.D., and the country itself.

The second limitation on the impact of PIP materials is that of language. *Population Reports* is now published in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. For *Population Reports*, at least, consideration must be given to distribution in such languages as Arabic, Turkish, Hindi, Bahasa Indonesia, and perhaps even some of the local languages used by large numbers of people in Africa. For *International Family Planning Perspectives*, which now is published primarily in English with only limited translations into Spanish and French, editions in Spanish, French, and Arabic could be done regularly.

These unexploited opportunities can be handled: what is required is sufficient commitment and budget. Commitment is important because adequate targeting and distribution can only be accomplished through sustained collaboration among several institutions, including A.I.D. Cooperating Agencies, USAID missions, and host-country entities. Additional budgetary provision is required both to enhance the targeting/distribution mechanisms, and to produce additional copies in English and other languages.

POPLINE and CD-ROM

The POPLINE database serves a narrower circle of users than the two above publications, but has long played a strategic information role. In its most recent form, CD-ROM, use of the POPLINE database already far surpasses the highest point previously achieved through on-line access.

The database was begun in 1972 as a support for the writing of *Population Reports* and as a research tool. Its potential usefulness to researchers, policy makers, and students all over the world was soon recognized. By 1973 POPLINE was available to outside users through Informatics, Inc., and in 1980 the system was moved to the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health to become one of 26 files on 14 different medical topics in MEDLARS (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System). By joining this system, PIP has made the unique information in POPLINE readily available to developed countries at a reasonable cost.

Utilization of the original POPLINE database has been heavy enough to demonstrate its great value in helping developing countries follow the results of studies elsewhere, design future research, and assemble policy papers to support informed decision making. By placing the whole POPLINE database on a single compact disc, CD-ROM technology makes the search process infinitely easier. Every title and abstract is available at every CD-ROM site.

POPLINE CD-ROM has been in operation since early 1989. There are now 160 sites receiving the database disc regularly. The disc is not being used properly at all 160 sites, however, either because the equipment is not yet functioning, local staff do not feel comfortable with it, the site is unsuitable (not easily accessible), or the potential of the technology has not been recognized. The sites that are working well have people who have received training in how to use information in addition to training in CD-ROM technology. This makes the development of a training instruction manual important. In addition, optimal access to POPLINE at a site will involve a great deal of cooperation between host institutions, PIP, USAID missions, and CAs. Some sites are already achieving this by means of training sessions, demonstrations, open houses, and even by providing encouragement to individual potential users.

Some users of the POPLINE database (in both the on-line and CD-ROM format) who were interviewed by the evaluation team expressed concern about the content of the database. They were concerned about the under-representation of developing country experience. The distribution of POPLINE CD-ROM affords an excellent opportunity for PIP to forge mutually beneficial information exchange agreements with CD-ROM sites.

Informed Choice Task Force

A.I.D. has been working with organizations in developed and developing countries to help them institutionalize informed choice and promote quality family planning. In the late 1980s, in light of Congressional concern that this element of health care be fully recognized in A.I.D. programs, a task force was created to review the issue.

The task force, consisting of 17 representatives from Cooperating Agencies and international family planning organizations, reviewed elements of informed choice in the areas of medical procedures, family planning program directions, interpersonal communications, community participation, and mass media. The task force presented a series of recommendations for review to A.I.D. and the family planning community in its 1989 report, *Informed Choice: Report of the Cooperating Agencies Task Force*.

The task force concluded that health providers often view procedures for informed consent, such as lengthy forms and rigid guidelines, as impeding the efficiency of their work. To combat this problem and to assist providers in informed choice procedures, the PIP program created a slide presentation, which was presented to Cooperating Agencies for their input. The slide show was then shown to

family planning associations, service providers, program managers, and policy makers in developing countries. To make the slide show more effective, it was recommended that country-specific slides be added. This presentation, along with other presentations and print materials, should continue to promote informed choice among the CAs and international donors.

Awareness of the importance of informed choice in family planning programs has risen with the institution of the informed choice task force, and interagency cooperation and communication on this issue has been enhanced.

Population Resources Center

The Population Resources Center is PIP's mechanism for handling requests for information, documents/publications, or on-line database searches. Users stressed how useful and timely the responses were to these requests. The only problem seen was the reluctance of individuals to request "too much." The cost-effective use of the Population Resources Center, as of other products of PIP requires a concerted effort to dispel this reluctance and encourage appropriate expanded use.

Budget Constraints

PIP's current financial status shows a serious funding shortfall for the last year of the project. The program received core funding for the first two years of the project during the first project year; this was provided both for first-year costs and for forward funding to cover anticipated rising expenses for production and distribution. The unspent amount of this first-year pipeline was carried over through the next three years. Because the fiscal 1992 obligation will not be allocated until the new project is awarded in August of 1992, a deficit of nearly \$600,000 will occur during the last project year. Funds will be needed before that time to cover the costs of publishing and mailing *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* and of maintaining POPLINE through August 1992.

PIP and Information Needs in the 1990s

During the decade of the 1990s, information can play a critical role in the furtherance of A.I.D.'s population and family planning objectives. The demand for authoritative information on population and family planning seems likely to grow as perhaps never before. The more mature family planning programs will be searching for ways to improve the quality and the mix of services, and perhaps to find more cost-effective ways to provide services in far-flung locations. Less mature family planning programs will need broad support for technical, organizational, planning, research, evaluation, and policy questions.

The Population Information Program — given its comprehensive scope and highly respected character — can serve as the intellectual bedrock for A.I.D.'s population programs in the 1990s. During the decade, it will be important for PIP (or its successor in case of a new contract) to take a more proactive role in the following three areas: gathering of information; improving the coordination and cooperation among CAs engaged in information activities; and gearing its activities more closely to A.I.D.'s overall strategy, however it may evolve.

Major Recommendations

1. The PIP program should be continued and strengthened during the 1990s to further bolster the worldwide population and family planning effort.
2. The A.I.D. Office of Population should take steps to develop a comprehensive strategy for the use of information to support its strategic thrusts over the next decade.
3. The Office of Population should ensure that additional funds are provided to maintain current activities and fulfill PIP's scope of work. Two options are available to the Office of Population: a) provide the project the necessary funds to complete approved PIP activities for this fiscal year; or b) put the new contract out for bid before funding runs out, estimated at April or May 1992.
4. PIP should make a concerted effort to see that references useful in the implementation and management of family planning programs are well covered in future updates of the POPLINE database, and more vigorous steps should be taken to increase the representation of materials from developing countries in the database.
5. Both *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* should do more to encourage wider re-use of the materials they provide. For example, *Population Reports* could devote a "sidebar" in each issue suggesting how the content might be adapted for several audiences and local use.
6. The distribution of *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be greatly increased and better targeted toward those who can best use the journal in support of family planning programs and A.I.D.'s BIG Country Strategy (BIG).
7. A careful study should be made to determine the languages in which *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be published. Availability in a greater number of languages is required to meet the growing needs of A.I.D.-supported population programs and to capitalize on A.I.D.'s investment in these publications. In addition to Spanish, French, and Portuguese, full or partial translations for BIG countries such as India, Indonesia, Egypt, and Turkey could be useful.
8. The new CD-ROM software should be accompanied by a well-designed training manual, giving examples of CD-ROM searches and uses.

*The BIG Country Strategy (BIG) is designed to concentrate a major portion of A.I.D.'s technical and financial resources in the world's most demographically significant countries. Initially, 17 countries worldwide have been selected for emphasis under this strategy.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The Population Information Program of the Center for Communication Programs, The Johns Hopkins University disseminates the most recent and authoritative information related to population, family planning, and related health issues to developing countries. The information is intended to improve decision making on population policies, as well as program planning and service delivery.

PIP began in 1972 at George Washington University and moved to Johns Hopkins in 1978. The program has been supported by contracts with the United States Agency for International Development and is currently supported through a five-year contract which will end August 31, 1992. Outputs under the current contract are 1) *Population Reports*; 2) POPLINE, a computerized database of abstracts and references on population issues, and POPLINE CD-ROM (partial support), which provides instant access to that database by means of single compact discs; 3) the Informed Choice Task Force Report; and 4) *International Family Planning Perspectives* (published by the Alan Guttmacher Institute in New York City under subcontract to The Johns Hopkins University). Also included in this evaluation is the Population Resources Center, maintained by PIP in support of POPLINE and *Population Reports*.

1.2 The Evaluation

1.2.1 Scope of Work

The primary purpose of this evaluation was to assess all components of the PIP project and to make recommendations to A.I.D. Program objectives, outputs, costs, organization and administration were studied. Special emphasis was placed on the impact of program outputs on users and on programs in the field. The questions posed by A.I.D. as part of the scope of work are presented in Appendix A.

1.2.2 Evaluation Team Composition

The evaluation team included William Trayfors, formerly an A.I.D. senior foreign service officer, now president, Born Free Enterprises, International Development Consultants, Washington, D.C.; Bryant Kearn, emeritus professor of agricultural journalism and emeritus vice chancellor, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Linda Leonard, director, Research and Reference Services, Center for Development Information and Evaluation, A.I.D./Washington, under contract with the Academy for Educational Development; and Jane Wickstrom, research associate, Population Technical Assistance Project (POPTECH)/International Sciences and Technology Institute, Washington, D.C.

1.2.3 Evaluation Methodology

The evaluation team used a variety of primary and secondary source information to reach its conclusions and to prepare the final report:

- on-site interviews with users of PIP products in Ghana, Turkey, and Egypt;
- analysis of data from readership surveys of *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* carried out by the contractors;
- analysis of data from the POPLINE and POPLINE CD-ROM statistical feedback system;
- analysis of cable responses to a query sent to all USAID missions worldwide;
- analysis of data from a POPTECH survey questionnaire on *Population Reports* and POPLINE sent to 158 influential leaders in family planning and population in developing countries and A.I.D. Cooperating Agencies;
- analysis of data from a POPTECH survey questionnaire sent to POPLINE CD-ROM sites;
- interviews with PIP and Alan Guttmacher Institute staff;
- interviews with A.I.D. Office of Population staff and A.I.D. Regional Bureau staff; and
- analysis of all relevant program documents, project records, and reports.

Initial concerns that the three countries chosen for field visits might not be entirely representative were addressed by the team. However, the uniformity of responses in these countries, and in the information obtained from the other sources listed above, negated any important bias in country selection.

2. Program Overview

2. Program Overview

The Population Information Program provides the essential technical and intellectual underpinnings of worldwide population and family planning efforts. For thousands of decision makers, program administrators, trainers, and service providers in about 170 countries, PIP represents the principal source of authoritative, timely, and relevant technical information. For some, it represents the only such source. In general, PIP coverage of key topics is considered to be excellent.

The need for the type of information provided by PIP's principal components (*Population Reports*, POPLINE, and *International Family Planning Perspectives*, the latter published by the Alan Guttmacher Institute in New York City under subcontract to PIP) is widely perceived by family planning professionals to be greater now than ever before, particularly as many nations in Africa, the Middle East, and soon Eastern Europe, begin to mount large-scale family planning efforts. For the more mature programs in Asia and Latin America, the need is also great as they grapple with such knotty problems as financing and cost recovery, informed choice, efficient management information systems, contraceptive social marketing programs, and full involvement of the private sector. In Turkey and in Egypt, two countries of similar size with a wide medical infrastructure and a long history of family planning efforts, information is a critical factor in stimulating changes that are likely to result in more effective population/family planning programs.

PIP products are highly regarded. *Population Reports* is viewed as being unique in the field and an extremely valuable source of needed information. The POPLINE on-line database — including its most recent form, the CD-ROM — is less known and used, but this situation is changing rapidly. Use of the CD-ROM is growing very quickly, and already far surpasses the use of the on-line system. *International Family Planning Perspectives*, while reaching far fewer readers than *Population Reports*, is also highly respected and has numerous devotees.

At the same time, it should be recognized that PIP products, although extremely important already, could have a far greater impact than they now do. The two principal limiting factors are both budget-related:

- **Distribution** of *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* products is not always being carried out in such fashion as to ensure their reaching those who could best use them; and
- **Translation** of *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* is currently limited, thus limiting their potential impact. Arabic translations of *Population Reports* are required, in addition to the current translations in Spanish, French, and Portuguese. Both English and translated versions need to be produced in far greater numbers than at present.

Greater thought must be given to the languages *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* should use. Unless the audiences of these two publications are to be limited, English, French, and Spanish are not enough, nor do the annual French and Spanish issues of *International Family Planning Perspectives* satisfy the need. For *Population Reports*, at least, consideration must be given to adding the funding needed for distribution in such languages as Arabic, Turkish, Urdu, Hindi, Tamil, Bahasa Indonesia, and perhaps also some of the local languages used by large numbers of people in Africa. The decision to distribute additional translations will require consideration of

the importance of each country, the size of the intended audience literate in that language, and the level of population program activity carried on by A.I.D., United Nations agencies, private voluntary organizations, and other donors.

The two problems outlined above represent the principal challenge for improvement of the PIP activity over the next few years. To address this challenge, sufficient **commitment** and **budget** are required. Commitment is important because adequate targeting and distribution can only be accomplished through sustained collaboration among several institutions, including A.I.D. Cooperating Agencies, USAID missions, and host-country entities. Additional funds are required both to enhance the targeting/distribution mechanisms, and to produce additional copies in English and other languages.

Recommendations

1. The PIP program should be continued and strengthened during the 1990s to further bolster the worldwide population and family planning effort.
2. PIP should devise a list of generic categories covering the job titles, employment categories, or organizations that should receive the publication.
3. PIP should consider hiring part-time "local agents" (university lecturer, returned graduate student, private sector or government consultant, private family planning organization, etc.) in key countries, to maintain solid mailing lists for its publications. In addition, these agents could scout for materials that belong in the POPLINE database and assist with gathering information for *Population Reports* or identifying articles that might be submitted to *International Family Planning Perspectives*. As the software for POPLINE/CD-ROM becomes simpler, they could also conduct training sessions, or offer one-on-one training. USAID support may be possible in some instances.
4. A careful study should be made to determine the languages in which *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be published. Availability in a greater number of languages is required to meet the growing needs of A.I.D.-supported population programs and to capitalize on A.I.D.'s investment in these publications. In addition to Spanish, French, and Portuguese, full or partial translations for BIG* countries such as India, Indonesia, Egypt, and Turkey could be useful.

*The BIG Country Strategy (BIG) is designed to concentrate a major portion of A.I.D.'s technical and financial resources in the world's most demographically significant countries. Initially, 17 countries worldwide have been selected for emphasis under this strategy.

3. *Population Reports*

3. *Population Reports*

Most family planning providers and population policy makers in different parts of the world appreciate the care with which *Population Reports* is researched and edited. They report using it to evaluate new developments and even settle disagreements. They emphasize that it is trusted, and they often describe it as authoritative.

The evaluation team's own assessment of *Population Reports* supports the judgment so often expressed by users: that this publication is consistently accurate, that it covers its topics comprehensively, that its writing style is clear and easy to follow, that the format is attractive, and that the topics chosen are consistently important and relevant to developing country target audiences and to Cooperating Agencies and others of the donor community concerned with population policies.

3.1 Readership

Population Reports is published four to six times a year, in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. Single and multiple copies are distributed free to persons active in population and family planning programs in developing countries. As of July 1991, PIP was sending out 142,553 copies of each issue (the world's largest circulation of a population-related publication), distributed as follows:

16,798 (12%) single copies to Sub-Sahara Africa
36,689 (26%) single copies to Latin America and the Caribbean
16,879 (12%) single copies to Asia
9,253 (6%) single copies to the Middle East
40,989 (29%) multiple copies to developing countries
21,945 (15%) to the U.S. and other developed countries (cost recovered)

The country with the largest distribution is Brazil (14,238 copies), which prints the publication locally in Portuguese. Other bulk users are Mexico (10,342), India (7,692), Nigeria (9,400), Peru (5,937), and Egypt (5,572).

