



International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
Union internationale pour l'étude scientifique de la population

IUSSP Bulletin • Issue 26, Dec 2014

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This is a printable PDF version of the electronic IUSSP Bulletin, with links to pages on the IUSSP website and other websites as well as to longer articles. A selection of these articles has been provided on pages 5 to 11.

To access the full electronic Bulletin please click here to [view in browser](#).

The IUSSP Officers and Secretariat wish you all a happy holiday season and New Year!

Demography and the Post-2015 Data Revolution

The IUSSP convened an Expert Meeting on Demography and the Post-2015 Data Revolution, in Paris, France 9-10 October 2014. The aim of the meeting was to determine how demographers, and demographic skills, could contribute to a data revolution.

[\(Read more and comment on the IUSSP Statement\)](#)



International Population Conference

Cape Town 2017: first IOC meeting

The first meeting of the International Organizing Committee (IOC) for the XXVII IUSSP Conference will take place in February in Cape Town, South Africa. This meeting will focus in particular on setting up the scientific programme and the Call for Papers for the 2017 Conference, which will be based in part on the 164 session suggestions submitted by IUSSP members.



Membership News

Donations to IUSSP

The IUSSP Council warmly thanks the many members who include additional donations in support of the Union's activities (see list). These donations help the IUSSP fulfil its mandate to further the scientific study of population and include researchers from all regions in its activities. Recent changes in French law now also make it possible for IUSSP to receive gifts from members and the public through a will or living trust. [\(Read more\)](#)

In memory

- [Larry Heligman](#)



IUSSP Seminars

Early-life determinants of late-life employment, ill health and early death

This seminar was organized in Lund, Sweden 20-21 October, by the IUSSP Scientific Panel on Pathways to Health. The seminar brought together 20 researchers to shed light on the life-course processes that influence labour market performance and older-age health.

[\(Read more\)](#)



IUSSP Training Workshops

Training workshop on the Demographic Dividend

This training workshop, held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso was the third organized by the IUSSP Network for Strengthening Demographic Training in Francophone Africa on the Demographic Dividend.

[\(Read more\)](#)



Calls for Papers

IUSSP Call for papers

- IUSSP Seminar on Spatial Analysis in Historical Demography: Micro and macro approaches, Quebec City, Canada, 17-18 September 2015. Deadline for submissions: 1 March 2015

Other calls

- Call for Dissertation Manuscripts: African Dissertation Series Vol 2 (African Population Studies). Deadline for submission: 30 December 2014
- NWO-WOTRO. First Call for the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Research Programme. Deadline to submit a Letter of Intent : 5 January 2015
- Turkish Migration Conference: "Economics, Identities and Geographies". 1st Call for Abstracts/Papers and Sessions. Deadline for submissions: 12 January 2015
- Regional Seminar on Gender Based Violence, Asunción, Paraguay, 17 June 2015. Abstracts and Papers in Spanish or Portuguese. Deadline for abstract submissions: 15 January 2015
- 8th International Conference on Population Geographies, Brisbane, Australia, 30 June-3 July 2015. Deadline for submission: 15 February 2015

- International Conference on Is inequality increasing again? What population science can tell us. Organized by iPOPS (Individuals, Population, Societies) project, Paris, France, 2-3 July 2015. Deadline for submissions: 27 February 2015
- PopFest 2015: The 23rd Annual Population Postgraduate Conference, Plymouth, United Kingdom, 6-8 July 2015. Deadline for submissions: 12 March 2015
- Workshop on Changing patterns of mortality and morbidity: age, time, cause- and cohort-perspectives, organized by the EAPS Health, Morbidity and Mortality Working Group, Prague, Czech Republic 16 - 18 September 2015. Deadline for submission: 31 March 2015

Call for briefs

- [Call for contributions](#) to the UN Global Sustainable Development Report 2015. Deadline for submissions is 20 January 2015

Call for entries

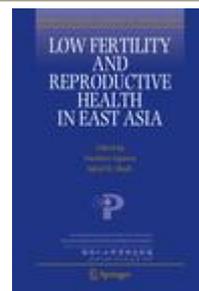
- A [data visualization competition](#) is being held in advance of the Cartagena Data Festival (20-22 April 2015) to showcase the best examples of infographics and data visualisations that enable us all to better understand progress amongst the poorest people. Deadline for submissions: 9 March 2015

Recent Publications

Books

(based on IUSSP seminars)

- *Low Fertility and Reproductive Health in East Asia*, International Studies in Population, Vol. 11, Naohiro Ogawa and Iqbal H. Shah, eds., Springer, 2014



Job Opportunities

Employment announcements

- Highly qualified Statistical Programmer, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany. Applications accepted on a rolling basis.

