

Conference Report

XXVIII International Population Conference Cape Town, South Africa

29 October – 3 November 2017

International Union for the Scientific Study of Population

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Introduction

The XXVIII International Population Conference was held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 29 October to 3 November 2017 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC). Approximately 1,900 population scientists, students and policy makers from over 100 countries attended the conference to present and share their research and discuss population issues in formal and informal events planned during the Conference. This was the first time the Conference was hosted by a country in Sub-Saharan Africa. The IUSSP is very grateful to the South African National Organizing Committee (NOC) for their extraordinary hospitality and the efforts they made to organize this Conference. This report provides an overview of the conference organization, scientific programme, participants and financial support. A summary of the main figures for the Conference is available in Annex 1. All conference abstracts and/or papers are available on the Scientific Programme website: https://iussp.confex.com/iussp/ipc2017/meetingapp.cgi/ModuleSessionsByDay/0.

1. Organization

Conference governance

The International Organizing Committee (IOC), chaired by Pali Lehohla, Statistician General of South Africa, was composed of the IUSSP Council, three NOC representatives, three ex-officio United Nations representatives, and the IUSSP Executive Director (a complete list of IOC and NOC members can be found in Annex 2). The IUSSP was responsible for the scientific programme and the NOC took responsibility for managing the local logistics including renting the Conference venue (CTICC), arranging for hotel and local transport, organizing the social programme, and providing letters of support to delegates requiring a visa. The NOC also organized a set of scientific sessions focusing on population issues in Africa.

The IOC approved a call for papers based on topics suggested by IUSSP members and partners. The IUSSP Secretariat was responsible for producing and disseminating the Call for Papers, handling submissions to the Scientific Programme and managing the review of abstracts and selection of speakers by a team of 234 reviewers, organizers, and conveners (see Annex 3 for a complete list) using software provided by the Conference Exchange (Confex). IUSSP also managed delegate registration and applications for travel support, and assured communication and coordination among organizers of the Scientific Programme, authors and participants.

2. Call for Papers

The Call for Papers for the 28th International Population Conference received over 4,572 paper submissions to 127 sessions listed in the 19 themes included in the Call for Papers, setting a new record. After controlling for the limit of 3 proposals per author, 4,444 papers were included for review. For the first time, the programme committee sought to ensure that each abstract received two reviews before the organizers and conveners selected papers to appear on the scientific programme. In the end over 84% of papers received scores from at least two reviewers before organizers and conveners selected papers to include in oral and poster sessions. The allocation of sessions to themes (see Table 1) took into account both the number and quality (based on the average reviewer scores) of submissions to each theme. The Conference survey indicated a marked improvement in the overall scientific quality of the Cape Town Conference in comparison to previous conferences – though it is difficult to determine if a more rigorous review of abstracts contributed to this impression.

3. Scientific Programme

The final Scientific Programme included 1,704 scientific communications and covered a wide range of fields grouped under 19 main themes. A total of 718 papers were presented in 215 regular sessions and invited sessions (Laureate, regional population associations), and 806 posters, were presented in the 62 poster sessions. A total of 2,921 population scientists are listed on the Scientific Programme as authors and co-authors of papers and posters, session chairs and discussants. Regular sessions also included 8 Africa Day and 11 Research Leader sessions, and 5 invited sessions. In addition, six plenary sessions were held, each one on a specific theme.

Table 1. List of themes on Scientific Programme

Theme	Submissions	% of submissions	Number of sessions in programme
1) Ageing and Intergenerational Relations	310	7%	19
2) Biodemography	45	1%	5
3) Children and Youth	271	6%	17
4) Culture, Religion, Language and Demographic Behaviours	92	2%	4
5) Demographic Methods and Data	267	6%	31
6) Education and Labour Force	262	6%	15
7) Fertility	367	8%	24
8) Gender and Population	253	6%	18
9) Health, Mortality and Longevity	638	14%	34
10) Historical Demography	53	1%	9
11) HIV/AIDS and STIs	135	3%	13
12) Marriage and Union Formation, Families and Households	299	7%	22
13) Migration and Urbanisation	445	10%	30
14) Population and Development	229	5%	13
15) Population and Human Rights	59	1%	5
16) Population, Consumption and the Environment	112	3%	11
17) Sexuality and Reproductive Health	443	10%	24
18) Spatial Demography	69	2%	4
19) Population and Policy Challenges in Africa	95	2%	14