The readership survey conducted in 1990 indicated that more than two-fifths of *Population Reports* readers share their copies with others: 18 percent are shared with 1-5 people; 9 percent are shared with 6-10 people; 6 percent are shared with 11-20 people; and 10 percent are shared with over 20 people. As a result, an estimated 700,000 people may read each issue.

3.2 Topic Selection

Population Reports' goal is to provide "an accurate and authoritative overview of important developments in family planning and related health issues." The publication keeps its readers informed about the latest research on contraceptives and family planning programs.

Each issue concentrates on a single timely and important subject. Eleven categories of content have been established for regular coverage:

Oral Contraceptives
 Intrauterine Devices
 Female Sterilization
 Male Sterilization
 Barrier Methods
 Periodic Abstinence
 Injectables and Implants
 Law and Policy
 Family Planning Programs
 Issues in World Health
 Other Special Topics

Topic selection is based on a list of potential topics PIP staff have assembled from a variety of sources. In addition, advice is solicited from population specialists who have had experience in developing countries. Typically, this occurs at a meeting at which A.I.D. staff and specialists from CAs express their opinions on a list of about 25 possibilities. Recent titles include "Condoms — Now More Than Ever," "Counseling Clients About the Pill," "Lights! Camera! Action! Promoting Family Planning with TV, Video, and Film," "Pharmacists and Family Planning," "AIDS Education — a Beginning," and "Lower-Dose Pills." Five more titles are in the process of production, and six are in the early planning stage.

Overall, topic selection has been effective. Different categories of users report different levels of interest in various titles, but even when the topic suggests narrow audience interest (as in the issue *Pharmacists and Family Planning*) a surprising number of readers commend the choice. The issues dealing with counseling have been especially well received.

PIP has also used readership surveys to solicit input for topic selection. The most recent (1990) was based on 4,500 questionnaires mailed to a random sample of readers in 16 developing countries. The returns brought dozens of suggestions for future *Population Reports* topics. The topics most mentioned had either already been covered in recent issues or are scheduled for early attention. The journal is serving reader needs, evidenced by the percentage using "very effective" to describe how well various tasks were carried out:

<u>Topic Selection</u>	<u>Very Effective</u>
Conveying news of important developments	95%
Providing background for policy formulation	88%
Providing information useful for program planning and operation	91%
Providing information and materials for research and reference	93%
Providing information and materials useful for training	91%
Introducing new project or program ideas	91%

Users indicate great interest in following the results of programs elsewhere in the world. PIP could answer this need by increasing its coverage of success in population programs, either in terms of techniques and approaches that have worked especially well or in terms of total programs that have made progress toward country goals.

3.3 Local Uses

In the readership survey, users asked for more help in broadening local use of *Population Reports*. The survey respondents mentioned visual aids, training materials, and posters. Responding to a similar question, missions also seek better local dissemination of the publication. They stressed training uses; press releases, or other uses with media and publications. Although all of these are being done on an ad hoc basis, a more systematic approach could be productive.

Press releases offering timely population information are a logical by-product of *Population Reports*. Over time, a regular audience for such releases could be built up among science editors, health editors, and writers on public policy in developing countries. PIP staff are aware of this opportunity to circulate its material more widely and increase the awareness of population issues among the media. Within the limits of resources available, it can be expected to expand its media efforts. PIP currently mails press releases and copies of *Population Reports* to more than 400 news organizations, nearly half of them in developing countries.

Training, both formal and informal, is clearly an important use of PIP materials. Governmental programs rely on this source of support. In Ghana, a senior health education specialist distributed 2,000 copies of the issue on counseling to training participants. Furthermore, the CAs that organize or support in-country training also use *Population Reports*. Not only are these materials used in the training process, they often help set the agenda for training because they are known to be based on careful study of what is timely and important in family planning.

3.4 Distribution

Population Reports clearly is reaching an important and interested audience. Few copies seem to be wasted. It is appreciated, reused, and maintained as a reference file. The quality of the present distribution list is quite high considering the different target audiences and the often very remote locales in which they live. Nevertheless, there are **too many instances of people who could use it and are not getting it or who could be using it more effectively than they do**. For example, sometimes the head office of an organization receives the publication but field stations, where it is vitally needed, are without it.

Some organizations rely on expensive local copying to give them the supplies they need. In places where a number of people ought to be maintaining a file, often reliance is on the routing of a single copy or its placement in a library. In one large country, the Ministry of Health unit that directs all maternal and child health as well as all family planning activities appears to be getting fewer than half a dozen copies. Ideally, professional staff members should be keeping their own reference file. PIP needs to develop a more systematic approach to identifying and meeting local needs. Once the production cost of the publication has been met, additional copies can be distributed at a marginal increase in cost.

An insert card advertising PIP services could be used to encourage wider distribution and better utilization. The present technique of using a coupon on the back page is often overlooked by readers. Improved marketing of PIP services is necessary to achieve wider distribution and use of PIP services, but will require additional resources.

Recommendations

5. **The distribution of *Population Reports* should be greatly increased and better targeted toward those who can best use the journal in support of family planning programs and A.I.D.'s BIG Country Strategy.**
6. **Through *Population Reports*, and in other ways, A.I.D. should consider how best to collect and disseminate the population "success stories" — the current, ongoing, in-country activities of priority interest to others facing similar challenges and problems.**
7. ***Population Reports* should devote a "sidebar" in each issue suggesting how the content might be adapted for local use. For example, the publication could be used in the development of training materials, newsletters, and advertising campaigns.**
8. **PIP should do more to encourage wider use of the materials provided in *Population Reports*. Posters and other "spinoffs" from the journal are welcomed, and PIP should encourage even more adaptation for local use.**
9. **Inserts advertising other PIP products should be included in each issue of *Population Reports*.**

4. International Family Planning Perspectives

4. International Family Planning Perspectives

International Family Planning Perspectives is a respected family planning journal published quarterly by the Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI) in New York, supported under a subcontract with PIP since 1990. The journal was formerly supported by Family Planning International Assistance.

4.1 Journal Content

The content of *International Family Planning Perspectives* differs markedly from that of *Population Reports*. While the latter provides in-depth coverage of selected topics — a single topic per issue — *International Family Planning Perspectives* follows a more traditional pattern, with articles, news, reviews, and commentary. Its principal intent is to serve as a vehicle for the publication of high-quality research in family planning, as well as to provide news and views on significant happenings in the field.

The journal has five principal sections:

- Update — significant happenings in family planning around the world
- Articles — several articles on family planning topics (usually reporting on research findings)
- Comment — a featured article expressing a view
- Books in Review — short book reviews
- Digest — short summaries of interesting and relevant research in family planning around the world.

For those who receive it, *International Family Planning Perspectives* is a valued publication. Readers praise its content, style, and reputation, characterizing it as "highly readable" and "informative." Especially valued is information pertaining to programs in other countries.

The evaluation team agrees with these observations. *International Family Planning Perspectives* is a high-quality professional journal. Great pains are taken by AGI to assure its accuracy and readability. Topic selection and relevance appear to be quite good, but could benefit from an improved effort to reach out and sample readership opinion and to better grasp issues of current concern in family planning programs abroad. At present, outreach consists mainly of soliciting new articles and awaiting their arrival, occasional telephone contacts with one or two CAs, and attendance at several family planning meetings each year. While *International Family Planning Perspectives* is highly useful in its current form, steps need to be taken to bring AGI staff into closer contact with developing country environments. Specifically, these steps would include

- closer contact with a variety of A.I.D. CAs — the "front-line" experts — to glean from them the topics of current interest and concern; and
- more frequent sampling of readers' reactions through simple surveys.

Closer contact with CAs might be achieved through 1) periodic telephone contacts with a variety of selected CA staff members who regularly travel abroad for program development purposes; 2) regular

scanning of trip reports by CAs; and 3) within the context of an overall Office of Population information strategy, participation in periodic coordination meetings with CAs.

4.2 Distribution and Use

At present, *International Family Planning Perspectives* is distributed to a wide variety of individuals and organizations: health care professionals, policy makers and operations researchers, press, academics/researchers, activists, etc. Its primary use is in keeping readers current as to the results of population and family planning research, as well as other topics of interest such as legislative happenings, program-related policies and research, commentary, new publications, and other newsworthy events. Unlike the Population Council's *Studies in Family Planning*, *International Family Planning Perspectives* takes a broader approach to appeal to a wider range of professionals, and to report on significant happenings which are not strictly research. It also focuses primarily on topics of interest to the **international community**; a companion publication, *Family Planning Perspectives*, focuses more on topics relevant to domestic family planning service-providers. There is little overlap between the two publications; they are quite distinct.

The cost-effectiveness of *International Family Planning Perspectives* could be enhanced considerably through improved and expanded distribution (at a marginal additional cost; see below), since it is a high-quality publication with far wider appeal and potential use than is currently reflected by its mailing list.

Unfortunately, *International Family Planning Perspectives* simply is not getting to where it is needed much of the time. Distribution is limited, with a total of only 28,000 copies mailed (this compares to over 140,000 distributed copies of *Population Reports*, a figure which is also too low). Translation into French and Spanish is also limited: one special edition is done each year as well as selected translations of articles (with UNFPA support). All other editions are in English only.

Numerous responses from USAID missions and from interviewees expressed concern that *International Family Planning Perspectives* is not available in Spanish, French, or Arabic. The cost of adding an Arabic version to the annual edition would be about \$62,000 for 10,000 copies including translation, printing, and distribution (50,000 copies would cost just over twice that amount: \$139,000). Financial support might be available from UNFPA or concerned USAID missions.

Recommendations

10. The Alan Guttmacher Institute should develop closer ties with developing country institutions, policies, and issues through periodic readership surveys and by increased tapping of expertise of A.I.D. CAs (through telephone contacts, meetings, trip reports, etc.).
11. The distribution of *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be greatly increased and better targeted toward those who can best use the journal in support of family planning programs and A.I.D.'s BIG Country Strategy.
12. *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be produced in Spanish, French, and Arabic language editions at least once each year, funds permitting. More frequent foreign language versions should also be considered.

13. **Each copy of the journal should announce clearly its availability, free of charge, on request to persons in developing countries.**

5. POPLINE Database and CD-ROM

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5. POPLINE Database and CD-ROM

5.1 POPLINE

Database design and use. POPLINE is a computerized, bibliographic database containing approximately 190,000 citations of published and unpublished information about population, family planning, and related health issues. The development of the database began in 1972 as a support for the writing of *Population Reports*, for which it is still a necessary tool. In 1973, POPLINE was made available to outside users through Informatics, Inc., and in 1980, the system was moved to the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health to become one of 26 files on 14 different medical topics in MEDLARS (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System). POPLINE is used by researchers, policy makers, program managers, and students all over the world.

POPLINE provides relevant information on each document recorded in the system. Generally this includes author, title, date of publication, source, address of first author, corporate names if appropriate, language of the article, keywords and index terms from the POPLINE and National Library of Medicine's thesauri, and an abstract in English.

The MEDLARS system provides on-line access to POPLINE through its extensive worldwide medical information access system. This medical information infrastructure is firmly established in the United States and Europe, and through World Health Organization Regional Centers. It is also available to developing countries in a more limited way. Usually the MEDLARS system is accessed through a library at which a medical librarian or researcher has had one week of extensive MEDLINE (Medical Information On-line) search training.

The costs involved in accessing the MEDLARS system are based on several items such as connect time and number of citations found. The average cost is \$16.50 to \$23.50 per hour depending upon time of day, with an additional cost of \$.25 per page for off-line prints. All fees revert to the National Library of Medicine. In order to have on-line access to the MEDLARS system, application must be made to the National Library of Medicine, which assigns a password and account number.

POPLINE is fortunate in having access to the infrastructure provided by the MEDLARS system, something that would be almost impossible for a small database like POPLINE to replicate. By joining this system, PIP has made the unique information in POPLINE readily available to developed countries at a reasonable cost.

POPLINE, as a subfile of the MEDLARS system, is accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All computer systems are maintained by MEDLARS, which performs regular monthly updating and computer and file maintenance. MEDLARS also provides in-depth training programs to users. PIP provides monthly tapes to the National Library of Medicine with citations to be added to the POPLINE file. PIP has a permanent staff member assigned to the library to oversee this collaborative arrangement, as well as to provide the POPLINE segment of training to all individuals being trained on the MEDLARS system. In return, PIP has free access to the MEDLARS system, allowing PIP to provide free searches to requestors from developing countries.

The following two figures demonstrate types and percentage of use of paying users. These data provided by the MEDLARS system show CAs and universities to be the heaviest paying users of POPLINE (see Figure 1). CA use of POPLINE has remained around 200 connect hours annually for the last two years (see Figure 2).

Figure 1
POPLINE On-Line Use
Type of Organization

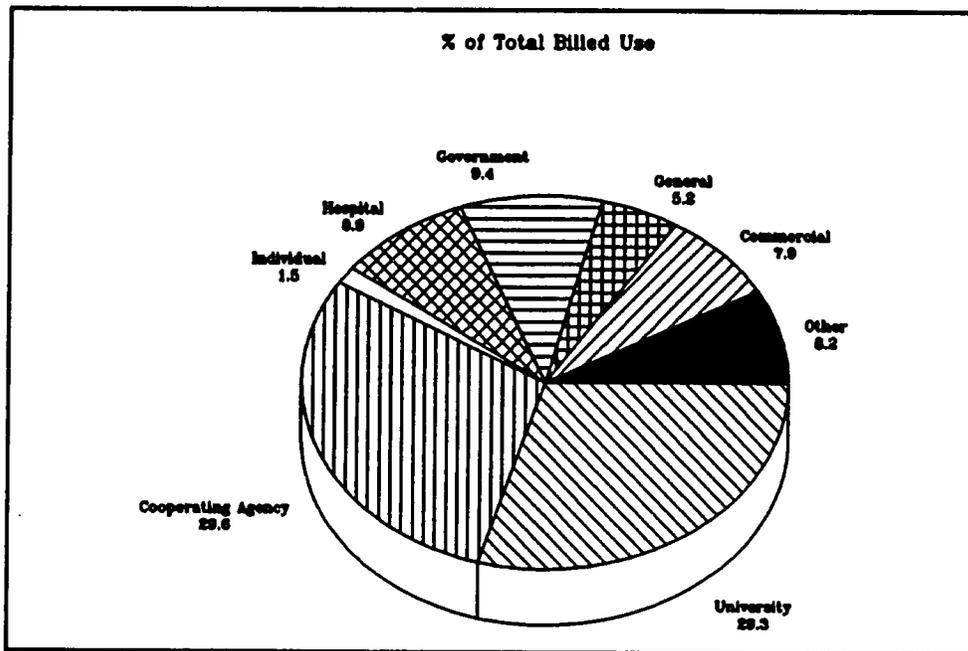
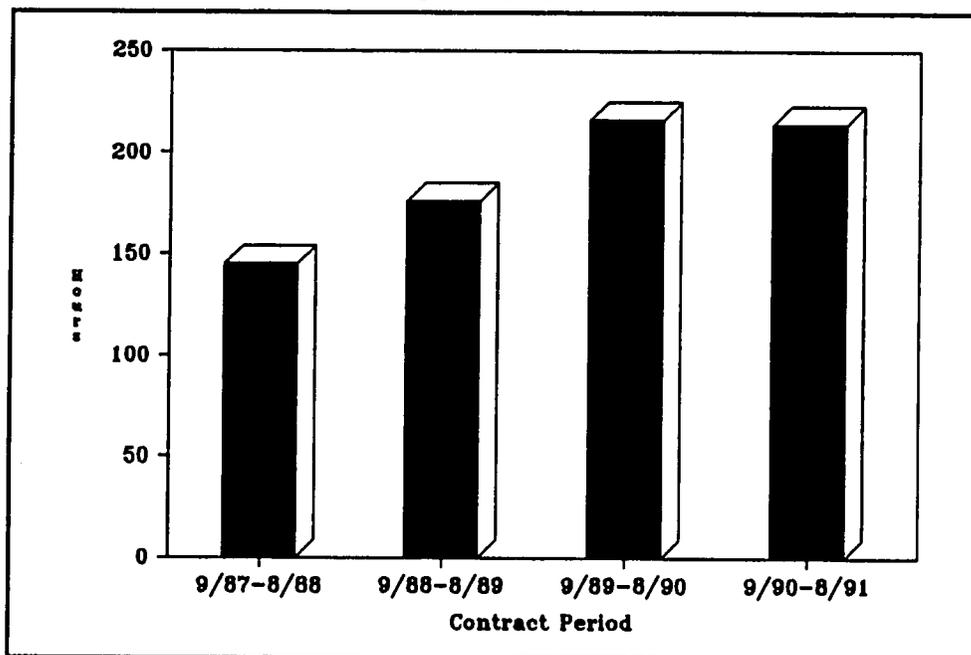


Figure 2
POPLINE On-Line Use
Cooperating Agencies



Source: MEDLARS, NIH

Database content. The published and unpublished documents abstracted and indexed for POPLINE range from journal and newspaper articles to laws and patents. (See Appendix I for a detailed list of formats of printed media selected for POPLINE). These documents represent an international coverage and are in all languages. POPLINE provides comprehensive coverage in some areas and selective coverage in others.