Research grants and post-docs

- PhD students or Post-Doctoral researchers (up to 2 positions) to work on a project analyzing the relationship between health behaviors and mortality in aging populations, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany. Applications accepted on a rolling basis.
 - PhD (up to 2), Post-Doctoral Fellow (up to 2), and a Research Scientist to study gender gaps in health and survival, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany. Applications accepted on a rolling basis.
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Calendar

Forthcoming IUSSP seminars & workshops

- Training Workshop on the Demographic Dividend and African emergence – Education, Economic Growth, and Health. Yaoundé, Cameroon, 12-21 January 2015
- Separation, divorce, repartnering and remarriage around the world. Montreal, Canada, 4-6 May 2015
- Spatial Analysis in Historical Demography: Micro and macro approaches, Quebec City, Canada, 17-18 September 2015

Other forthcoming conferences

- The ACSS Second Conference: Questioning Social Inequality and Difference in the Arab Region, Beirut, Lebanon, 13-15 March 2015
- 2015 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. San Diego, United States, 30 April-2 May 2015
- 2nd Annual International Conference on Demography and Population Studies. Athens, Greece, 15-18 June 2015
- Regional Seminar on Gender Based Violence, Asunción, Paraguay, 17 June 2015
- 8th International Conference on Population Geographies, Brisbane, Australia, 30 June-3 July 2015.
- Third Asian Population Association Conference. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 27-30 July 2015
- EAPS Health, Morbidity and Mortality Working Group Workshop. Prague, Czech Republic, 16-18 September 2015
- 7th African Population Conference. Johannesburg, South Africa, 30 November-4 December 2015

Submit your news and announcements

We need you to share news from your institution and region so that we can keep all IUSSP members informed about recent or forthcoming events and opportunities in the population field. IUSSP members are welcome to submit information on conferences, job openings, post-doctoral positions, and research grants for inclusion in the newsletter and IUSSP website. Please send the information and any photos to contact@iussp.org and remember to include important dates for application deadlines. Information should be sent by email or in a Word document so that it can be edited. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Demography and the Post-2015 Data Revolution

Paris, France, 9-10 October 2014

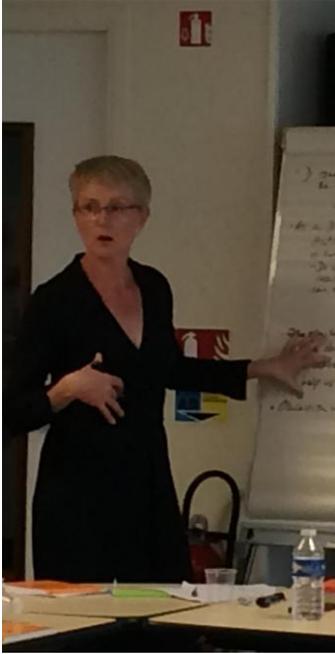
The IUSSP, in collaboration with the Population Association of America (PAA), with the assistance of the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and with the support of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, convened an [Expert Group Meeting on Demography and the Post-2015 Data Revolution](#), in Paris, France 9-10 October 2014. The meeting brought together 22 prominent population scientists to discuss how demographers, and demographic skills, could contribute to a data revolution.



The call for a data revolution emerged in 2013 from a United Nations High Level Panel established to provide advice on the global development agenda beyond 2015. The High Level Panel's report called for a new international initiative to improve the quality of statistics and information available to decision-makers, researchers and citizens, building upon rapid advances in data and software that have occurred in recent years. Given demographers' specific expertise in analysing population data, the IUSSP was called upon to mobilise the global community of demographers and population scientists to contribute to this revolution.