Regular sessions

Regular sessions lasted 90 minutes and were held simultaneously in 12 rooms, Monday to Friday from 8:30 to 17:00 (four session slots per day). Each session was moderated by a chair and usually included the presentation of 3 or 4 papers, followed by an open discussion, introduced or not by a discussant. Authors were allotted 15 minutes to present papers and 25 minutes was reserved for questions and discussion with the audience.

To reduce the number of no-shows in regular sessions, paper authors were requested to register by 15 June. After that date, if the presenting author was not registered, accepted papers were removed from the programme and replaced by other papers chosen from a list of potential replacement papers or in some cases sessions were merged with a session on a closely related topic.

Posters

Poster sessions were scheduled in 62 thematic sessions from Monday to Friday. Given the generally high percentage of no shows for posters at past conferences, the number of papers accepted in the poster sessions was increased to 1,718 posters (all selected papers had to receive a minimum score of 3) for 1,000 poster slots. Poster authors had to confirm their participation by registering online before 15 June before a poster was schedule and placed on the programme. A total of 806 poster authors presented their paper in a poster session (a doubling of the number of posters from Busan). Posters were on display from 9:30 to 17:00 each day; noon to 13:30 was set aside for authors to be present to discuss their work with participants and respond to any questions. The Poster area was centrally located in the exhibit hall near the lunch and coffee break service areas ensuring high delegate traffic and visibility. Each day, one poster was selected as best poster by a committee made up of IUSSP Council members and IUSSP members selected from among the Conference delegates (see section 4.4).

Sponsored Research Leader Sessions

For the first time, the IUSSP offered research centres and institutions working on population issues the opportunity to organize sessions on a research topic of special importance to them. The funds raised from these sessions were used to provide travel support to developing country participants. Eleven Sponsored Sessions were included in the programme:

- 1. *Abortion Incidence: Indirect and direct estimates*, organized by the Guttmacher Institute. Monday 30 October, 10:30-12:00, Meeting Room 1.63-1.64
- 2. Measurement and Family Planning 2020: the role of data in moving from a global goal to country action, organized by Family Planning 2020. Monday 30 October, 10:30-12:00, Auditorium 2
- 3. Our next world rethinking demography, organized by the World Demographic & Ageing (WDA) Forum in collaboration with the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA). Monday 30 October, 13:30-15:10, Auditorium 2.
- 4. Migration into the European Union: consequences of alternative migration scenarios on future population composition organized by the European Commission-Joint Research Center (EC-JRC) / International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) Centre of Expertise on Population and Migration (CEPAM). Monday 30 October, 15:30-17:00, Auditorium 2.
- 5. Family planning, education, depopulation, and the environment, organized by the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) and Shanghai University. Tuesday 31 October, 13:30-15:00, Ballroom West
- 6. *Is your research reproducible? Common challenges and promising steps*, organized by the Guttmacher Institute. Tuesday 31 October, 15:30-17:00, Roof Terrace Room
- 7. From research pilot to institutionalization of an approach Using medical/nursing students to provide new contraceptive methods at the community-level in Kinshasa organized by Tulane University. Wednesday 1 November, 8:30-10:00, Roof Terrace Room
- 8. *Innovations in the analysis of disability dynamics* organized by the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR. Wednesday 1 November, 13:30-15:00, Roof Terrace Room.
- 9. Democratizing data and research: how the GIRL Center's Open Data Repository fosters innovation and collaboration, organized by the Population Council. Wednesday 1 November, 15:30-17:00, Roof Terrace Room.
- 10. From Rio 1992 to Cop 21. What have we learned about population-environment interactions? organized by the French Institute for Population Studies (INED). Wednesday 1 November, 15:30-17:00, Ball Room West.
- 11. Population, poverty, and inequality in Africa: trends, data needs, and future research directions organized by the PopPov Research Network. Friday 3 November, 15:30-17:00, Auditorium 2.