PIP attempts to collect and maintain abstracts of all relevant documents on family planning technology, family planning programs, fertility, and population law and policy. It limits itself to developing country experience in the documents it includes on AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases and maternal and child health. It selectively adds developing country entries on demography, primary health care, health communication, and population and environment. In these latter three categories, PIP indexes relevant documents received through staff, publication exchanges, or in-house journal subscriptions, but it does not attempt to seek out all publications.

Although CAs are major users of POPLINE, accounting for 30 percent of all on-line use (see Figure 2), their interaction with POPLINE is very much a one-way street at present. They are consumers and users of information, not often involved in assisting in the identification of relevant information or its acquisition. Because of the physical proximity of the Population Communication Services (PCS) project to PIP and POPLINE (they share facilities at Johns Hopkins), PCS is sometimes tapped to assist in data acquisition or in distribution functions of PIP. The Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Reproductive Health (JHPIEGO) also regularly distributes sample copies of *Population Reports* to trainees. Participants in JHPIEGO, Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA), and other A.I.D.-funded workshops are regularly added to the mailing list. Cooperation and coordination between PIP and other CAs is less frequent and is unstructured. This results in less than optimum use of PIP products, and less than optimum inputs on the part of the CAs which are the principal A.I.D.-sponsored technicians in contact with developing country institutions. While PIP has made periodic attempts to work more closely with other CAs, there is no overall mandate for CAs to cooperate (and cooperation is time-consuming), nor are there formal structures for doing so.

PIP identifies traditionally published documents by routinely searching on-line bibliographic services (primarily covering the medical and social sciences); print bibliographies (primarily from international organizations whose materials would not appear in the on-line databases); and acquisitions lists and holdings lists from libraries specializing in areas within the scope of POPLINE.

Approximately 84 percent of the POPLINE database consists of English language documents, 35 percent of the non-English documents are French, and 18 percent are Spanish. Of the documents cited in POPLINE, 88 percent are published materials; the remaining 12 percent are mostly technical reports and conference and working papers.

Through the 1980s, PIP subcontracted with the Carolina Population Center, the Center for Population and Family Health at Columbia University, and Population Index at Princeton University to assist with the indexing and abstracting of documents. For budgetary reasons, it recently discontinued its subcontract arrangements with the Carolina Population Center and the Center for Population and Family Health. Population Index continues to be responsible for most demographic material (30 percent of all entries), while PIP handles the remainder. Approximately 10,000 new records are added each year.

Users of the POPLINE database in both the on-line and CD-ROM formats express some concern about the content of the database. Users generally agreed that the medical aspects of contraceptive technology and family planning were thoroughly covered; however, questions were raised about how well the database covered the social science aspects of family planning and how adequately it captured the increasing amount of work being done in developing countries.

Statements of national population policy, results of local surveys, and summaries of local program experience are often unpublished or distributed in mimeographed or other short-lived form. Although the volume of such materials may be hard to measure, there is some concern that local and regional coverage may indeed be inadequate, and that PIP should appraise the situation and look for measures that will ensure complete coverage without generating a flood of inappropriate documents. All users recognized that the information in POPLINE on their own country was very limited. A concerted effort needs to be made to increase the representation of materials from developing countries. There is a wealth of information being produced in the field, the majority of which never reaches PIP and is therefore not entered into POPLINE. The distribution of POPLINE CD-ROM affords an excellent opportunity for PIP to forge mutually beneficial exchange agreements with POPLINE CD-ROM sites (see discussion of CD-ROM below).

Recommendations

14. PIP should make a concerted effort to see that references useful in the implementation and management of family planning programs are well covered in future updates of the database.
15. More vigorous steps should be taken to increase the representation of materials from developing countries in POPLINE.
16. Formal exchange agreements should be established with each POPLINE CD-ROM site committing it to send PIP one copy of all publications which it or any of its staff members produce. Sites should also be encouraged to send other documents that are readily available in country which would enhance the database.
17. PIP should develop a packet on how to submit documents to POPLINE to be distributed to all new and current POPLINE CD-ROM sites and to other potential sources of locally produced publications. This packet should include descriptions of the types of documents appropriate for input to POPLINE and should include mailing labels addressed to PIP for the easy mailing of documents. Users should be informed that this is a database to help them in their work, and that their input is invaluable.

5.2 CD-ROM

Access to POPLINE. Utilization of the POPLINE database in developing countries has been heavy enough to demonstrate its potential there. Users regularly report its value in helping them learn the results of previous studies, design future research, and assemble policy papers to help make informed decisions. At the same time, users described their frustrations with traditional access to this database, either through the mail or by expensive long distance telephone from a national library center. Users agree that POPLINE responds promptly to their requests, but cost is a worry. Although developing country users are assured that POPLINE is a free service, their experience with some other

information programs has generated some doubt in this regard. In addition, for a search carried out miles from the database, the search terms must be precisely spelled out. There is limited opportunity for exploratory searches. As a result, some skepticism dilutes the enthusiasm of scholars and policy-makers for the POPLINE database. Its value is widely recognized; its accessibility is not.

The CD-ROM technology could do much to solve many of these problems. It places the whole POPLINE database on a single compact disc physically available in the developing country. Every title and abstract is available at every CD-ROM site. The only need to refer to the POPLINE office in Baltimore is if a hard copy of some needed citation is not available locally; if so it is provided without charge on request.

The hardware for CD-ROM access is not expensive (an add-on of \$500-\$600 to an existing computer) and new software now under development will make it no more difficult to obtain relevant titles and abstracts than to use the index of a well-edited book.

Growth in CD-ROM utilization. POPLINE CD-ROM has been in operation since early 1989. The first disc was distributed in April 1989 to 8 sites, the second in July 1989 to 53 sites, the third in November 1989 to 86 sites, and the fourth in April 1990 to 97 sites. As of August 1991, there were 160 sites equipped with CD-ROM capacity and furnished with the POPLINE data discs. These sites were also equipped with recording devices that indicate how many times and in what way the installation is used. Each site regularly returns the floppy disks which automatically record usage data. Although only 58.2 percent of these disks have been received by PIP, and the delays in getting disks back and analyzing them mean that the data cover only the period from early 1989 through April 1990 (barely 15 months), the data provide a picture of the growing recognition of the value of this service (see Table 1).

Table 1

CD-ROM Usage Recording

	<u>4/89</u>	<u>7/89</u>	<u>11/89</u>	<u>4/90</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of sites	8	53	86	97	97
Sites returning readable discs	5	42	42	53	142
Total times that users called up data for viewing	154	1,659	2,094	2,413	6,320
Total times users printed or downloaded data	129	1,050	1,635	2,981	5,795

Source: PIP automated reporting system

There are three categories of CD-ROM database usage. The user can make a search and visually examine on a computer screen part or all of the titles and abstracts located. He or she then has the option of printing out the title or abstract or downloading it on to a floppy disk for further use on another computer or with another computer program.

Figure 3 traces the growth in utilization of CD-ROM installations. Output refers to printouts or downloads only, not to total searches. It can be seen that the mean number of outputs per site has doubled in one year. Figure 4 traces the overall growth in number of outputs. The dramatic increase shown is a function of additional CD-ROM sites and of increasing use per site.

Figure 3
Output per CD-ROM Site

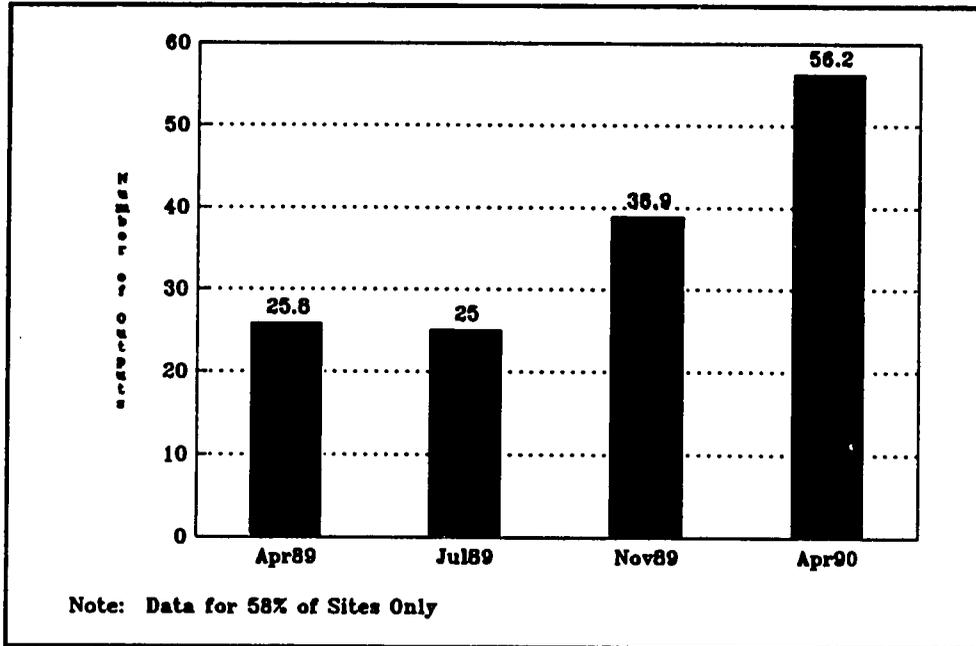
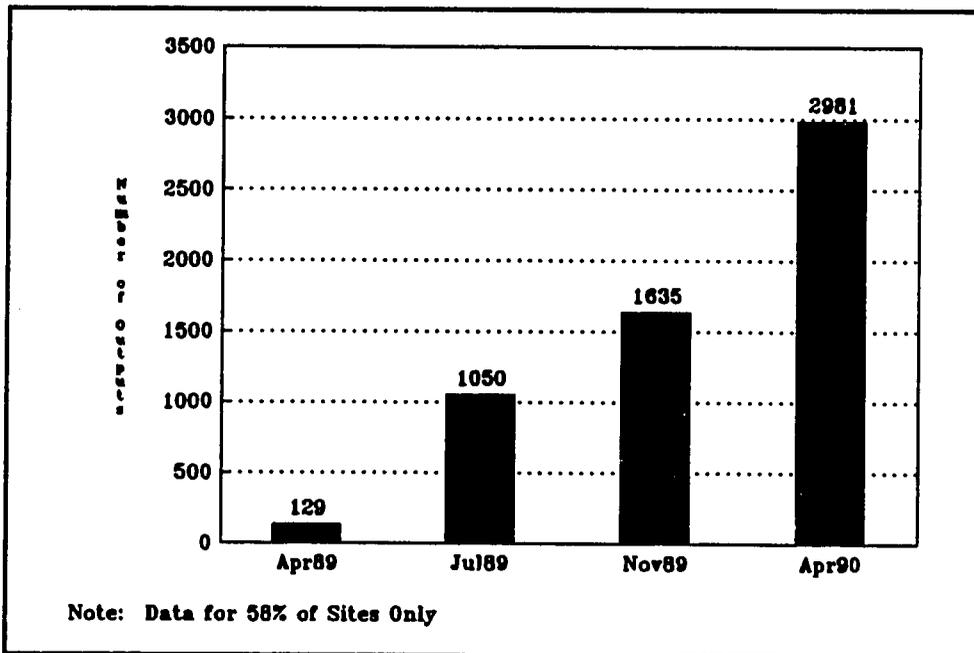


Figure 4
Total Outputs CD-ROM Sites



Source: PIP automated reporting system

The CD-ROM disc is not being used properly at all 160 sites, either because the equipment is not yet functioning, local staff do not feel comfortable with it, the site is unsuitable (not easily accessible), or the potential of the technology is not recognized. Getting these sites up and running effectively will require special attention on the part of PIP and of the CAs working with these institutions. It will be important in these locations, as well as other CD-ROM sites, to promote the sharing of on-line capability to provide wide access to the POPLINE database by institutions which do not yet have CD-ROM capability. Some sites are already doing this well by means of training sessions, demonstrations, open houses, and even by providing encouragement to potential individual users. The location of the equipment, too, can greatly influence whether users feel welcome.

Up to now, A.I.D.-funded CAs and other funding agencies (UNFPA, Rockefeller Foundation, and in-country organizations) have generally provided the hardware, while some appropriate local institution has provided the site, maintained the facility, and monitored its use. A.I.D.'s funding through CAs has covered approximately one-third of the cost of CD-ROM hardware and of training in their use. There will no doubt be continued reliance on CAs and other funders to provide most CD-ROM hardware, but missions may need to take more initiative to ensure that all key sites are served.

Table 2
Funding of CD-ROM Hardware and Training in Its Use
(in thousands of US dollars)

	<u>A.I.D. CAs</u>	<u>Other Funders</u>
Training	9,258	19,613
Hardware	15,511	32,699
Total	24,769	52,312

Source: PIP

Too much emphasis may have been placed on formal in-country training in CD-ROM technology. Users interpret this as computer training. It might be more appropriate to emphasize training in how to use information. The sites visited that were working well had people who had been trained in this way.

A CD-ROM software manual would stimulate many users to overcome "computer anxiety." At an Istanbul center supporting student research, an enthusiastic and knowledgeable staff member is shepherding dozens of masters and doctoral candidates through the literature search. At other sites, users report success in finding references that shed light on current policy controversies. The new software (whose development PIP is supporting) will make CD-ROM even more accessible for such purposes.

CD-ROM technology has some potentialities as yet not fully defined that PIP must take into account. The most likely early development will be the increasing availability of other databases on compact disc form in developing countries. The reader used for POPLINE could serve other purposes as well, and the use of CD-ROM to access databases in agriculture, health, and other fields is likely to grow.

Recommendations

18. All CD-ROM sites should be encouraged to promote broad public access to and use of the POPLINE database. The selection of sites should require a more formal commitment on the part of the host institution to promote its accessibility to persons in other governmental agencies, health and family service institutions, and educational and training centers.
19. CD-ROM sites should be encouraged to form user groups to provide training in information use and management.
20. The new CD-ROM software should be accompanied by a well-designed training manual, giving examples of POPLINE searches utilizing CD-ROM. It must be made available at all sites.
21. PIP should follow closely as CD-ROM technology, including the use of multi-media techniques, becomes more widely available and faster linkages with other agencies become possible.
22. PIP should look for ways to cooperate with others in the placing and servicing of equipment, training, and the provision of database discs. PIP should continue to work with CAs to increase the availability of CD-ROM readers.