This initiative is important for the IUSSP membership because the United Nations is currently drawing up the successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The data revolution is part of this process. Many IUSSP members are probably aware of the impact the MDGs have had on research and data collection, particularly for developing countries whose statistical offices and researchers were challenged with the task of collecting and analysing data to measure progress on specific MDG indicators. The MDGs also focalized funding for development and research on specific priority issues such as maternal and child health and education. Given the likely impact the SDGs and data revolution will have for the work of many IUSSP members, it is important to engage early in the process to ensure population is included and indicators can be adequately measured, that there is support for collection and analysis of quality population data, and training to assure capacity to analyse and use this data.

The IUSSP expert group meeting was organized around plenary and brainstorming sessions designed to bring participants to a general consensus of what a data revolution might entail and how demographers could best contribute. Participants came to the meeting from diverse perspectives. Several participants were already involved in the process, while others had never heard of the “data revolution”. Some were critical about the top-down UN led process and its potential outcomes, and others were hopeful about its potential to develop new areas of research



drawing on new sources of data (i.e. Big Data), leading to better evidence-based policy. The meeting was facilitated by fellows from the Overseas Development Institute who led the discussion groups that focused on issues of data quality, data interoperability, and principles upon which a data revolution should be based, viewed from the demographic perspective.

One immediate outcome of the meeting is a [statement](#) and recommendations that emerged from the discussions, which were sent to the UN Secretary General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development in mid-October. This statement is posted on the IUSSP website and IUSSP members are invited to [contribute their views to the discussion](#).

The IUSSP will continue to pursue its efforts to draw greater attention to the expertise population scientists can bring to the data revolution through the upcoming activities:

- Several participants from the first meeting will attend the “Cartagena Data Festival: Better data for a better tomorrow” to be organized 20-22 April in Cartagena, Columbia. This conference will bring together a number of organizations and UN agencies that have been active in the Data Revolution discussions.
- The IUSSP will organize a session on “Demography, Demographers and the Data Revolution” at the Annual Meeting of the PAA (San Diego, 30 April-2 May), chaired by Sunita Kishor (DHS Program, ICF International).
- The IUSSP has engaged Stephane Helleringer (Columbia University), to review several population-related indicators proposed by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

→ [Contribute online to the discussion](#)

→ Click here for a [printer-friendly PDF version of the statement](#).

→ For more information on the data revolution, please read the [background document](#).



Donations

→ Make a donation to the IUSSP

The IUSSP Council warmly thanks the many members who include additional donations in support of the Union's activities. Please find the [list of members who donated in 2014](#) (up to 15 December).

Why are donations important?

Additional income through donations helps the IUSSP fulfil its mandate to further the scientific study of population. Income generated from membership dues and conference fees covers only a portion of IUSSP expenses. The remaining expenses are covered by grants from private foundations, governments and UN agencies which are usually earmarked for specific activities and may have other restrictions on when and how they can be used. In addition, the ongoing global economic crisis and government budgetary restrictions has resulted in a considerable decrease in funding from governments and UN agencies that used to be IUSSP's primary source of funding. Because the IUSSP seeks to establish dues levels that are at an affordable rate to members in a variety of settings, donations are an ideal way to allow those of you who can, to provide additional support.

Give through your will or living trust

Recent changes in French law now also make it possible for IUSSP to receive gifts from members and the public through a will or living trust. For more information on the ways you can give beyond a cash donation ([made directly via the IUSSP website](#)) please contact IUSSP Finance and Administrative Officer, [Fabienne Feuillade](#).

Larry Heligman (1946 - 2014)

In Memoriam:

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing in August 2014 of **Larry Heligman**. He worked for the United Nations Population Division for over 25 years and was serving as one of its two Assistant Directors at the time of his retirement in 2006. Over his long career, Larry made several significant contributions to the study of population.

While working for the International Statistical Programs Center of the US Census Bureau, Larry was part of the team that developed one of the first sets of computer programs for demographic analysis, programs that became widely used by population analysts all over the world.