Invited sessions

The programme also included 4 invited sessions: a training session; a session organized by the UN Population Division on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration; two sessions organized by the regional population associations and a session featuring five IUSSP Laureates, who were invited to share their reflections on the present and future of demography and population science.

- 1. Strengthening migration data and research in the context of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, organized by the IUSSP & the UN Population Division, DESA. Monday 30 October, 13:30-15:00, Ball Room East.
- 2. *IUSSP Laureates reflect on the present and future of demography and population science,* Wednesday 1 November, 10:30-12:00, Auditorium 2.
- 3. All you want to know about publishing in a peer-reviewed journal organized by the Guttmacher Institute. Thursday 2 November 15:30-17:00, Ball Room East.
- 4. Regional Population Association Panel (APA/UAPS): International Migration organized by APA & UAPS. Thursday 2 November, 15:30-17:00, Roof terrace room
- 5. Regional Population Association Panel (ALAP/EAPS): Population ageing: challenges and opportunities across the globe organized by ALAP & EAPS. Friday 3 November, 13:30-15:00, Auditorium 2.

Plenary sessions

Plenary sessions were scheduled at the end of each day from 17:15 to 18:45 Monday through Thursday:

- UNFPA Plenary Data for development: strengthening national capacity in population data
- IUSSP Plenary Debate: International migration in the 21st century: Should borders be more open?
- Africa Day Plenary: Demographic data challenges for reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa
- IUSSP Plenary Debate: Is very low fertility good or bad for the family, gender and society?

Training opportunities

Side meetings organized before, during and after the conference offered additional opportunities for conference delegates to participate in training activities. These included:

- 1. Training Course on Bayesian Population Projections: Theory and Practice (2 Days)
- Organization: IUSSP
- 2. Training workshop on Social Media, Big Data and Digital Demography
- Organization: IUSSP Scientific Panel on Big Data and Population Processes
- 3. Seminar on Geospatial Demography. Combining Satellite, Survey, Census and Cellphone Data to Provide Small-area Estimates
- Organization: IUSSP Demography & the Data Revolution working group
- 4. Extending the application of decomposition methods to the analysis of health, gender, and security dividends
- Organization: IUSSP Network on Strengthening Demographic Training in Francophone Africa (FraNet)
- 5. Modelling Population, the economy and the SDGs
- Organization: The Palladium Group

Africa Day sessions

Nine of the sessions in the programme were organized by the South African National Organizing Committee to address topics of particular relevance for African countries, beginning with an opening session on "African censuses in 2020: will they be the best ever?" and closing with the Africa Day plenary on "Demographic data challenges for reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa."

Simultaneous translation

Simultaneous translation was provided in French/English for all the plenary sessions and for eight of the twelve rooms where the regular sessions took place ensuring translation of papers whose authors indicated the paper would be presented in French as well as translation from English to French for francophone participants in the audience. The costs of providing simultaneous translation were split between IUSSP and the National Organizing Committee. IUSSP received generous support from the New Venture Fund, AIDELF, and individual donors to cover the costs of interpreters.

4. Other Conference Activities

Opening and closing ceremonies

The Conference opened on Sunday 29 October with Risenga Maluleke (Deputy Director-General for Statistical Collections and Outreach, Stats SA), serving as the Master of ceremony introducing live addresses by Anastasia Gage (IUSSP President), Pali Lehohla (Statistician-General of South Africa and President of the International Organizing Committee), Jeff Radebe (Minister in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation); and a video address by Natalia Kanem (UNFPA Executive Director). Tukufu Zuberi (Lasry Family Professor of Race Relations at the University of Pennsylvania) gave the keynote address entitled "The Population Principal of Race". The Malay choir of the Cape Town Young Men's Sporting Club provided an interlude of musical entertainment. The ceremony was followed by a Welcome Reception hosted by Statistics South Africa.