6. Informed Choice Task Force

Contraception, have extensive experience in counseling and training in informed choice which could be exchanged with other agencies' experiences.

Recommendation

23. Future work in this area should stress continued collaboration between CAs, donors, and local family planning organizations to maximize the positive results of lessons learned in the field in the area of informed choice.

7. Information Resource Center

7. Information Resource Center

The Information Resource Center serves as a clearinghouse, responding to all requests sent to PIP for information, documents/publications, or on-line database searches. The requests are either from developing countries directly or through population and health delivery organizations working on programs to benefit developing countries. Requests are typically for 1) single or multiple copies of a specific issue of *Population Reports*; 2) a POPLINE database search for a specific topic; or 3) a full text copy of a document cited in POPLINE. The resource center is also responsible for creating and maintaining Current Awareness Searches — POPLINE searches repeated monthly or quarterly on a specific topic, informing the user of all new entries in an area of interest. Table 3 below illustrates the numbers and types of responses sent to requestors.

As would be expected, with the introduction of the POPLINE CD-ROM in developing countries, the number of requests for individual searches has dropped dramatically in the last year. As users become more sophisticated in their use of the CD-ROM, this same trend should be seen in Current Awareness Searches. Institutions will provide this service in house for a more timely and personalized response.

An average of 3.3 full text documents are requested per individual search performed. If one takes into account the Current Awareness Searches, however, only 0.5 full text documents are requested per search. It is difficult to explain this lack of requests for full text documents from POPLINE searches. Requestors may not be fully aware of this service and more "advertising" or marketing may need to be done in this area. Of course, the high quality and depth of the abstracts for each citation in the database may well provide a substitute for the full document itself.

PIP's responses to requests are timely, and information is useful for professionals in the field. The only problem seen was the reluctance of individuals to request "too much." No one wanted to be seen as taking advantage of a good thing. They therefore would not ask for as many copies of *Population Reports* as they really needed for a training program. This reluctance needs to be dispelled, and appropriate use of this information needs to be encouraged.

Table 3

**Information Resources Center
Services Provided**

<u>Type</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
Retrospective Searches	972	1,479	1,927	737
Current Awareness Searches	2,899	4,812	5,441	4,347
Document Delivery	3,213	3,045	4,113	2,467
Population Reports	7,726	7,761	6,798	5,974
Total	14,810	17,097	18,279	13,525

Source: PIP

8. Project Management

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8. Project Management

8.1 Project Staff for PIP

PIP is one of the projects carried out by the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs. The center provides policy makers, service providers, researchers, journalists, and others, information on current issues in family planning, AIDS, and related family health issues. The center has a staff of 94 people, representing 15 nationalities, and has regional offices in Nigeria, Bangladesh, and the Philippines.

The PIP project has a staff of 19 with professional backgrounds and training in communications, family planning and health, publishing and editing, library sciences, management and finance, and research.

The program benefits from its association with The Johns Hopkins University in several ways. Library resources are available, and temporary or special staffing needs are easier to meet in the setting of a large university with undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and professional staff. Perhaps most important, the international reputation of The Johns Hopkins University contributes significantly to the credibility of PIP materials among users in developing countries. The medical and scientific reputation of the university is widely recognized, and this gives confidence that information materials identified with it can be trusted.

8.2 Editorial Advisory Committee for PIP

Population Reports manuscripts are reviewed by a 13-member Editorial Advisory Committee, in addition to PIP staff and other experts in the field. Committee members are experts in the fields of family planning programs, public health, obstetrics and gynecology, and population. The committee meets periodically to give general oversight advice to the program and also takes part in topic selection.

8.3 Project Budget

The PIP project has current budgetary problems which warrant immediate attention if the current contract is to be fully carried out. The current financial status (outlined in Table 4 on page 41) shows a serious shortfall for the last year of the project.

As seen in Table 4, the PIP program received over \$3.7 million in core funding for the first two years of the project during the first project year. These funds were provided both for first-year costs and for forward funding for anticipated rising expenses for production and distribution. In fiscal years 1989, 1990, and 1991, the Office of Population funding for the program was constant, with \$2.150 million in 1989, 2.133 million in 1990, and 2.150 million in 1991. Other funds were made available to PIP through buy-ins. The unspent amount of the first-year pipeline was carried over through the next three years. Because the fiscal 1992 obligation will not be allocated until the new project is awarded in August of 1992, a deficit of nearly \$600,000 will occur during the last project year. Funds will be needed before that time to cover the costs of publishing and mailing *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* and of maintaining POPLINE through August 1992.

Recommendation

24. **Additional funds are required to maintain current activities and fulfill PIP's scope of work. Two options are available to the Office of Population: a) provide the project the necessary funds to complete approved activities for the current fiscal year; or b) put the new contract out for bid before funding runs out, estimated at April or May 1992.**

Table 4
Population Information Program
Expenditures and Funding

<u>Expenditures</u>	10/1/87- 12/31/87 CONTRACT 4067	10/1/87- 9/30/88 CONTRACT 7061	87 & 88 TOTAL	89 10/1/88- 9/30/89 TOTAL	90 10/1/89- 9/30/90 TOTAL	91 10/1/90- 9/30/91 ESTIMATED TOTAL	92 10/1/91- 9/30/92 ESTIMATED TOTAL	TOTAL 10/1/87- 8/31/92
Salaries	159,756	448,090	607,846	702,488	776,035	794,763	951,004	3,832,136
Fringe Benefits	35,559	100,164	135,723	157,407	183,589	197,391	252,967	927,077
Supplies & Equipment	21,855	40,573	62,428	102,582	55,861	60,991	70,908	352,770
Consultants	1,060	4,558	5,618	7,263	10,037	42,975	39,393	113,286
Travel	3,716	16,316	20,032	19,466	28,733	11,057	10,135	89,423
Subcontracts	205,797	314,190	519,987	556,351	684,089	1,076,084	1,158,288	3,994,799
Overhead	170,860	231,228	402,089	363,000	402,768	413,542	410,664	1,992,070
Other Direct Costs	<u>67,647</u>	<u>206,706</u>	<u>274,353</u>	<u>298,860</u>	<u>355,525</u>	<u>398,583</u>	<u>314,629</u>	<u>1,641,950</u>
Total Expenditures	666,250	1,361,825	2,028,075	2,207,425	2,504,637	2,995,386	3,207,988	12,943,511
<u>Funding</u>			<u>87 - 88</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Obligated by								
Office of Population								
Residual funding (9/84-12/87)			666,250					666,250
Core			3,755,000	2,150,000	2,133,000	2,150,000		10,188,000
AGI						350,000		350,000
Buy-Ins								
Office of Health - Maternal Health			200,272					200,272
Office of Health - AIDS			247,871					247,871
Office Of Health - STDs and AIDS						200,000		200,000
Office of WID - Family Planning: Opportunities for Women						152,300		152,300
Asia-Near East/Bureau				30,000				30,000
Africa/Bureau				300,000				300,000
Delivery Order - CD-ROM CERPOD						15,500		15,500
Total Funding			4,869,393	2,480,000	2,133,000	2,867,800	0	12,350,000
Total Funding			4,869,393	2,480,000	2,133,000	2,867,800	0	12,350,193
Less Expenditures			<u>2,028,075</u>	<u>2,207,425</u>	<u>2,504,637</u>	<u>2,995,386</u>	<u>3,207,988</u>	<u>12,943,511</u>
Pipeline			2,841,318	272,575	(371,637)	(127,586)	(3,207,988)	(593,318)
Plus Carry-over				<u>+2,841,318</u>	<u>+3,113,893</u>	<u>+2,742,256</u>	<u>+2,614,670</u>	
Total				3,113,893	2,742,256	2,614,670	(593,318)	

Source: PIP

9. PIP and Information Needs in the 1990s

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9. PIP and Information Needs in the 1990s

9.1 Need for a Comprehensive Information Strategy

During the decade of the 1990s, information can play a critical role in the furtherance of A.I.D.'s population and family planning objectives. As a result of several global influences, the demand for authoritative information on population and family planning seems likely to grow as perhaps never before. The more mature family planning programs will be searching for ways to improve the quality and the mix of services, and perhaps to find more cost-effective ways to provide services in far-flung locations. Less mature family planning programs will need broad support for technical, organizational, planning, research, evaluation, and policy questions.

Geopolitical realignments in Europe and the Soviet Union, in general, foreshadow gloomy economic prospects for much of the developing world. At the macro level, developing country bargaining power will be considerably reduced as these countries will no longer be able to play off East against West. An expanded and strengthened European Economic Community will mean that Europe increasingly will be self-sufficient in both consumables (including fruits and vegetables) and in labor supply, thus cutting off important export markets on the African continent and the Middle East. These new economic realities will have to be factored into national planning; it will be important to highlight the cost-effectiveness of family planning programs. Urban pollution, already at crisis levels in Istanbul, Cairo, Athens, Mexico City, much of Eastern Europe, and elsewhere will inevitably call attention to the demographic crises faced by many developing countries and the need for strong policy responses. In Eastern Europe, where abortion now serves as the principal constraint on fertility, there will be a predictable demand for information on cost-effective modern family planning methods and programs.

9.2 Elements of an Information Strategy

The Population Information Program — given its comprehensive scope and highly respected character — can serve as the intellectual bedrock for A.I.D.'s population programs in the 1990s. At the same time, the need for other types of information and information services will continue, most notably those directly connected to IEC and to training activities. A.I.D. needs to consider its policies and programs, prospectively, in order to construct a global information strategy which takes account of all A.I.D.-funded population and family planning information services, documents, and publications, making sure that each activity clearly fits. The global strategy should be flexible, since information strategies are needed — and are most effective — at the country level. In evaluating the potential impact of each information product, it will be crucial to consider both the intended purpose(s) and the actual coverage: how many people are reached effectively?

At the country level, an information strategy might begin with present coverage of *Population Reports*, with special attention to the question, "Who is not getting it and why?" A "Population Information Needs Profile" for each country, developed by USAID in collaboration with host country institutions and appropriate CAs might be a useful approach. Information needs should be examined in relation to present policies and programs, and to policy/program gaps. Sometimes the need will be striking; for example, in Turkey, where IUDs represent almost the entire program, there is a strong need for information on informed choice, other appropriate methods and programs, etc., to encourage a

favorable policy change toward a better method mix. As new methods and techniques are introduced (e.g., Norplant and immediate post-partum IUD insertion), there will be a strong demand for information on not only their efficacy, cost or side effects, but on means by which they may be successfully integrated into existing programs on a wide scale.

9.3 Special Role of CD-ROM

During the course of this evaluation, the team found several instances of CD-ROM use in-country to access POPLINE to support policy and program decision making. It is highly probable that such use will increase as CD-ROMs become more widespread and as their potential becomes increasingly evident. In formulating an information strategy for the 1990s, A.I.D. should seek to maximize the content of POPLINE with respect to information on key policy and program considerations, such as the following:

- results of operations research
- new family planning methods
- family planning program organization and administration
- cost-effective outreach approaches (both urban and rural)
- private sector programs
- cost-recovery and sustainability
- informed choice: obtaining better method mix and counseling
- non-medical approaches
- logistics systems
- low-cost evaluation systems
- comprehensive population policies
- management information systems.

9.4 Role of A.I.D. CAs and the Office of Population

A comprehensive information strategy for the 1990s will necessarily include information activities currently undertaken by the CAs. These activities are not nearly as structured or coordinated as they should be. Better coordination will not occur spontaneously: 1) it will require a specific and sustained effort on the part of the Office of Population to provide the leadership needed, and 2) the CAs themselves — many of which complain about poor coordination — will have to find ways to translate the notion of "better coordination" into working reality. A first step toward better orchestration of activities — and, ultimately, toward greater cooperation and reinforcement among CAs — would be to put all information activities in a global framework in which their role and importance can be made explicit, and where guidelines may be identified to assist in planning new information activities and in honing existing ones. Implementation of the strategy will likely require several mechanisms: better sharing of information, periodic planning/coordination meetings, better clarification of objectives and division of responsibility, etc.

9.5 Role of PIP

During the coming decade, it will be important for PIP (or its successor in case of a new contract) to take a more pro-active role in the following three areas:

- gathering of information, particularly that which pertains to key issues and problems in population/family planning program design, management, and evaluation (as outlined in section 9.3 above);
- improving the coordination and cooperation among CAs engaged in information activities, working through formal and informal means to ensure that PIP products are used appropriately by the CAs and that CAs — which represent the principal "front-line troops" in contact with host country institutions — assist in the gathering of relevant publications and the identification of current topics of concern to the host countries; and
- gearing its activities more closely to A.I.D.'s overall strategy, however it may evolve. This does not imply that PIP should itself move to develop a series of new products and services. PIP should concentrate most of its effort on continuing to do what it is now doing and doing well, i.e., *Population Reports* and *POPLINE*. Rather, an expanded effort should be made to **assist others** (CAs and host country institutions) to develop spinoff products for special purpose use.

Recommendation

25. The A.I.D. Office of Population should take steps to develop a comprehensive strategy for the use of information to support its strategic thrusts over the next decade.

Appendices

Appendix A
Scope of Work

Appendix A

Scope of Work

The Population Information Program (PIP)
Johns Hopkins University
Contract DEP-3032-Z-00-7061

I. Background

The purpose of this contract is to improve less developed county (LDC) decision making on population policy, programming and service delivery, by regularly providing LDC government policy makers, program administrators, service providers, and medical educators with the latest authoritative population, family planning and health information. The project supplies target audiences with the most up-to-date, reliable and accurate scientific, medical, technical, legal, program design and management information available.

The current five-year contract for \$23,175,297 was signed August 31, 1987 and terminates August 31, 1992. Obligations as of March 1, 1991 totalled \$8,816,143. This includes funding from the S&T Office of Health of \$200,272 for the Population Reports issue on maternal health and \$247,871 for the issue on AIDS education. The Johns Hopkins University Population Information Program (PIP) also received funding from what was then A.I.D.'s Asia/Near East Bureau for three abridged versions of Population Reports in Turkish. A buy-in was also received from the Africa Bureau for \$300,000 for print materials, family planning flip charts, and other materials in French. In addition, \$100,000 was provided for the work of the Informed Choice Task Force by the Office of Population.

In FY 1991 S&T/POP core support will be \$2,500,000 which includes \$350,000 for four issues of International Family Planning Perspectives. A buy-in of \$15,500 is expected from USAID/Mali for a pilot project to place CD-ROM technology at CERPOD.

The outputs of the contract are: Population Reports, POPLINE, the Information Resource Center, the Informed Choice Task Force Report, and International Family Planning Perspectives.

II. Questions To Be Addressed

General Project

1. Two assumptions underlie this project. (1) A center of excellence such as S&T/POP with a concentrated focus, critical mass of specialists, and vast network of contracts and projects, requires a central repository and dissemination mechanism (clearinghouse) as part of its essential overhead and intellectual foundation to function optimally. (2) Developing countries have a continuing need for basic up-to-date accurate, scientific information on family planning/population methods, programs as provided by the Population Information Program. Are these two assumptions still valid and will they remain valid throughout the 1990s?
2. Do the outputs of PIP reach their intended audiences, influence policies and programs, and contribute to institution building in the LDCs? Should PIP use its expertise to assist LDC information centers through technical assistance or projects?
3. How does PIP use, enhance, and promote appropriate modern technology in the information/communication field? Can this role be improved in the future in the light of rapid technological advances?
4. How do PIP activities contribute to basic A.I.D. program objectives such as encouraging informed choice in the context of a broad method mix, improving the image of contraceptives, emphasizing use of the private sector and cost-effectiveness, influencing policy, and fostering cooperation among CAs?

