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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

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SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT
1 June 1974 - 1 December 1974

Rand prepares Administrative Reports to convey information to its clients on the status of work being done for them. They are not publications intended for distribution to other organizations.

Prepared for: Agency for International Development

Contract No.: AID/pha-C-1057

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SEMIANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON:
"SURVEY OF ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC FAMILY BEHAVIOR IN MALAYSIA"
(Contract AID/pha-C-1057; RCN 6166)

1 June 1974 - 1 December 1974

Principal Investigators: William P. Butz and Julie DaVanzo

In the first six months of research under contract no. AID/pha-C-1057 the survey questionnaires were field tested, revised, retested, and finalized; the sample selection procedure was detailed; and specific aspects of survey operation--training, organization of field teams, checking, editing, coding, and computer processing--were planned. On October 25 the Project Advisory Committee met in Kuala Lumpur to review our progress in these areas and make suggestions. Rand's principal investigators were in Malaysia for five months during this period to collaborate in these activities.

FIELD TESTING

The questionnaires were subjected to a number of field tests in many different socioeconomic settings. The first tests were performed in the office of the Department of Statistics and in both urban and rural parts of Kuala Lumpur. In late August a team of three Department of Statistics professionals and the two Rand principal investigators went to the East Coast of Malaysia (Trengganu) to test the questionnaires in a rural Malay fishing village. Subsequent tests took place in a west coast padi area among urban Chinese and Indian families and in several rural Chinese families. Various tests were conducted in Malay, Mandarin, Cantonese, Tamil, and English.

All parts of the questionnaires have been thoroughly field tested. The survey instruments are now being typed and translated. Detailed interviewer and coding instructions have been prepared for each of the questionnaires.

SAMPLE

At the request of Ramish Chander, who felt a national probability

sample would be useful for his Department, we explored several alternative sampling schemes. As a result, we are planning to draw a national random sample of 45 sampling units (Census enumeration blocks) and to choose at random 20 households in each. In addition to this national probability sample of 900 households, we plan to add another 300 households drawn purposively from the 45 sampling areas so that the resulting sample of 1200 households meets the criteria detailed in the Rand proposal and Rand-AID contract.

PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Project Advisory Committee met on October 25 at the Department of Statistics, Kuala Lumpur. Attending were: William P. Butz (Rand); Ramish Chander, Dorothy Fernandez, and Vasantha Kandiah (Department of Statistics); Warren Robinson (Population Council, Bangkok); James Fawcett (Population Council, Singapore); Jay Palmore (East-West Population Institute); James Anderson (Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur); and N. T. Matthew (U.N. Advisor to the Department of Statistics). Dr. Lee-Jay Cho (East-West Population Institute) was unable to attend, but he has discussed the project with Julie DaVanzo in Honolulu and has since visited the Department of Statistics and met with Dorothy Fernandez and Vasantha Kandiah. He will be sending his comments on the project to Rand and the Department of Statistics within a month. Minutes of the meeting are being prepared in Kuala Lumpur and will be sent to AID upon their approval by Committee members. The Committee meeting was extremely productive and most of their suggestions have already been incorporated in the survey instruments and plans.

FUTURE PLANS

The time schedule for the next six months follows:

Month of November, 1974: Questionnaires are typed, translated, retranslated, and mailed to Rand for review by Rand researchers.

December 15-20: Dorothy Fernandez comes to Rand to discuss and finalize questionnaires, supervisor and enumerator training procedures, and survey operation plans with Rand researchers. Upon her return to

Malaysia, revisions are incorporated and questionnaires are finalized and printed.

mid-January, 1975: Field supervisors are hired.

Remainder of January: Supervisors are trained.

Early February: Remainder of field staff is hired.

Remainder of February: Entire field staff is trained.

mid-February - mid-March: Rand researcher goes to Kuala Lumpur for a month to help with training of field staff and beginning of field operations.

March 3: First round of surveying begins. Completed questionnaires are sent to the office in Kuala Lumpur for final checking and to ICL for punching and editing. A tape is sent to Rand. As the data are received at Rand, they are processed and the hypotheses guiding the research are tested.

(November 25: First round of surveying ends.)