The Closing Ceremony, chaired by Anastasia Gage (outgoing IUSSP President) took place on Friday 3 November just after the last set of regular sessions. The ceremony included closing addresses by Risenga Maluleke (Statistician-General of South Africa, as he replaced newly retired Pali Lehohla during the Conference), Tom LeGrand (incoming IUSSP President address), and a presentation by the recipient of the 2017 IUSSP—Mattei Dogan Foundation Award for Comparative Research in Demography, Anne Gauthier (Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute — NIDI). It also included a thank-you speech on behalf of Junior Demographers by Doaa Hammoudeh (Birzeit University) and the Poster Awards Ceremony, chaired by IUSSP Council members Edith Pantelides and Oystein Kravdal. The Closing Ceremony ended with the announcement of the XXIX International Population Conference venue in 2021 with a slide presentation of Hyderabad, India, the city chosen to host the 2021 Conference.

Awards

2017 IUSSP Laureate: Anastasia Gage presented José Miguel Guzmán with the 27th IUSSP Laureate Award during a ceremony following the UNFPA Plenary session on 30 October 2017.

Mattei Dogan Foundation Award: the 2017 IUSSP–Mattei Dogan Foundation Award for Comparative Research in Demography was presented to Anne Gauthier (Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute – NIDI), who gave a talk during the closing ceremony on Comparative perspectives on the priceless child reviewing the principal research questions and puzzles driving her research.

Poster Awards: Five poster juries, coordinated by Edith Pantelides and Oystein Kravdal, selected each day the best poster of the day. The 5 distinguished posters were:

- Gender Differentials in Concurrent Relationships among Youth in Urban West Africa: Evidence from Ouagadougou, Anne Calvès, Université de Montréal.
- Maternity in adolescence and social inequality in Uruguay, María Lara, Alejandra
 López, Sabrina Rossi, Universidad de la Republica; Cecilia De Rosa, Facultad de Ciencias
 Sociales, UDELAR; María José Doyenart, Carmen Varela, Universidad de la República.

- Urban bias in Latin American life expectancy, Jenny Garcia, INED / Université Paris 1
 Panthéon-Sorbonne
- Is it men or women who pay for the kids? The gendered division in the contributions to childbearing and implications for fertility, Lili Vargha, Hungarian Demographic Research Institute; Gretchen Donehower, UC Berkeley; Tanja Istenic, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Economics
- Verification of the Reported Age of Centenarians in Thailand, Sutthida Chuanwan, Pramote Prasartkul, Patama Vapattanawong, Rossarin Gray, Charamporn Holumyong, Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University.

Social and cultural activities

The NOC and Statistics South Africa hosted a Welcome Reception after the Opening Ceremony on Sunday 29 October and organized a special gala dinner for all delegates on Thursday 2 November, which ended with a performance by the famous South African singer Yvonne Chaka Chaka and her band.

Side meetings and exhibit booths

Side meetings organized before, during and after the conference offered additional opportunities for conference delegates to participate in training activities and learn about research and other collaboration opportunities in the field. Twenty-two side meetings were organized during the Conference. A complete list can be found in Annex 3. The preliminary results of the conference survey indicated that 47% of respondents (N=743) attended at least one side meeting.

Conference participants could visit exhibit booths set up by 29 institutions, publishers, research institutes and other organizations working in the population field, from Monday 28 October to Friday 3 November. A list of exhibiters can be found in Annex 4. The Conference evaluation conducted after the Conference indicated that 89% of respondents visited the exhibit booths.

IUSSP activities

IUSSP General Assembly: The 28th General Assembly of the IUSSP was held during the International Population Conference in Cape Town in two meetings. A short meeting of the General Assembly was held on 30 October to nominate a committee to review modifications to the IUSSP Constitution. The main General Assembly took place on 1 November 2017. All IUSSP members were invited to participate and approximately 80 attended the meeting. France Meslé (Secretary General and Treasurer) reported on the Union's activities and financial situation. The General Assembly approved 5 candidates elected by the membership for the 2021 Nomination Committee: Alex Chika Ezeh (Nigeria), Brigida Garcia (Mexico), Terence Hull (Australia), Nico Keilman (Netherlands), Susheela Singh (United States), and Laurent Toulemon (France). Participants also approved IUSSP's affiliation to the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data. Finally, the General Assembly approved the Constitutional amendments by 78 votes in favour and 2 abstentions. A detailed report of the General Assembly is available online.