Intrigued by the regularities in mortality patterns, Larry collaborated with John Pollard in devising a general model for the age pattern of mortality, which became known as the Heligman-Pollard model and is still in use today.



Upon joining the United Population Division in the late 1970s, one of Larry's first assignments was the production of life table models for developing countries. He was a key developer of the methodology used in producing the United Nations Model Life Tables for Developing Countries, and he worked diligently with colleagues in assembling, evaluating and adjusting the life tables used as the basis for the derivation of the final models. The resulting UN Model Life Tables are still used by the Population Division in producing the UN world population projections.

As an active member of a Committee on the Determinants of Mortality and Life Expectancy set up by the IUSSP in the late 1970s, Larry collaborated in the organization of a seminar on the collection and analysis of mortality data held in Dakar, Senegal, in 1981 and co-edited a volume on the proceedings of the seminar, entitled *Methodologies for the Collection and Analysis of Mortality Data*, which summarized the state of the art at the time and is still a useful reference on data collection and methodological issues.

Another of Larry's major contributions was the development of the mortality estimation package known as MORTPAK, which is still in demand. Always concerned with modeling mortality realistically, Larry pioneered the incorporation of models of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the preparation of the population estimates and projections produced by the Population Division.

Soon after Larry became Chief of the Population Estimates and Projections Section, the world witnessed the disintegration of the Soviet Union and the reunification of Germany. All of those changes had to be reflected in the estimates and projections produced by the Section, a challenging task carried out seamlessly under Larry's leadership.

The United Nations population projections produced under Larry's guidance were a key input for the preparation of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and served to establish the demographic goals included in the ICPD Programme of Action, which would later be reflected in the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

As Assistant Director of the Population Division, Larry supervised the substantive preparatory work for the annual sessions of the Commission on Population and Development, the main intergovernmental body of the United Nations dealing with population issues. Larry devoted his energies to drafting, reviewing and editing the documentation that the Commission used as the basis for its deliberation on topics that varied from the interrelations among population, the environment and development to the analysis of internal migration and urbanization.

Larry is remembered fondly by his former colleagues and the many demographers with whom he collaborated over the course of his professional life. He was a very capable technical demographer, a good communicator, a loyal friend, a mentor to many younger colleagues and a valued professional. When he retired, he decided to devote his time to his family and his congregation. His loss is deeply felt.

Hania Zlotnik, former Director of the UN Population Division and former Vice-President of the IUSSP

Jacques Vallin, Honorary President of the IUSSP

John Wilmoth, Director of the UN Population Division

IUSSP Seminar on Early-life Determinants of Late-life Employment, Ill Health and Early Death

Lund, Sweden, 20-21 October 2014

Organized by the **IUSSP Scientific Panel on Pathways to Health**

Chair: Mikko Myrskylä (London School of Economics and Political Science)

Membership: Tommy Bengtsson (Lund University), Alain Gagnon (Université de Montréal), Ke Shen (Fudan University, Shanghai), Gerard Van Den Berg (University of Mannheim), Ken Smith (University of Utah).

This seminar was organized by the IUSSP Scientific Panel on Pathways to Health, in collaboration with the Centre for Economic Demography, School of Economics and Management, Lund University, and held in Lund, Sweden, 20-21 October 2014.



This seminar brought together 20 researchers working at the

intersection of labour market participation, retirement, and health to shed light on the life-course processes that influence labour market performance and older-age health. Ten papers were presented. Priority had been given to contributions based on prospective data suitable for analysing unhealthy ageing in a full life-course perspective.

Late-life employment, ill health and early death are determined not only by recent lifestyles and work place conditions, but also by factors earlier in life; possibly dating back to the fetal stage or even to events affecting the parental and grandparental generation. Examples of adverse conditions during sensitive periods early in life that hamper cognitive development, labour market performance and health in later life include maternal health during pregnancy, diet, and disease environment, such as incidence of infections and epidemics in early childhood. Examples of risks that accumulate over the life-course include exposure to pollution, smoking and other unhealthy lifestyles. The pathways from adverse conditions in early childhood to poverty and ill health in working life are either direct, through permanent but latent damage that manifests itself later in life, or indirect, via school achievement or income development, life styles, reproductive behaviour, etc. Some can be mitigated, for example by means of policy interventions, while others cannot. Consequently when analysing health conditions and labour market performance in ages 50 and above, focus should not only be on contemporary conditions and lifestyles, but also on conditions over the life course, beginning in early childhood.