5. How does PIP contribute to capturing and disseminating the global evaluation and evaluation methodology literature? How can this function be improved?
6. What additional services and products should PIP develop to maximize the reach and impact of core activities, Population Reports, and POPLINE? Especially, what additional services or products would increase impact on the news media and policy-makers?
7. How can the technical expertise of the PIP staff in research, analysis, and information dissemination be more fully utilized in building LDC institutions? How can Population Reports be used most effectively in training?
8. How does PIP's location at Johns Hopkins University affect its operations and impact?
9. What is the role of information and PIP in supporting the "Big County" strategy.

Population Reports

1. What is the intended and actual audience for Population Reports? Do they reach that audience (exposure)? How are they regarded by that audience (comprehension, credibility)? How are they used by that audience (usage, behavior, impact)?
2. What is the team's assessment of Population Reports regarding accuracy, completeness, readability, topic selection, length, format, and relevance for LDC target audiences, U. S. and other donor community users? Value, timeliness, and cost of translations?
3. How do Population Reports compare to other A.I.D.-funded publications in the above categories of exposure, comprehension, credibility, usage, cost-effectiveness, and impact?
4. How does Population Reports work with the mass media? How can Population Reports better reach, influence, and serve modern mass media?
5. What are the most important uses of Population Reports? Which specific issues, subject areas, or functions for Population Reports are most valuable? Should these be expanded?
6. How effective and how cost-effective are distribution systems for Population Reports? Should the Population Reports mailing list be further expanded? How should the mailing list be purged to minimize error or duplication? How might expansion and quality control be improved?
7. What is the impact of recent Population Reports innovations such as new formats, posters, slides for presentations? Should other spinoffs be developed?
8. What are the team's assessment and recommendations regarding the Population Information Program's Editorial Advisory Committee, its purpose, composition, and utilization?
9. In what ways and how much do Population Reports collaborate with and support other Cooperating Agencies?

POPLINE

1. How is POPLINE serving its objectives as the basic source of information on research and evaluation findings in population, family, planning, and related areas for researchers, policy-makers, and population professionals generally?

2. How has POPLINE CD-ROM changes the use, long-term potential, and cost-effectiveness of POPLINE? Is POPLINE CD-ROM an appropriate technology for LDCs? If so, how can POPLINE CD-ROM be made easier and more accessible for LDCs to use?
3. What type of training is needed for CD-ROM? Have PIP's initial efforts been successful?
4. How can POPLINE CD-ROM be publicized and marketed in both developing and developed countries?
5. What should be the role of A.I.D. and other donors in supporting POPLINE or POPLINE CD-ROM?
6. What is POPLINE's role in relation to other CAs? Should training and services be provided on a fee-for-service basis? How can further collaboration be encouraged?
7. What other uses of the CD-ROM technology should PIP encourage? For example, other specialized databases, full-text training manuals on CD-ROM, or compact disc databases for audiovisuals that combine both subject retrieval and graphic display?
8. How can PIP encourage LDC users to obtain the full potential of POPLINE CD-ROM?
9. How can POPLINE be made more efficient?
10. How can POPLINE be optimally adjusted to serve the storage, retrieval, and dissemination needs of the evaluation effort of S&T/POP/P&E?
11. In what ways and how much does POPLINE collaborate with and support other Cooperating Agencies? How can further collaboration be encouraged?

Information Resource Center

1. What type of requests and queries are received and how many? How are requests divided between Population Reports, POPLINE, and other staff expertise?
2. How many and what materials are distributed in response to requests?
3. Are recipients satisfied with answers and materials sent by PIP?

International Family Planning Perspectives

1. What is the intended and actual audience for International Family Planning Perspectives? Do they reach that audience (exposure)? How are they regarded by that audience (comprehension, credibility)? How are they used by that audience (usage, behavior, impact)?
2. What is the team's assessment of International Family Planning Perspectives regarding accuracy, completeness, readability, topic selection, length, format, and relevance for LDC target audiences, U. S. and other donor community users?
3. How does International Family Planning Perspectives compare to other A.I.D.-funded publications in the above categories of exposure, comprehension, credibility, usage, cost-effectiveness, and impact?
4. What is the most important use of International Family Planning Perspectives? Which specific issues or subject areas are most valuable to Perspective's scientific audience?

5. How effective and how cost-effective are distribution systems for International Family Planning Perspectives? Should the Perspective's mailing list be further expanded? How should the mailing list be purged to minimize error or duplication? How might expansion and quality control be improved?

6. In what ways does International Family Planning Perspectives collaborate with and support other Cooperating Agencies?

Informed Choice

1. How has PIP carried out the mandate of the Informed Choice Task Force?

2. Should the Informed Choice Task Force continue its work? If so, what should its future objectives and outputs be?

Appendix B
List of Persons Contacted

Appendix B

List of Persons Contacted

Ghana

Dr. Dan Blumhagen
HPN Officer
USAID Accra

Mrs. Mary Kotei
Senior Health Education Specialist
Ministry of Health

Ms. Florence Ashitey
SNO/Family Planning Consultant
Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology
Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital

Professor George Benneh
Chairman, Director of PIP/Ghana
Department of Geography and Natural Resources
University of Ghana, Legon

Mrs. Agnes Akuffo
Executive Secretary
National Council on Women in Development

Mr. G.S. Awyalew
Mr. David Newton
Ghana Institute of Journalism

Mr. Ian Howie
UNFPA Country Director
UNFPA Field Office

Dr. Patrick Ohadike
Director
Regional Institute for Population Studies
University of Ghana

Dr. Joseph Adamafo
Ministry of Health

Mrs. Esther Apewokin
Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning

Mr. Daniel Addo
Medical Library
University of Ghana

Martin Luther King Library
USIS/Accra

55

Dr. G. H. Attu, Actg. Executive Director
Dr. J. A. Kwarteng, National IEC Consultant
Mrs. Elizabeth Adjubi Asante, Director (IEC)
Mr. J. K. Benin, Project Counterpart
National Family Planning Secretariat

Turkey (Ankara)

Dr. Pinar Senlet
Public Health Specialist
Population Advisor
USAID/Ankara

Prof. Dr. Ergul Tuncbilek
Director
Institute of Population Studies
Hacettepe University

Prof. Dr. Aykut Toros
Deputy Director
Institute of Population Studies
Hacettepe University
and Board Member, Family Planning Association of Turkey

Prof. Dr. Sevinc N. Oral
Prof. Dr. Munever Bertan
Faculty Of Medicine - Department of Community Medicine
Hacettepe University

Mr. Ugur Aytac
Mr. Munip Ustundag
Deputy General Directors
MCH/FP Department
Ministry of Health

Edmund Cain
UNFPA Representative for UNDP

Turkey (Istanbul)

Nuray Fincancoglu
Executive Director
Human Resource Development Foundation

Demet Gural, Director
Pathfinder Foundation

Yasar Yaser
Executive Director
Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation

Prof. Dr. Sunday Uner
Deputy Executive Director
Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation

Tunc Erben
Ayşe Özger
Eczacıbaşı Pharmaceutical Group

Egypt

Prof. Dr. Maher Mahran, Secretary General
Gamel El Nahas, Information Center Director
National Population Council
Cairo

Carol Carpenter-Yaman, Chief HPN
Marilyn Schmidt, HPN Officer
Art Bronstein, HPN Officer
Laila Stino, HPN Officer
USAID/Cairo

Prof. Dr. Roushdi Ammar, Director
Dr. Tawhida Khalil, Director of Communications
Dr. Zeinab Heada
Dr. Youssef Naim (CD ROM expert)
Dr. Yehia Gado
Regional Center for Training in Family Planning
Ain Shams Ob/Gyn University Hospital
Abbassia, Cairo

Prof. Gamal I. Serour, Director
International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research
Al-Azhar University
Cairo

Dr. Farag Rizk Hassan, Advisor
Naglaa Elnahal, Program Officer
Ehas Hussein Sadek, Librarian
Egyptian Fertility Care Society
Mohandessin, Cairo

Ms. Mona Helala, Programme Officer
UNFPA Egypt
Cairo

Dr. Khaled Abdel Haziz, Director
Dr. Salwa Rizk, Head of Product Management and Scientific Affairs
Mr. Mohamed El Said, Manager of Advertising and Media Dept
Ms. Hoda Mahamamel, Head of the Information Department
Family of the Future Association
Cairo

**Dr. Amr. M. Taha, Central Manager
Egyptian Junior Medical Doctor's Association
Mohandiscen Giza, Egypt**

**Dr. Ismail Sabry, Executive Director
Teaching Hospitals Organization
Cairo**

**Dr. Magdy Allam, Secretary General
Ministry of Health/Systems Development Project
Cairo**

**Dr. Alfred Yassa
Center for Development Services
Cairo**

Appendix C
Reference Documents

Appendix C

Reference Documents

General Documents

Scope of Work for the evaluation of the Population Information Program, Office of Population, Information and Training Division, Agency for International Development, September 1991.

Report of the Cooperating Agencies Task Force on Informed Choice in English, Spanish and French.

POPLINE

POPTECH Questionnaire for POPLINE CD-ROM Users

USAID cable questionnaire responses

PIP POPLINE CD-ROM Usage Statistics, April 1989 - August 1991

A User's Guide to POPLINE Keywords, PIP, Center for Communication Programs, Johns Hopkins University, Third Edition, 1991. (Presents annotated vocabulary used to index and retrieve POPLINE records)

POPLINE/Silver Platter Information System reference guide, May 1990.

Collaborative Activities Underway, Planned, Possible - by PIP, presented to evaluation team September 1991.

Marketing/Publicity Plan for POPLINE NISC Disc - by PIP, presented to the evaluation team September 1991.

Sources of Financial Support as of August 1991 - by PIP, presented to the evaluation team September 1991.

POPLINE Newslite - an occasional newsletter for online POPLINE researchers, Numbers 1 - 7, January 1989 - October 1991.

Population Reports

POPTECH Population Reports Questionnaire

USAID Cable questionnaire

Population Reports Readership Survey - 1990. PIP, Johns Hopkins University, December 1990.

Examples of *Population Reports*

List of all *Population Reports* written to date and proposed topics

International Family Planning Perspectives

Examples of *International Family Planning Perspectives*
Survey of Readers, Spring 1991

Appendix D
Examples of Project "Impact"

Appendix D

Examples of Project "Impact"

The following is a **partial list** of instances in which the PIP program has had a significant impact on family planning programs and policies. This is not a complete list but shows the various ways in which PIP information is used in the field.

POPULATION REPORTS

Legislative Impact

In a Philippines Senate hearing a government family planning program official effectively rebutted a Senator's charge that IUDs were abortifacient by presenting the *Population Reports* issue on IUDs.

Regulatory Impact

In Egypt the Ministry of Health decided to approve the injectable Noristerat after reviewing *Population Reports* "Hormonal Contraception: New Long-Acting Methods".

Population Reports, "Counseling Clients about the Pill", helped influence the US FDA Fertility and Maternal Health Drugs Advisory Committee to recommend changes in the required patient leaflet explaining how to use the pill.

Training Impact

The "Counseling Guide" edition of *Population Reports* has been used to train family planning providers in Ghana, Egypt, Nigeria, Pakistan, El Salvador and many other countries.

Information Dissemination

The World Health Organization purchased and distributed 10,000 copies of *Population Reports*, "AIDS Education - A Beginning" to AIDS programs in developing countries. A senior WHO official stated that the report was one of the very best publications on this important issue.

POPLINE

Program Impact

In Peru, during a severe cholera epidemic, an international health organization did a search on CD-ROM which provided quite useful and relevant information to them in the crisis. They requested copies of the full documents to assist them further.

In Egypt, the MOH requested a search on IUDs in response to a concern over possible "rusting" of the CU T 380A. The search materials, which confirmed the fact that discoloration is normal and in no way harmful, were distributed to the medical staff in all family planning units.

Information Dissemination Impact

In Colombia, a Pan American medical resource group is working to establish a health information network with the assistance of the POPLINE database.

In Ghana, the POPLINE CD-ROM is accessed by journalists and students of journalism who submit their articles on family planning to local newspapers and journals.

INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING PERSPECTIVES

In Pakistan, *International Family Planning Perspectives* was used to formulate a position paper on population policy for the Eighth Five-Year Plan for the government.

In Bangladesh, *Perspectives* has been used by policy makers in the development of family planning programs, according to a research institute there.

In Ghana, *International Family Planning Perspectives* was used to prepare a major policy paper for a conference on family planning.

Appendix E
Survey of Readers

Appendix E

Survey of Readers

International Family Planning Perspectives
Spring 1991

Survey Number = 270

1. Check one category that best describes your major work in the population and family planning, maternal and child health or general health field. Please check only one.

14% 1. policy making or policy advance
29% 2. service delivery (administrative)
8% 3. service delivery (medical)
23% 4. research
37% 5. teaching or training
9% 6. other (please explain) _____

2. Do you receive *International Family Planning Perspectives* regularly (four times a year)?

82% 1. yes
8% 2. no
9% 3. uncertain
1% 4. no answer

3. Which parts of *International Family Planning Perspectives* do you find most useful?

50% 1. articles on program activities
68% 2. articles on survey findings or program research
33% 3. articles on laws and policies
23% 4. reports of meetings
49% 5. digests of epidemiologic and biomedical research
45% 6. digests of social science research
16% 7. French or Spanish summaries of articles
52% 8. brief updates on the field
39% 9. book reviews

4. Which topics do you find the most interesting? Check as many as you wish.

70% 1. contraceptive practice and research
59% 2. population growth
53% 3. fertility levels, trends and determinants
37% 4. childspacing
67% 5. family planning program operation, development and evaluation
31% 6. pregnancy termination
38% 7. public policies and legal issues affecting family planning and childbearing
51% 8. information, education and communication activities
54% 9. sexually transmitted diseases
64% 10. maternal and child health

65

5. Are there any additional topics, issues or areas of interest you think the magazine should address?

- 31% 1. yes
- 55% 2. no
- 14% 3. no answer

If "yes," please list them.

6. Do you think research articles in *International Family Planning Perspectives* are:

- 7% 1. too long
- 6% 2. too short
- 82% 3. about the right length
- 5% 4. no answer

7. Would you like *International Family Planning Perspectives* to be:

- 24% 1. more technical
- 13% 2. less technical
- 60% 3. remain as is
- 5% 4. no answer

8. When you have read your copy of *International Family Planning Perspectives* do you?

- 35% 1. file it for future reference
- 33% 2. pass it on to colleagues
- 30% 3. send it to the library
- 1% 4. throw it away
- 2% 5. no answer

9. In general, how many of your colleagues read *International Family Planning Perspectives*?

- 8% 1. none
- 46% 2. one to three
- 24% 3. four to eight
- 17% 4. more than eight
- 4% 5. no answer

10. In what country do you currently receive *International Family Planning Perspectives*?

- 30% Africa
- 29% Latin America & Caribbean
- 22% South Asia
- 18% Rest of Asia

11. Do you know of anyone else-researchers, program managers, or policy makers-who would benefit from receiving *International Family Planning Perspectives*?

- 43% 1. yes
- 40% 2. no
- 16% 3. no answer

If "yes," please give us names and addresses on a separate sheet of paper.

12. Do you have any suggestions or ideas about making *International Family Planning Perspectives* more interesting, informative and useful?

34% 1. yes
12% 2. no
54% 3. no answer

SURVEY TABULATION

In 1990, 4467 questionnaires were sent out, and 715 were returned (16%).
 In 1986, 3558 questionnaires were sent out, and 618 were returned (17%).