IUSSP booth: Participants could get information about IUSSP activities and publications, and update their membership dues at the IUSSP booth.

5. Participants

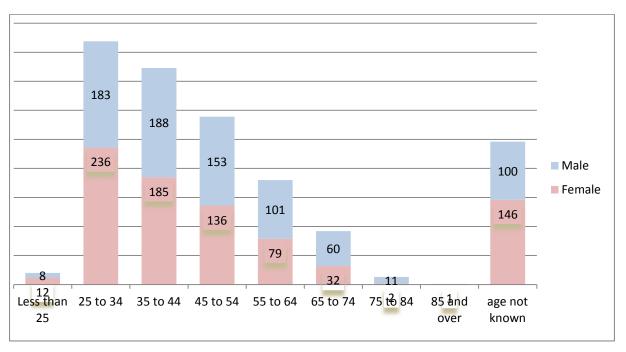
Distribution by gender and age

1923 conference badges were distributed on site. Based on the 1,633 participants who registered online for the conference (the only ones for whom we possess data on gender and date of birth, and who are often authors of papers and posters or have other roles in the scientific programme), the gender distribution was fairly balanced on the whole: 829 women and 804 men.

Table 2 Participant Distribution by Gender and Age

Age Group	Fem	nale	Мо	ale	To	tal
Less than 25	12	1%	8	0%	20	1%
25 to 34	236	14%	183	11%	419	26%
35 to 44	185	11%	188	12%	373	23%
45 to 54	136	8%	153	9%	289	18%
55 to 64	79	5%	101	6%	180	11%
65 to 74	32	2%	60	4%	92	6%
75 to 84	2	0%	11	1%	13	1%
85 and over	1	0%	0	0%	1	0%
No age provided	146	9%	100	6%	246	15%
Total	829		804		1633	100%

Figure 1. The proportion of women was higher for participants under 34, similar to that of men for the age-groups 35 to 54, and lower than men for age groups over 54.



Geographic provenance

Countries represented by more than 10 participants (by nationality)

32 Countries had more than 10 participants

United States (240)	Germany (43)	Zimbabwe (21)	Burkina Faso (14)
South Africa (176)	Nigeria (42)	Belgium (21)	Indonesia (14)
India (115)	Ghana (38)	Australia (19)	Argentina (14)
France (89)	Canada (38)	Uganda (18)	Bangladesh (12)
Brazil (62)	Sweden (28)	Japan (17)	Zambia (12)
China (60)	Mexico (26)	Cameroon (16)	Austria (12)
United Kingdom (58)	Netherlands (25)	Uruguay (16)	Switzerland (11)
Italy (54)	Spain (23)	Kenya (15)	Malawi (11)

Countries represented by more than 10 participants (by country of residence)

27 Countries had more than 10 participants

United States (284)	Germany (37)	Belgium (28)	Uruguay (15)
South Africa (241)	Ghana (36)	Mexico (26)	Japan (14)
India (100)	Italy (34)	Nigeria (25)	Argentina (13)
United Kingdom (99)	Australia (31)	Austria (23)	Burkina Faso (12)
France (89)	Sweden (31)	Netherlands (19)	Cameroon (12)
Brazil (66)	Canada (30)	Switzerland (17)	Bangladesh (11)
China (46)	Spain (30)	Kenya (17)	

IUSSP Membership

Table 3. Geographic provenance of participants for IUSSP Conference

	Conference participants		IUSSP Members *	
	Region of residence	Region of nationality	IUSSP Members at the Conference by region of residence	IUSSP Membership by region of residence
	n=1633	n=1633	n=901	n=1,872
Africa	27%	28%	16%	19%
Asia	15%	18%	18%	22%
Europe	28%	27%	30%	26%
Latin America	8%	9%	10%	9%
North America	19%	17%	22%	21%
Oceania	2%	2%	3%	3%

^{*}Does not include Student Members

Institutional distribution

The majority of participants were affiliated with research centres and universities (58%), students (17%), the rest work for national governments, international institutions or civil society institutions involved in public policy formulation and implementation (25%) (see Figure 3).

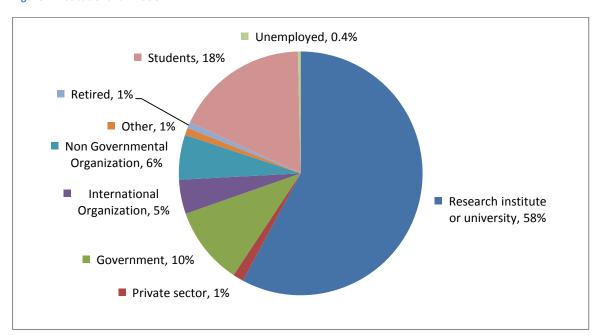


Figure 2 Institutional affiliation.

6. Financial Support

Thanks to funding from UNFPA, the South African government and a number of other generous sponsors listed in the Annex, 318 participants (approximately 19% of all registered participants) received full or partial support to attend the conference. IUSSP directly funded 208 participants, the South African National Organizing committee supported 70 participants, and an additional 40 participants were funded directly by other donors. The majority of participants, 81%, came without any funding from Conference organizers and the IUSSP is most grateful to those participants and their institutions.

The majority of funded participants (241) were selected from a pool of 743 IUSSP member applicants who applied via the IUSSP website for support to attend the Conference. Funding decisions for this pool took into consideration the applicant's role in the Conference and the income status of applicant's country of residence: funds were allocated in priority to applicants residing in low-income countries who are presenting author of a paper in an oral session. Only one author per paper was offered funding. Support included one or more of the following: registration fees, travel support (partial) for flight and/or hotel or up to 8 days room and board in a shared room in a hotel near the Conference venue. An additional 77 participants were directly funded by Statistics South Africa (38 participants) or by the IUSSP (39 participants) to attend pre-conference workshops organized for the Data Revolution and Francophone Africa Network meeting.

Almost half (47%) of the all funded participants were women. The proportion of funded participants for each region is indicated in Table 4. The regions with the largest proportion of funded participants were Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Table 4 Regional Distribution funded participants (by region of residence).

Region of residence	Funded Participants	Total Registered Participants	Proportion of funded participants by region
Africa	128	436	29%
Asia	113	253	45%
Europe	11	460	2%
Latin America	42	133	32%
North America	19	314	6%
Oceania	5	37	14%
Global	318	1633	19%

^{**}Funded participants residing in North America and Europe were either developing country nationals and/or students, or residents of middle-income Eastern European countries.

7. Conference Evaluation

After the Conference, the IUSSP solicited participants' opinion on various aspects of the Conference asking them to evaluate the quality of the Scientific Programme, logistics, accommodation facilities, translation, etc. Approximately 50% (n=812) of those contacted (n=1636) responded to the online survey. The Cape Town Conference evaluation report is posted on the Conference website at https://iussp.org/sites/default/files/2017 Conference Evaluation.pdf .

The results of this evaluation indicate that the 28th International Population Conference was a very positive experience for a large majority of respondents. The proportion of respondents who viewed the scientific quality of the Conference 'excellent' increased compared to previous conferences and the vast majority of respondents appreciated their stay in Cape Town. A total of 98% of the respondents would recommend to their colleagues that they attend the next IUSSP conference (79% definitely and 19% probably).

Conference assessments:

- Ratings for the scientific quality of the Conference as a whole and for specific items (papers, posters, etc.) were higher than in Busan (2013) and Marrakech (2009).
- Respondents also found the conference centre excellent as a whole. A more detailed assessment shows that certain features or services such as on-site registration, audio-visual service, and simultaneous translation were less well rated than in Busan (2013).
- The set-up for the poster sessions was praised by a large majority of respondents, although a few did not appreciate the mix of food and posters. Attention to posters appears to have been much stronger and could be further improved through better signage of the thematic clusters of posters.
- The free lunches provided in the Exhibition Hall were appreciated by most participants (whereas
 meals had been a source of complaints in Busan and Marrakech). These are crucial as they ensure
 that participants remain in the centre and, when located nearby the poster sessions, they help

increase attendance. They could be further improved with better signage regarding the type of food (e.g. vegetarian) and with a little more room and tables than in Cape Town.