Detail of 1990 mailing:

<u>Country</u>	<u>No. Mailed</u>	<u>Language</u>	<u>Response Rate (%)</u>
Colombia	292	Spanish	6.8
Costa Rica	297	Spanish	9.7
Cote d'Ivoire	166	English (68) French (98)	19.8
Ecuador	297	Spanish	2.3
Ghana	293	English	32.7
Kenya	297	English	27.9
Mali	155	English (53) French (102)	14.1
Mexico	297	Spanish	11.8
Nigeria	297	English	21.2
Pakistan	295	English	27.1
Philippines	298	English	5.4
Tanzania	298	English	16.1
Thailand	291	English	10.6
Tunisia	299	English (69) French (230)	22.0
Zaire	295	French	15.9
Zimbabwe	300	English	13.0

Key to Symbols: 90= 1990 (N=715)
 86= 1986 (N=618)
 P = Those who checked "policy-making or policy advice" in question 1 (N=107)
 I = Those who checked "information, education, communication" in question 1 (N=266)
 S = Those who checked "service delivery (medical)" in question 1 (N=150)
 F = Those who responded in either French or Spanish (N=227)

Note: Where direct comparisons are possible, both 1986 and 1990 figures are presented.
 Percentages have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

There are no 1986 data for the "P" "I" "S" and "F" categories. All data reported for these categories are 1990 figures.

Question 1. Please describe your ~~major~~ work in the population/family planning field. (Check one only.)

	<u>90</u> (N=712)	<u>86</u> (N=444)
Policy making or policy advice	15%	9%
Service delivery (medical)	21	28
Service delivery (administrative)	7	5
Information, education, communication	37	30
Research	8	13
Teaching or training	11	16
Did not respond	0.4	28

Question 2. What part(s) of Population Reports do you find most useful? (Check as many as you wish.)

	<u>90</u> (N=715)	<u>86</u> (N=618)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=266)	<u>S</u> (N=150)	<u>F</u> (N=227)
Editors' Summary	72%	56%	74%	77%	65%	77%
Graphs and tables	48	43	55	50	36	41
Information on program activities worldwide	88	60	90	94	85	84
Information on law and policy worldwide	71	36	87	73	61	50
Summaries of results of biomedical research	54	58	65	41	59	42
Summaries of results of social science, survey, or program research	63	53	86	55	55	59
Recommended protocols for care and treatment (e.g., IUD insertion, STD treatment)	53	64	51	38	79	44
Training information	53	—	64	45	43	45
Bibliography	48	31	55	45	35	41

Question 3. Do you think Population Reports are:

	<u>90</u> (N=711)	<u>86</u> (N=607)	<u>P</u> (N=106)	<u>I</u> (N=263)	<u>S</u> (N=150)	<u>F</u> (N=225)
Too long?	1%	8%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Too short?	4	3	9	3	4	2
About the right length?	95	89	90	96	95	96
Did not respond	1	2	1	1	0	1

Question 4. Would you like Population Reports to be:

	<u>90</u> (N=710)	<u>86</u> (N=609)	<u>P</u> (N=106)	<u>I</u> (N=264)	<u>S</u> (N=148)	<u>F</u> (N=226)
More technical?						
Less technical?	3%	26%	6%	2%	5%	5%
Remain as they are?	3	10	2	3	3	2
	94	64	92	95	92	92
Did not respond	1	1	1	1	1	0

Question 5. Would you like to see more training guides like Population Reports, J-36, Counseling Guide?

	<u>90</u> (N=710)	<u>86</u> (N=---)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=261)	<u>S</u> (N=148)	<u>F</u> (N=225)
Yes						
No	59%	--	73%	42%	76%	53%
	41	--	27	58	24	47
Did not respond	1		0	2	1	1

Question 5 (a). If yes, how would you use them (for example, "training clinic personnel")?

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Question 6. Population Reports recently introduced a new format and design. Compared with the previous design, is the new design:

	<u>90</u> (N=620)	<u>86</u> (N=----)	<u>P</u> (N=100)	<u>I</u> (N=226)	<u>S</u> (N=128)	<u>F</u> (N=218)
More interesting?	72%	--	70%	78%	74%	79%
Less interesting?	1	--	1	0	2	2
No different?	22	--	28	13	18	17
Can't compare?	5	--	1	9	6	2
Did not respond	13		7	15	15	4
	<u>90</u> (N=463)	<u>86</u> (N=610)	<u>P</u> (N=73)	<u>I</u> (N=160)	<u>S</u> (N=89)	<u>F</u> (N=127)
Easier to read?	69%	95%	70%	78%	72%	67%
Harder to read?	0	5	0	0	0	1
No different?	25	--	29	13	24	29
Can't compare?	6	--	1	9	4	3
Did not respond	35	1	32	40	41	44

Question 7. Population Reports tries to serve the following functions. Please indicate how effective they have been in each:

Question 7 (a). Conveying news of important developments

	<u>90</u> (N=702)	<u>86</u> (N=588)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=261)	<u>S</u> (N=150)	<u>F</u> (N=226)
Very effective	95%	72%	96%	97%	92%	97%
Moderately effective	5	26	4	3	7	2
Not effective	0	2	0	0	1	1
Did not respond	2	5	0	2	0	0

Question 7 (b). Providing background for policy formulation

	<u>90</u> (N=680)	<u>86</u> (N=549)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=247)	<u>S</u> (N=145)	<u>F</u> (N=225)
Very effective	88%	40%	93%	87%	86%	90%
Moderately effective	11	55	7	12	13	8
Not effective	1	5	0	1	1	2
Did not respond	1	11	0	7	3	1

Question 7 (c). Providing information useful for program planning and operation

	<u>90</u> (N=681)	<u>86</u> (N=----)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=247)	<u>S</u> (N=146)	<u>F</u> (N=225)
Very effective	91%	---	96%	89%	90%	94%
Moderately effective	8	---	4	10	10	5
Not effective	1	---	0	1	0	0
Did not respond	5		0	7	3	1

Question 7 (d). Providing information and materials for research or reference

	<u>90</u> (N=692)	<u>86</u> (N=564)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=249)	<u>S</u> (N=148)	<u>F</u> (N=226)
Very effective	93%	61%	93%	94%	91%	95%
Moderately effective	6	36	7	5	9	4
Not effective	1	4	0	0	1	1
Did not respond	3	9	0	6	1	0

Question 7 (e). Providing information and materials useful for training

	<u>90</u> (N=691)	<u>86</u> (N=562)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=250)	<u>S</u> (N=149)	<u>F</u> (N=226)
Very effective	91%	49%	93%	89%	91%	93%
Moderately effective	9	44	7	10	9	6
Not effective	1	7	0	1	1	1
Did not respond	3	9	0	6	1	0

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Question 7 (f). Introducing new project or program ideas

	<u>90</u> (N=679)	<u>86</u> (N=554)	<u>P</u> (N=106)	<u>I</u> (N=247)	<u>S</u> (N=145)	<u>F</u> (N=224)
Very effective	91%	44%	94%	90%	90%	94%
Moderately effective	8	46	6	10	9	4
Not effective	1	9	0	0	1	1
Did not respond	5	10	1	7	3	1

Question 8. After you finish a copy of Population Reports, what do you do with it? (Multiple responses)

	<u>90</u> (N=715)	<u>86</u> (N=618)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=266)	<u>S</u> (N=150)	<u>F</u> (N=227)
File for future reference	39%	56%	26%	46%	36%	37%
Put in loose-leaf binder	25	21	32	24	29	30
Pass on to colleagues	22	27	38	13	21	23
Send to library	8	17	2	10	7	8
Throw away	1	1	0	3	1	0
Other	5	4	2	2	7	3

Question 9. How many other people read your copy of Population Reports?

	<u>90</u> (N=709)	<u>86</u> (N=583)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=260)	<u>S</u> (N=148)	<u>F</u> (N=224)
None	57%	7%	46%	70%	52%	51%
1-5	18	66	23	12	24	26
6-10	9	15	14	5	11	12
11-20	6	11	7	4	3	5
More than 20	10	--	10	8	10	6
Did not respond	1	6	0	2	1	1

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Question 10 (a). Have you ever requested copies of articles, documents, or other printed materials from us?

	<u>90</u> (N=680)	<u>86</u> (N=610)	<u>P</u> (N=103)	<u>I</u> (N=251)	<u>S</u> (N=140)	<u>F</u> (N=206)
Yes	16%	31%	26%	11%	11%	17%
No	84	69	74	89	89	83
Did not respond	5	1	4	6	7	9

Question 10 (b). If yes, did you receive the requested materials?

	<u>90</u> (N=106)	<u>86</u> (N=185)	<u>P</u> (N=26)	<u>I</u> (N=28)	<u>S</u> (N=15)	<u>F</u> (N=33)
Yes	94%	78%	96%	86%	93%	91%
No	6	22	4	14	7	9
Did not respond	4	2	4	0	6	3

Question 10 (c). Were they useful to you?

	<u>90</u> (N=98)	<u>86</u> (N=168)	<u>P</u> (N=25)	<u>I</u> (N=24)	<u>S</u> (N=14)	<u>F</u> (N=30)
Yes	98	93	96	100	93	97
No	2	7	4	0	7	3
Did not respond	2	0	0	0	0	0

Question 11. Which of the following recent issues of Population Reports did you find most interesting? (Check as many as you wish.)

	<u>90</u> (N=715)	<u>86</u> (N=----)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=266)	<u>S</u> (N=150)	<u>F</u> (N=227)
J-37 Pharmacists and Family Planning	31%	--	32%	33%	27%	25%
A-7 Lower-Dose Pills	36	--	36	35	38	28
L-8 AIDS Education--A Beginning	37	--	38	39	33	30
L-7 Mothers' Lives Matter: Maternal Health in the Community	38	--	40	59	31	26
B-5 IUDs--A New Look	29	--	25	39	30	26
J-36 Counseling Guide	41	--	54	31	43	27
J-35 Counseling Makes a Difference	34	--	43	29	31	23

J-34 Employment-Based Family Planning Programs	29	--	31	28	23	23
K-3 Hormonal Contraception: New Long-Acting Methods	31	--	27	27	31	27
J-33 Men: New Focus for Family Planning Programs	29	--	25	27	29	25
J-32 Radio--Spreading the Word About Family Planning	24	--	24	23	21	19
L-6 AIDS--A Public Health Crisis	37	--	44	35	33	35
J-31 Operations Research: Lessons for Policy and Programs	23	--	25	21	17	20
L-5 Immunizing The World's Children	25	--	24	22	25	22
M-9 Youth in the 1980s: Social and Health Concerns	27	--	24	29	21	21
M-8 Fertility and Family Planning Surveys: An Update	23	--	22	23	15	16

Question 12. Which did you find least interesting?

	<u>90</u> (N=715)	<u>86</u> (N=-----)	<u>P</u> (N=107)	<u>I</u> (N=266)	<u>S</u> (N=150)	<u>F</u> (N=227)
J-37 Pharmacists and Family Planning	9%	--	5%	7%	11%	10%
A-7 Lower-Dose Pills	3	--	1	4	1	3
L-8 AIDS Eduction--A Beginning	1	--	0	2	1	0
L-7 Mothers' Lives Matter: Maternal Health in the Community	1	--	0	1	1	2
B-5 IUDs--A New Look	4	--	1	4	5	4
J-36 Counseling Guide	1	--	1	0	1	1
J-35 Counseling Makes a Difference	1	--	0	0	3	2
J-34 Employment-Based Family Planning Programs	6	--	3	7	6	5
K-3 Hormonal Contraception: New Long-Acting Methods	3	--	3	3	2	3
J-33 Men: New Focus for Family Planning Programs	5	--	5	3	7	3
J-32 Radio-- Spreading the Word About Family Planning	5	--	2	7	7	6
L-6 AIDS--A Public Health Crisis	1	--	0	0	1	1
J-31 Operations Research: Lessons for Policy and Programs	9	--	2	9	9	8
L-5 Immunizing The World's Children	1	--	0	1	1	1
M-9 Youth in the 1980s: Social and Health Concerns	2	--	0	2	3	2
M-8 Fertility and Family Planning Surveys: An Update	5	--	3	5	7	6

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Question 13. Please list new or updated subjects for future issues of Population Reports that would be of special interest to you: (See Appendix III)

Question 14. Would you like to receive, if available, a set of 35 mm slides of graphs and illustrations from each Population Reports issue?

	<u>90</u> (N=694)	<u>86</u> (N=----)	<u>P</u> (N=106)	<u>I</u> (N=257)	<u>S</u> (N=144)	<u>F</u> (N=227)
Yes	18%	--	25%	13%	19%	25%
No	82		75	87	81	75
Did not respond	3	--	1	3	4	0

Question 14 (a). If yes, how would you use them (for example, for lectures to medical students)? (See Appendix V)

Question 15 (a). Do you know that we operate the POPLINE computer service that provides bibliographies with abstracts on population topics? (A form for requesting this service is often found on the back page of Population Reports.)

	<u>90</u> (N=708)	<u>86</u> (N=----)	<u>P</u> (N=106)	<u>I</u> (N=260)	<u>S</u> (N=150)	<u>F</u> (N=225)
Yes	93%	--	98%	90%	90%	96%
No	7	--	2	10	10	4
Did not respond	1	--	1	2	0	1

Question 15 (b). Have you ever requested or received a POPLINE search?

	<u>90</u> (N=663)	<u>86</u> (N=595)	<u>P</u> (N=103)	<u>I</u> (N=237)	<u>S</u> (N=139)	<u>F</u> (N=221)
Yes	19%	18%	21%	15%	13%	22%
No	81	82	79	85	87	78
Did not respond	0	4	4	12	8	3

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Question 15 (c). If yes, were the materials you received useful to you?

	$\frac{90}{(N=119)}$	$\frac{86}{(N=97)}$	$\frac{P}{(N=21)}$	$\frac{I}{(N=33)}$	$\frac{S}{(N=16)}$	$\frac{F}{(N=45)}$
Yes	97%	92%	95%	97%	100%	100%
No	3	8	5	3	0	0
Did not respond	7	8	5	8	11	8

Question 15 (d). If no, why not? (No responses to this question.)

Question 15 (e). Would you use POPLINE more if it were available on a personal computer in your offices?

	$\frac{90}{(N=682)}$	$\frac{86}{(N=501)}$	$\frac{P}{(N=103)}$	$\frac{I}{(N=249)}$	$\frac{S}{(N=144)}$	$\frac{F}{(N=224)}$
Yes	20%	92%	34%	12%	13%	23%
No	80	8	66	88	87	77
Did not respond	5	19	4	7	4	1

Question 16. How would you describe the quality of the translation of Population Reports?

	$\frac{90}{(N=715)}$	$\frac{86}{(N=258)}$	$\frac{P}{(N=107)}$	$\frac{I}{(N=266)}$	$\frac{S}{(N=150)}$	$\frac{F}{(N=227)}$
Excellent	61%	43%	70%	57%	61%	68%
Good	37	47	29	40	37	30
Adequate	0	9	0	0	1	1
Deficient	1	1	1	2	1	1
Did not respond	0	58	0	0	0	0

Question 17. Do you have any suggestions or ideas to make Population Reports and POPLINE more interesting, informative, and useful?

~
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Appendix F

**Responses to POPTECH Questionnaire
on *Population Reports* and POPLINE**

Appendix F

Responses to POPTECH Questionnaire on *Population Reports* and POPLINE

A questionnaire was sent by POPTECH as part of the data gathering for the evaluation of the *Population Reports* and POPLINE components of the PIP program. One hundred and fifty-eight (158) questionnaires were sent to Cooperating Agencies (13) and top level officials in family planning from Asia (28), Africa (54), Near East (18) and Latin America/Caribbean (45). The total number of responses was 42, for a response rate of 27%.