- 88% of the respondents found the abstract submission process simple and clear, with only a minority of respondents who encountered problems using it.
- Similarly, 70% of respondents had no problems accessing the online programme and papers. This still leaves one in five respondents who did experience problems.
- Simultaneous translation was the least well rated service but, more importantly, it was used by only a small number of respondents calling into question it's utility given the small number of presentations that were made in French and the fact that almost all the respondents declared that they understand English correctly (87%) or approximately (12%).

Attendance:

- Nearly half the respondents attended all 6 days and, on average, they attended 3 of the 4 regular sessions per day.
- Nearly half the respondents attended at least one side meeting held by other organizations.

Planning for 2021:

- A large majority of respondents approved of the current format of the conference. If there are to be changes, the conference should not be made longer and the number of simultaneous sessions should not be extended.
- The possibility to have free lunches and coffee breaks provided in the same area as the poster sessions appears to have been one important element of success for the Cape Town conference. It can still be improved with increased space, better signage, and more tables and/or chairs.
- The only possible change supported by a large minority would be to start at 9 am (instead of 8:30).
- A majority would favour discussants for all regular sessions but discussants need to be brief and adhere to the guidelines for the discussant role.
- A majority supported plenary debates but a few respondents regretted the artificial dichotomy and would prefer a more scientific exchange of arguments.
- Research and networking were the main reasons mentioned to attend the conference; the IUSSP could offer more opportunities for younger scholars (career opportunities, training, mentoring...) and do more to promote networking opportunities in the conference centre and programme.
- Write-in comments highlighted some issues to be avoided for the next conference and a few things that could be done to improve the conference:
 - o More generally, speeches should be as brief as possible at the opening and closing ceremonies as well.
 - o Simultaneous translation into French should be dropped in non-Francophone countries.
 - On-site registration should be simple and straightforward for those who have pre-registered for the conference.
 - More seats and tables outside the session rooms should be offered for people to rest and work (or eat).
 - More support should be made available to authors of posters and to 'loyal', long-time members.
 - A dashboard would greatly improve the experience of paper submitters and others involved in the scientific organization of the conference.

Many participants indicated their desire to be part of the scientific team (organizers, reviewers, chairs, discussants), which should be diversified and rejuvenated.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Cape Town 2017 at a glance

- 1) Participants: 1,633 pre-registered participants from 100 countries and 116 nationalities.
 - a) Gender: 829 women (51%), 804 men (49%). (based on 1,633 participants registered online).
 - b) Age: 419 participants were below 35 (26%); 373 participants were between 35 45 (23%). (based on 1,633 participants registered online)
 - c) Affiliation: 58 % affiliated with research centres and universities, 18 % students, 21 % affiliated with national governments, international organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations.
 - d) IUSSP Members and student associates: 1,221 (75 % of participants) 901 members and 320 student associates.
- 2) Regional distribution of participants (by residence):

Africa 27%
Asia 15%
Europe 28%
Latin America 8%
North America 19%
Oceania 2%

3) Countries with 10 or more participants (by nationality):

United States (240)	Germany (43)	Zimbabwe (21)	Burkina Faso (14)
South Africa (176)	Nigeria (42)	Belgium (21)	Indonesia (14)
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France (89)	Canada (38)	Uganda (18)	Bangladesh (12)
Brazil (62)	Sweden (28)	Japan (17)	Zambia (12)
China (60)	Mexico (26)	Cameroon (16)	Austria (12)
United Kingdom (58)	Netherlands (25)	Uruguay (16)	Switzerland (11)
Italy (54)	Spain (23)	Kenya (15)	Malawi (11)

- 4) Financial Support provided to 318 participants mostly from Africa, Asia and Latin America.
 - a) The IUSSP funded 208 participants,
 - b) The NOC funded 70 participants, mostly from Africa.
 - c) Additional donors provided direct support to 40 participants.
- 5) Scientific Programme
 - a) 4,572 submissions to the Call for Papers
 - b) 1,600 total communications accepted on the Scientific Programme
 - c) 718 papers presented in the 220 regular sessions
 - d) 806 posters presented in the 62 Poster sessions
 - e) 8 Africa Day Sessions
 - f) 5 side meetings and 1 regular session dedicated to training
 - g) 6 plenary sessions
 - h) 25 side meetings organized by 21 institutions
 - i) 29 exhibit booths

Annex 2: Conference Governance

International Organising Committee (IOC)

IOC President: Pali Lehohla (Statistician General, Statistics South Africa)

IOC Vice President: Anastasia Gage (IUSSP President)

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Annex 4. List of Side Meetings

- Training Course on Bayesian Population Projections: Theory and Practice (2 Days)
 Organization: IUSSP
- 2. Youth Mixed Migration: Drivers and Implications. Organization: UNFPA
- 3. RC41 side meeting: Demographic and Health Issues in Developing Countries Organization: Federal University Oye-Ekit, Nigeria. Department of Demography & Social Statistics
- 4. Training workshop on Social Media, Big Data and Digital Demography. Organization: IUSSP Scientific Panel on Big Data and Population Processes
- 5. Seminar on: Geospatial Demography. Combining Satellite, Survey, Census and Cellphone Data to Provide Small-area Estimates. Organization: IUSSP Demography & the Data Revolution working group
- 6. Launching the "50 Questions" on the Dividend. Organization: IUSSP Network on Strengthening Demographic Training in Francophone Africa (FraNet)
- 7. Extending the application of decomposition methods to the analysis of health, gender, and security dividends. Organization: IUSSP Network on Strengthening Demographic Training in Francophone Africa (FraNet)
- 8. IPUMS International Demonstration. Organization: IPUMS
- 9. Modelling Population, the economy and the SDGs. Organization: The Palladium Group
- 10. Family Households/Population Projections and Sustainable Development. Organization: National School of development, Peking University, China
- 11. Scientific meeting on DEMOSTAF project. Organization: DEMOSTAF project funded by the Research European Agency and co-ordinated by Institut national d'etudes démographiques (INED)
- 12. Meet the Editors Reception. Organization: Routledge Journals
- 13. LSHTM Alumni Social Meeting. Organization: London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)
- 14. The Generations and Gender Programme: A Global Research Infrastructure for the Study of Life Course and Family Dynamics. Organization: The Generations and Gender Programme. Nethelands Interdiciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI)
- 15. African Research Network on Work and Family. Organization: University of Pretoria
- 16. UAPS Members Meeting. Organization: Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)
- 17. PERN Town Hall Meeting Population-Environment Research Network. Organization: PERN
- 18. South African City Population Projections What is the best methodology? Organization: SA Cities Network
- 19. Population Council 65th anniversary. Organization: Population Council
- 20. Migration and Urbanization in South Africa. Organization: Department of Social Development South Africa
- 21. Launch of the South African Population Research Infrastructure Network. Organization: SAPRIN
- 22. UAPS Council Meeting. Organization: Union for African Population Studies (UAPS)

Annex 5. List of Exhibitors

- 1. Asian Demographic Research Institute, Shanghai University
- 2. Cape Town Tourism
- 3. China Population and Development Research Center
- 4. CREG Regional Center for Research in Generational Economy, Dakar
- 5. Department of Social Development, South Africa
- 6. ESRC Centre for Population Change
- 7. GeoSpace International
- 8. GGP Generations and Gender Programme
- 9. Guttmacher Institute
- 10. Health Sytstems Trust
- 11. Human Sciences Research Council
- 12. INED French Institute for Demographic Studies
- 13. IPUMS-International
- 14. IUSSP International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
- 15. Population Association of Southern Africa
- 16. Population Council
- 17. Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs United Nations
- 18. Routledge, Taylor & Francis
- 19. School of Demography, The Australian National University
- 20. Springer-Verlag GmbH
- 21. Statistics South Africa
- 22. Stockholm University Demography Unit (SUDA)
- 23. The DHS Program
- 24. The Female Health Company
- 25. U.S. Census Bureau
- 26. UNFPA United Nations Population Fund
- 27. Union for African Population Studies
- 28. Wittgenstein Centre (IIASA, VID/ÖAW, WU)
- 29. World Bank

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