1. Do you or someone in your organization receive Population Reports?

All forty-two respondents said that their organizations receive Population Reports (although two groups added that they did not receive them all the time) and all but one group said that they circulate the publication within their organization. The one group that did not circulate the publication stated that they sent the reports to the library.

The last part of the question asked the respondent to estimate how many people have access to Population Reports in their organization. The range of answers were great, but it shows that for each report sent, many more people have access to the information.

Twelve organizations responded that between two and ten additional people have access to the reports. Eleven groups said that between eleven and thirty additional people have access to the report. Eight groups said that between forty and fifty people see the report. Two groups answered between seventy-five and eighty additional people have access, two groups said one hundred and fifty and one organization said that 2,000 people a year see Population Reports.

Four organizations responded that anyone interested in the subjects covered by Johns Hopkins Population Reports could have access to them in their library.

Two groups did not respond.

2. How do you rate Population Reports in terms of the following choices, Very Useful, Useful, Somewhat Useful, Never Useful?

Twenty four (57%) organizations found Population Reports to be Very Useful in their work in family planning and population. Seventeen (40%) groups found the report useful and one group thought that the report was somewhat useful. There was no correlation between the number of persons who saw the report and how useful it was to the organization. Several groups who only passed it to 5 additional people said that the publication was "very useful", and those who gave it to a large number of people chose "useful" as their response. No organization stated that the publication was never useful.

3. How do you use Population Reports?

Organizations were asked to check all of the responses that applied to their use of the publication. All thirty nine respondents picked a response that indicated their organization uses the material in the ways that are listed below. Thirty eight (90%) picked multiple responses.

31 Background material for reports/studies

27 Background material for project design/proposals

- 24 Use in project implementation activities
- 22 Distribution as information to clients/others with whom your organization works on your activities or are of expertise?
- 35 Use to update yourself and others in your organization on specific topics
- 7 Other (5 of which stated "training")
- 0 Don't Use

4. How do you find the topic selection in Population Reports? (Check all that apply)

Topic	Directly Relevant to Work	Generally Useful for Work	Not Relevant
a. Family Planning Methods	<u>33</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>
b. Law and Policy	<u>13</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>1</u>
c. Family Planning Programs	<u>34</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>
d. Issues in World Health	<u>19</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1</u>
e. Special Topics	<u>10</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>3</u>

NOTE:

- 1 had no response to family planning methods
- 4 had no response on law and policy
- 1 had no response to family planning programs
- 1 had no response to issues in world health
- 4 had no response on special topics

5. Of those Population Reports that are directly relevant to your work, please give some examples of how you use the information.

Thirty four of the respondents gave detailed responses to this question. They have been grouped into three main categories which include: a) background documentation, information for project development and design; b) family planning services and IEC; and, c) academic/training activities. Some of the responses are added to highlight these activities.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION, INFORMATION FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN

Seventeen of the thirty four groups mentioned that Pop Reports are used for background material; for project design; in writing reports/project proposals; for project development or redesigning project strategies; and for report writing. Background information was also used for press releases and to train new staff.

FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE-RELATED AND IEC ACTIVITIES

Twelve organizations used the information to assist them with family planning services and IEC activities. For example, several groups like the publication because they could compare their FP results to other countries' activities to help improve their performance.

The information about FP methods are used to develop IEC materials and mass media messages. In addition, the information is used to update service providers on contraceptive methods, new techniques and counseling techniques.

TRAINING/ACADEMIC USES

Eighteen groups mentioned training/academic uses for the Population Reports. For example one group stated that in their interpersonal communication skills training, they used the issue on Why Counseling Counts as direct reference material during the lectures. Another organization said that the Counseling and NORPLANT reports have been incorporated into the a NORPLANT Training Curriculum. Training of traditional birth attendants (TBAs), updating clinic staff, teaching Social Marketing techniques and as general teaching materials were cited as uses of the Population Reports.

6. Do you learn anything new from the Reports that are in your area of expertise?

Forty (95%) organizations felt that they learn new facts or learn about other programs in their area of expertise. One did not learn anything new and one group did not respond.

7. Of those Population Reports that are not directly relevant to your work, do you benefit from receiving them? If so, how?

Twenty four of the organizations (57%) chose to respond to this question by stating that they do benefit from receiving information which is not "directly relevant" to their work. (This question was trying to get at the issue of streamlining the mailing list by only sending reports that were directly related to the central role of the organization). The 24 organizations all found the material useful in giving them background information, updates on health topics and was often later used as a reference tool.

As one group pointed out, all the reports are relevant, in one way or another, to population.

They benefit groups in writing articles for newsletters, as an excellent reference and update on all topics of discussion. Useful reference to have in case question comes up in a related area.

It was expressed that professionals need to be informed on general topics, not only their specialties. "We benefit through keeping current with colleagues' thinking and research". The general background and technical updates are a continuous education.

8. Do you wish to continue to receive issues that are not in your area of expertise?

Thirty nine groups wanted to continue to receive all issues of Population Reports, and three did not respond to the question.

9. Does PIP staff cooperate with your organization to produce Population Reports? If so, what has been your experience with the staff?

Nineteen organizations stated that the PIP staff has worked with them in the past to produce Population Reports. All of the organizations that had worked with PIP staff stated that their experiences were good, and often excellent. It should be noted that all of the US based Cooperating Agencies that answered this question (seven agencies) stated that collaboration was very good and that PIP relies on their technical expertise.

10. If you currently receive Population Reports free of charge, would you be willing to share some of the rising costs of production and postage in the future?

Thirty organizations expressed an opinion on the topic of charging for the publication. They can be broken down into three categories: a) Yes; b) Yes, if they could charge a contract or barter information; c) No.

Eleven of these organizations said that they would be willing to share some of the costs. Of these 11 however, many clarified that response. The Yes responses ranged from " Yes, we would be willing to share some of the costs of production and postage" (N=4) to "Yes/Maybe/If necessary with restrictions in distribution or amounts received (N=7).

The second category of Yes responses is grouped together because it is not really cost sharing, but more of an accounting problem. Two groups would be willing to pay if they could charge it through their contracts/grants. In addition, 3 organizations suggested that they could barter their information in exchange for the Population Reports.

Thirteen groups said that they could not pay for the publication.

One group was not sure of their opinion on this issue.

POPLINE

11. **Do you or someone in your organization use the computerized database POPLINE? If so, for what purposes?**

Twenty four organizations responded that they use POPLINE database in their work, and seven said that they did not use the service. Four groups said that they do not use POPLINE, but they are familiar with the service.

As described in the Popline CD-ROM section of this report, the on-line database is used for reference material; technical updating and review; for background materials for newsletters; to develop training materials and to generate bibliographies for research.

12. **If you currently receive POPLINE searches free of charge, would you be willing to share some of the costs of this service in the future?**

Six organizations said that they currently receive POPLINE searches free and would be willing to share some of these costs. Five groups that receive POPLINE free said that they would be unwilling or unable to share the costs of the service. One group remarked that they have POPLINE on CD-ROM and that they could support the subscription costs in the future.

The CAs remarked that they already pay for it and one added that they gladly pay for it.

13. **Please add your general comments and suggestions for the Population Information Program, Population Reports and POPLINE.**

Nineteen organizations gave responses to this request for general comments and suggestions. These are presented below:

General Comments

PIP is an excellent source of information.

Do appreciate the support POPLINE has been giving to our group in Africa

Its worth continuing.

It has been very useful for us especially in our communication work and it also serves as a reference. Very informative and educating series. Keep up the wonderful work.

Very good program. Covers many areas so it is logical that not every organization is interested in everything that is produced. We value the program very highly.

You've made a great deal of assistance to our program through information. We look forward to providing your publication to staff concerned at principal and district levels.

I think that Population Report is an interesting tool for diffusion of new information on Family Planning and I am pleased to receive it.

A strong, well-managed and important program!

Population reports is an excellent tool in the field of FP particularly for French-speaking areas.

POPLINE has been extremely useful for our searches.

We are satisfied with the service as it is.

We find the Population Information Program Activities and outputs very useful in our work and appreciate their continued support of our information service to the region.

Suggestions

We currently receive items on a regular basis. We will appreciate regular copies of Population Reports for our new library as well as back issues.

We would like to see more publications on sterilization in developing countries.

Some Population Reports get dated and there is a long gap until another on the same topic is reissued. These might be a little closer collaboration between Hopkins and donors so that all of their research gets included in Pop Reports -- not just AID - supported work. The bibliographies are very useful! We depend heavily on the searches done on POPLINE by our library staff. They said that they would not be able to identify most of the literature on contraception and family planning programs in the developing world without this database.

It would be ideal if translations of new issues came out faster.

Document delivery too slow.

With the help of POPLINE, literature search on a specific subject for PhD and post doctoral scholars has become easier. But misspelled keywords cause difficulties as they are not recalled along with correct spelled keywords.

Appendix G
Responses to Cable to USAID Missions

Appendix G

Responses to Cable to USAID Missions

Cable

S&T/Population is conducting an in-depth evaluation of the Population Information Program (PIP), managed by Johns Hopkins. An independent evaluation team from the POPTECH project will be analyzing data from this worldwide survey of USAID Missions. S&T/Population and POPTECH would appreciate your comments on PIP, Population Reports, International Family Planning Perspectives and the POPLINE service.

Please answer the following questions:

Do the above referenced documents and services contribute to the family planning program in your country or region? If so, how do they contribute?

Who is the audience for these services in your country and are they reaching that audience?

In Population Reports, what topics have been most useful to your program? What topics have been less useful?

Do you think that the computerized POPLINE database on computer compact disk (CD ROM) would be useful to information programs, policy discussions and research centers in your country?

What additional services or products should PIP use to expand the impact and reach of Population Reports, International Family Planning Perspectives and the POPLINE service? How can PIP increase its impact on the news media and policy-makers with these services?

In your country and world-wide, do you think that these services are a cost-effective use of A.I.D. resources for information on population and family planning? How could they be made more cost-effective?

Any other comments on PIP products and services would be appreciated.

Thank you for your assistance with this evaluation.

Mission Evaluations of PIP Services

Replies from missions proved to be a useful source of evidence for the evaluation. Considering that only three countries could be visited by the team, the judgment of missions elsewhere was a valuable check on judgments based on this limited exposure.

Twenty-five missions responded to the cabled questions. Thoughtful criticism and suggestions were offered, but the responses from the field were overwhelmingly favorable. Because the questions were open-ended and the responses in narrative form, no simple coding was possible. Answers could be grouped in broad categories, however.

Evaluation of POPULATION REPORTS

Enthusiastically supportive; specific favorable comments	17
Generally supportive	5

No basis for judging or
no response 3

Specific Examples of Usefulness

Useful information
for providers 6

Helpful in training
or for students 8

Distributed to
decision-makers 7

Information source
for mass media 1

Used to produce
other materials 2

General contribution
to available information 2

No examples offered 10

**Evaluation of INTERNATIONAL
FAMILY PLANNING PERSPECTIVES**

Good to excellent
contribution 7

Contribution limited
because of restricted
distribution 9

Contribution limited
because of language
of publication 4

Not received
in the country 5

**Anticipated usefulness
of CD-ROM**

Already available and being
used effectively 2

Already available; potential
for more effective use 3

Not available; would expect to use it effectively	8
Not available; probably not needed	6
Not available; no clear appraisal of need	4

Cost effectiveness of PIP program

Definitely cost-effective use of USAID resources	8
A useful or valuable program but cannot judge cost effectiveness	5
No comment on usefulness; unable to judge cost-effectiveness	5
Suggestions offered to improve cost effectiveness	3

Nature of suggestions offered to improve PIP program

More translations and greater availability of local language editions	7
Increased help on ways to get further utilization of PIP information	9
Strengthening of the mailing list	9
Increased distribution	7
Greater responsiveness to country requests	2
Regularity of publication	1
Other	1

Appendix H
Responses to POPLINE CD-ROM Questionnaire

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Responses to POPLINE CD-ROM Questionnaire

A questionnaire was sent by POPTECH as part of the data gathering for the evaluation of the CD-ROM component of the PIP program. Ninety-nine sites from Asia, Africa, Near East and Latin America/Caribbean were queried. Of those, twenty of the sites are in Asia, twenty-six in Africa, fourteen in Near East, and thirty-nine in LAC. The total number of responses was 45, or a response rate of 45%.

1. **Do you or someone in your office find POPLINE CD-ROM useful to your work?**

Yes _____ No _____

No = 1
Yes = 44

Forty-four respondents indicated that they use the CD ROM technology and find the POPLINE database useful in their work. The negative response came from a UNFPA Country Director who noted that their only use has been for training researchers who may use it.

2. **How often is POPLINE CD-ROM used in your office?**

Daily _____ Weekly _____ Monthly _____ Other _____

Daily = 14
Weekly = 22
Monthly = 2
Other = 7

Fourteen organizations responded that they use the CD-ROM POPLINE database on a daily basis and twenty-two use it weekly. Therefore, eighty percent of the respondents use their POPLINE CD-ROM at least once a week.

3. **How do you or your organization use the information found on the POPLINE CD-ROM searches?**

No Response = 6
Detailed responses = 39

Detailed answers were given by thirty nine organizations. Some include multiple reasons for using the database. These can be grouped in the following manner - reference and research; presentations and speeches; and other service-oriented uses.

Reference and Research

Thirty one (67% of total detailed responses) of the respondents who elaborated on this question mentioned research and reference for academic work as their reason for doing POPLINE searches. The searches were mainly done for reference material in research work and student theses. The searches were also done for general use in libraries.

It was noted that these services are shared with other local institutions and that the POPLINE database increases the researcher's knowledge of current information for research projects at the local level.

The most common topics of the searches were said to have been to support research/articles on public health and population matters, family planning, contraceptive methods, and maternal and child care. Many of the users are medical research students and medical staff.

POPLINE CD-ROM was called "an excellent tool for the library setting". It was noted that the database helps in acquisitions work, bibliographical work and in literature searching.

Teaching staff, M.A., M.Phil. and Ph.D. students use the technology to identify relevant bibliographical references. The summaries provided are very useful guides.

Presentations and Speeches

Five respondents (11% of total detailed responses) noted that they use POPLINE for presentations and for use in teaching materials. It was noted that it helps the user by offering a "quick feedback" to students' questions. Conference papers and workshop preparations were also stated as uses for the reference tool.

Service-Oriented Uses

Seven organizations (16% of total detailed responses) use the CD-ROM in a service-oriented manner. For example, organizations noted that it is used to help in dissemination of information on population, in writing proposals and for project use in the diverse areas of water supply and sanitation.

Training and awareness raising on current topics of interest were also noted. One group offers the service of downloading the bibliographic information according to users' needs and sends the search results either as printouts or on floppies to those who request it.

4. Do you or your organization assist other individuals or groups with information searches on POPLINE CD-ROM?

Yes _____ No _____

If Yes, about how many searches have been done for other groups?

No = 11
N/A = 1
Yes = 33

Of those 33 organizations that responded that they did searches for outside groups or individuals, 4 organizations did 10 or less searches; 10 organizations did between 11 and 30 searches; 3 organizations did between 31 and 50 searches and 3 organizations did more than 50 searches. One organization stated that they did 2 searches per week for other people; another group said that 25 % of their searches were for outside groups. Another group said that they did over 50 searches per month for other groups. One group stated that they service over 20 institutions with searches on their POPLINE CD-ROM database. The remaining groups were not exact in their estimation of the number of searches they do for other organizations.

5. How do you or other individuals in your organization view the CD-ROM technology?

31 Very easy to access and use

14 Used with some difficulty

0 Used with great difficulty

0

It is not used because it is too difficult

Sixty-nine percent of all those who responded to the questionnaire chose the response "very easy to access and use" for this question. The other thirty one percent used the CD-ROM technology with some difficulty. Other written comments to this questionnaire elaborate on these difficulties (see responses to question #6). The following are the two written responses that were submitted with this question:

- 1) The difficulty encountered stems from the fact that the CD-ROM system is not fully adapted to our existing computer equipment (PC/XT only; a PC/AT would be more compatible). Because of this, retrieval is slowed down. Moreover, we do not have a color monitor to go with it. We are hoping though that we will be able to get funds soon for a PC/AT and a color monitor.
- 2) Until now we have not needed support to solve our problems.

6. How could POPLINE CD-ROM be made more useful to you and your organization?

- (1) More training
- (2) Ability to access information sources in addition to family planning
- (3) It adequately suits our needs
- (4) Other, please explain

Multiple responses were counted, as shown below:

Response #:	Total Responses
1	9
1 and 2	6
1 and 3	2
1 and 4	2
2	13
2 and 4	1
3	10
4	2

Nine of the respondents replied that more training would assist their organizations in using the CD-ROM more effectively, while an additional 6 respondents picked both the need for more training and the ability to access other information besides family planning. Two groups thought that they needed more training and the POPLINE CD-ROM adequately suited their needs. An additional two respondents requested more training and elaborated on their needs. Consequently, a total of 19 (42% of total) respondents picked more training and/or another response to this question. Two groups asked for more information on CD-ROM and in the use of the POPLINE thesaurus. One thought that there needs to be a more frequent update of the POPLINE database on CD-ROM.

Fourteen respondents (31% of total) believe that it would be useful for their organization to be able to search other areas of interest besides family planning on the POPLINE CD-ROM technology. One organization appreciated the searches in the family planning field and stated that they don't have any other tools that can serve literature searching as broad and current as they found in POPLINE CD-ROM. Another added that it would help them if POPLINE widened the scope of the data base to include "population" topics. CD ROM POPLINE was called very easy to use and improving with each update. They also found the delivery service timely.

91

Ten (22% of total) organizations thought that the service from the CD-ROM POPLINE adequately served their needs.

Other respondents totaled five (5%). Many did not comment. One group explained that it would be more useful if their organization "could have the document delivery services for full articles". Another group stated that the nature of their work does not require its (CD-ROM) use on even an infrequent basis.

7. Do you or other individuals in your organization think that the support you receive from Johns Hopkins University to use CD-ROM technology is adequate and timely? Please explain.

No Response = 6

Detailed Response = 31

Yes = 8

Eight organizations answered the question with only a Yes response and six did not reply. Thirty one gave longer answers (twenty six of which were positive/affirmative) to the question and some of their detailed responses are included below:

Such technology is adequate, timely, efficient and very useful for library users who are in the field of population and related fields, the demographers and other researchers. It has been widely used at present.

It is adequate and timely in relation to the information in the Compact Disc, however the mechanism of the mail system has some delay in the reception of the updated Compact Disc and in the sending of the past Compact Disc.

It is adequate unfortunately it is not always timely. Explanation: Until now we have not received yet the April 1991 CD-ROM.

One Medical Library thought that PIP provides adequate and timely service but, at this juncture, the use of POPLINE may not be too popular compared with CD ROM Medline but users at Faculty of Medicine and University Hospital are only now exposed to CD ROM use. They may not realize they have a need for such a database and even if they do, they are reluctant to use new technology. While the library staff who are aware of the value of POPLINE, it is still little-known to the doctors, lecturers, researchers and other health personnel using the medical library. The same people are also not very research-oriented, were involved with day-to-day clinical work - being overworked and understaffed as we are at the Faculty and University Hospital. The library intends to embark on a user education program for Masters students but this is long-term. Please do not expect a high volume use for the next one year at least. The fact that it is available whenever those who undertake public health research need it is itself an advantage.

The support is timely but inadequate in terms of technology. We would like to acquire an IBM Compatible PC for use of the CD-ROM in our Library. Without this, effective use of the program cannot be attained.

No, especially regarding hardware problems, it has been difficult to get the support.

We highly appreciate the support we received from the JHU for our organization to be able to use the CD-ROM technology. We are also very keen on sharing this technology with other groups and individuals with information needs. However, our computer facility is not adequate and data retrieval is slow because we are still using a PC/XT (a PC/AT is needed to run the system more efficiently).

It is adequate and timely. However our only problem is that we have only two computers which are woefully inadequate for teaching purposes.

The installation of the POPLINE CD-ROM in our organization early this year was adequate and timely as we have more users in the Africa Region requesting for up to date population and family planning information from our information service. The CD-ROM technology makes this possible.

The people and institutions trained on POPLINE thought it was wonderful.

Appendix I

Collection Development for POPLINE: Selection Criteria

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Collection Development for POPLINE: Selection Criteria

Types of Coverage

- Comprehensive Coverage means that we actively seek out all printed materials included in the category.
- Selective Coverage means that we accept printed materials from a variety of sources such as staff, publication exchanges, or in-house journal subscriptions, but we do not actively seek out all publications on the topics included in the category.

Formats Selected

All formats in printed media in all languages are selected for each area of coverage including:

- annual reports¹
- bills
- conference papers
- conference proceedings
- contractor submissions
- court decisions
- journal articles
- laws
- monograph chapters
- monographs
- newspaper articles²
- pamphlets³
- patents
- press releases
- procedure manuals
- technical reports
- theses and dissertations
- training manuals
- wall charts
- working papers

¹ Annual reports will be selected when they contain substantive programmatic information that is within POPLINE scope.

² Newspaper articles of a substantive, analytical nature will be selected.

³ Pamphlets will be selected when they contain substantive information within POPLINE scope and their intended audience is the same as POPLINE's (researchers, policy makers, health care workers, university faculty). Pamphlets intended for potential users of family planning or health services are not included.

Areas of Coverage

POPLINE (POPulation Information OnLINE) provides citations and abstracts of the worldwide literature on population and family planning including:

Family Planning Technology

(Medical and behavioral methods used in the regulation of fertility)

- Coverage: Comprehensive, International
- Specific subjects included: contraceptive usage studies; contraception methods; contraception research using human subjects; natural family planning (periodic abstinence); induced abortion; male and female sterilization; postcoital methods (morning after pills); use of contraceptives for therapeutic purposes other than contraception.
- Specific subjects not included: estrogen therapy for postmenopausal women; medroxyprogesterone acetate treatments for male sex offenders; animal studies (unless they represent innovative, groundbreaking research).

Family Planning Programs

(Organization, administration, delivery and evaluation of family planning services to women and men of reproductive age including clinical, community-based distribution, social marketing, and other non-clinical or commercial programs.)

- Coverage: Comprehensive, International

- **Specific subjects included:** family planning program administration and evaluation; contraceptive distribution; analysis of acceptor and nonacceptor characteristics; integrated programs (programs that combine family planning with other services); family planning education programs.

Fertility

(The demographic measurement of births in a population; includes the effect of socioeconomic variables on reproductive performance status and change)

- **Coverage:** Comprehensive, International
- **Specific subjects included:** fertility surveys; methodological studies on fertility measurement and analysis; fertility indices such as marriage age, marriage patterns, age at first birth, and birth intervals; family size; adolescent pregnancy; fertility determinants such as women's participation in the labor force, women's educational attainment, women's status, and contraceptive usage.
- **Specific subjects not included:** clinical treatment of infertile men and women; research and development on new reproductive technologies such as "test tube babies."

Population Law and Policy

(Stated positions or actions taken by governments and other public bodies toward reproduction, contraceptive products, migration and family size)

- **Coverage:** Comprehensive, International
- **Specific subjects included:** population policy; antinatalist policy; one-child policy; product approval and licensing of contraceptives and abortifacients; lobbying activities of anti-abortion and prochoice groups; pronatalist policies; migration policy; family planning policy; settlement and resettlement policy; U.S. Supreme Court decisions on induced abortion.
- **Specific subject not included:** marriage laws; court decisions on new reproductive technologies (such as in vitro fertilization); lower court decisions on induced abortion.

Demography

(Population dynamics including determinants of infant and maternal mortality, and trends in migration)

- **Coverage:** Selective, Developing country only
- **Specific subjects included:** demographic surveys; methodological studies on the measurement and analysis of infant, child and maternal mortality, and other maternal and child health (MCH) consequences of populations movements; interdisciplinary studies, especially at the micro level, on the determinants of infant and maternal mortality (such as community or household level studies on preferential care and feeding of male children); population-based studies of the determinants of infant and maternal mortality. [Exception: All demographic subjects on developed and developing countries issued in unpublished form, such as papers presented at the Population Association of America Annual Meeting will be included.]
- **Specific subjects not included:** adult and infant mortality in developed countries; morbidity studies, unless they are on maternal-child health conditions; adult male mortality in developing countries; theoretical models of migration flows, patterns of remittances, and journey-to-work analysis; studies of aging or aged populations.

AIDS and Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases

(Any disease which is transmitted primarily or exclusively through intimate sexual contact)

- **Coverage:** Comprehensive, Developing country only
- **Specific subjects included:** the prevention, control, transmission, diagnosis, and treatment of STDs, HIV infections, AIDS, and AIDS-related complex in developing countries.
- **Specific subjects not included;** studies and reports on changes in sex behavior of persons in developing countries; studies on AIDS which focus exclusively on developed countries.

Maternal and Child Health

(Programs to promote breast-feeding, oral rehydration therapy, immunization, safe motherhood, and other practices designed to ensure child survival)

- Coverage: Comprehensive, Developing country only
- Specific subjects included: programmatic aspects of maternal and child health.
- Specific subjects not included: treatment or control of specific diseases or pregnancy complications described in formats such as case reports, instructions to physicians, medical textbooks; descriptions or recommendations of specific oral rehydration solutions or other pharmaceuticals; analysis of the nutritive quality of human milk; maternal-child health subjects exclusively on developed countries; etiology of diarrhea.

Primary Health Care Communication

(Organized campaign, designed to instruct, disseminate information, or influence knowledge, attitudes, and practices of a population with regard to family planning, AIDS, and maternal-child health)

- Coverage: Selective, Developing country only
- Specific subjects included: design of information, education and communication (IEC) strategies and messages, training materials, and curricula; evaluation studies of family planning, AIDS and MCH communication programs; focus group research, audience research and social marketing of family planning and MCH services.
- Specific subjects not included: health education communication in developed countries; general studies or textbooks on communication; family planning, AIDS, and MCH communication programs in developed countries; descriptions of telecommunications facilities, equipment, or personnel analysis of mass media in developing countries; public health campaigns other than AIDS, family planning, or MCH (such as anti-smoking campaigns); general discussions on journalism in developing countries.

Population and Environment

(Effects of overpopulation on ecology and natural resources)

- Coverage: Selective, Developing country only
- Specific subjects included: policy analysis of population-environment issues; examples of population pressure, natural resource depletion, and carrying capacity; studies on how food supply, water supply, and pollution affect population.

Appendix J
Recommendations

Appendix J

Recommendations

1. The PIP program should be continued and strengthened during the 1990s to further bolster the worldwide population and family planning effort.
2. PIP should devise a list of generic categories covering the job titles, employment categories, or organizations that should receive the publication.
3. PIP should consider hiring part-time "local agents" (university lecturer, returned graduate student, private sector or government consultant, private family planning organization, etc.) in key countries, to maintain solid mailing lists for its publications. In addition, these agents could scout for materials that belong in the POPLINE database and assist with gathering information for *Population Reports* or identifying articles that might be submitted to *International Family Planning Perspectives*. As the software for POPLINE/CD-ROM becomes simpler, they could also conduct training sessions, or offer one-on-one training. USAID support may be possible in some instances.
4. A careful study should be made to determine the languages in which *Population Reports* and *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be published. Availability in a greater number of languages is required to meet the growing needs of A.I.D.-supported population programs and to capitalize on A.I.D.'s investment in these publications. In addition to Spanish, French, and Portuguese, full or partial translations for BIG¹ countries such as India, Indonesia, Egypt, and Turkey could be useful.
5. The distribution of *Population Reports* should be greatly increased and better targeted toward those who can best use the journal in support of family planning programs and A.I.D.'s BIG Country Strategy.
6. Through *Population Reports*, and in other ways, A.I.D. should consider how best to collect and disseminate the population "success stories" — the current, ongoing, in-country activities of priority interest to others facing similar challenges and problems.
7. *Population Reports* should devote a "sidebar" in each issue suggesting how the content might be adapted for local use. For example, the publication could be used in the development of training materials, newsletters, and advertising campaigns.
8. PIP should do more to encourage wider use of the materials provided in *Population Reports*. Posters and other "spinoffs" from the journal are welcomed, and PIP should encourage even more adaptation for local use.
9. Inserts advertising other PIP products should be included in each issue of *Population Reports*.
10. The Alan Guttmacher Institute should develop closer ties with developing country institutions, policies, and issues through periodic readership surveys and by increased tapping of expertise of A.I.D. CAs (through telephone contacts, meetings, trip reports, etc.).
11. The distribution of *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be greatly increased and better targeted toward those who can best use the journal in support of family planning programs and A.I.D.'s BIG Country Strategy.

¹The BIG Country Strategy (BIG) is designed to concentrate a major portion of A.I.D.'s technical and financial resources in the world's most demographically significant countries. Initially, 17 countries worldwide have been selected for emphasis under this strategy.

12. *International Family Planning Perspectives* should be produced in Spanish, French, and Arabic language editions at least once each year, funds permitting. More frequent foreign language versions should also be considered.
13. Each copy of *International Family Planning Perspectives* should announce clearly its availability, free of charge, on request to persons in developing countries.
14. PIP should make a concerted effort to see that references useful in the implementation and management of family planning programs are well covered in future updates of the database.
15. More vigorous steps should be taken to increase the representation of materials from developing countries in POPLINE.
16. Formal exchange agreements should be established with each POPLINE CD-ROM site committing it to send PIP one copy of all publications which it or any of its staff members produce. Sites should also be encouraged to send other documents that are readily available in country which would enhance the database.
17. PIP should develop a packet on how to submit documents to POPLINE to be distributed to all new and current POPLINE CD-ROM sites and to other potential sources of locally produced publications. This packet should include descriptions of the types of documents appropriate for input to POPLINE and should include mailing labels addressed to PIP for the easy mailing of documents. Users should be informed that this is a database to help them in their work, and that their input is invaluable.
18. All CD-ROM sites should be encouraged to promote broad public access to and use of the POPLINE database. The selection of sites should require a more formal commitment on the part of the host institution to promote its accessibility to persons in other governmental agencies, health and family service institutions, and educational and training centers.
19. CD-ROM sites should be encouraged to form user groups to provide training in information use and management.
20. The new CD-ROM software should be accompanied by a well-designed training manual, giving examples of POPLINE searches utilizing CD-ROM. It must be made available at all sites.
21. PIP should follow closely as CD-ROM technology, including the use of multi-media techniques, becomes more widely available and faster linkages with other agencies become possible.
22. PIP should look for ways to cooperate with others in the placing and servicing of equipment, training, and the provision of database discs. PIP should continue to work with CAs to increase the availability of CD-ROM readers.
23. Future work in informed choice should stress continued collaboration between CAs, donors, and local family planning organizations to maximize the positive results of lessons learned in the field.
24. Additional funds are required to maintain current activities and fulfill PIP's scope of work. Two options are available to the Office of Population: a) provide the project the necessary funds to complete approved activities for the current fiscal year; or b) put the new contract out for bid before funding runs out, estimated at April or May 1992.
25. The A.I.D. Office of Population should take steps to develop a comprehensive strategy for the use of information to support its strategic thrusts over the next decade.