Several contrasting issues were discussed throughout the seminar and during the final summarizing session. These include exposure to harmful conditions in utero and/or in first year(s) of life, exposure to disease and/or malnutrition, scarring versus selection, and direct versus indirect effects of harmful conditions in early life. In addition the importance of estimating the magnitude of impact, and not only the relative importance of early-life factors on later life outcomes was emphasized. So was the importance of use of prospective data sets that cover the entire life course, from before birth to old age. Since these data sets typically cover small populations, the importance of collaborative projects was emphasized.

See also: [Report, programme and participants](#)

Training Workshop on the Demographic Dividend

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 15-24 September 2014

Organized by the **IUSSP Network for Strengthening Demographic Training in Francophone Africa**

The Network's Steering Committee: Parfait Eloundou Enyegue (*Chair*), Gervais Beninguise, Philippe Bocquier Valérie Delaunay, Jean François Kobiané, Richard Marcoux.

This training workshop was organized at the Institut Supérieur des Sciences de la Population (ISSP), Université de Ouagadougou, by the IUSSP Network for Strengthening Demographic Training in Francophone Africa (FraNet) in collaboration with the ISSP and the Cellule d'Appui à la Recherche et l'Enseignement des Institutions Francophones d'Afrique (CARE-IFA) based at IFORD (Cameroon).



This was the third training workshop organized by FraNet on the demographic dividend; the first was held in Ouagadougou in November 2013, and allowed participants to validate the methodology and produce the first results and analyses; the second was held in Yaoundé in April 2014 and included a presentation of the results to representatives of the media, civil society and policy makers. Whereas the first two workshops focused on dividends in the realm of education, the third workshop dealt with economic growth as well. The workshop brought together forty participants from a dozen countries in Africa: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Congo DR, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Senegal.

The workshop had three main objectives:

1. Take stock of current knowledge on the prospects and conditions for a demographic dividend in Africa and its potential role in the emergence of African countries. It was an opportunity to review empirical results of recent studies on this issue as well as new conceptual developments.
2. Introduce participants to several methods to analyse the dividend. After reviewing the main methods used up to now (NTA, simulations, projections, causal analysis, decomposition) and their specific strengths and weaknesses, the workshop focused on decomposition methods and their application to the study of the dividend most particularly in the realm of education and economic growth.



3. Produce a collaborative report assessing the current extent of the dividend in various African countries. This report will outline, for each African country, the demographic trends, their implications for the country's window of demographic opportunity, the country's advance in the process of reaping a dividend. The final analyses are designed to estimate the magnitude of the dividend accrued so far, as well as future prospects and the potential contribution the demographic dividend to the economic emergence of these countries.

The evaluation conducted after the workshop shows that participants particularly appreciated the quality of the trainers and the 10-day length of the workshop, which allowed time to deepen their understanding of the methods.



As part of the workshop, the organizers held, on 20 September, a formal meeting with presentations to members of the Parliament belonging to the Burkina Faso Network on Population and Development, in which a dozen Burkinabe MPs took part.

Three presentations were made:

- Presentation of research conducted by CARE-IFA (Dr Crispin Mabika)
- General introduction to the demographic dividend (Prof. Parfait Eloundou)
- The experience of Burkina Faso (Prof. Jean-François Kobiané)

Using available statistical data, these presentations stressed the need for policy makers to play an active role in order for Burkina Faso – and African countries more generally – to benefit from the demographic dividend. Recommendations based on the case of Burkina Faso indicated that policies focusing on education, especially for girls, could help family planning; those focused on employment could help reduce economic dependency ratios and support economic growth.

See also:

- [Seminar report, programme and participant list](#) (in French)
- [Report of the meeting with Burkinabe MPs](#) (in French)
- [FraNet's web page](#)



Financial support: The IUSSP network for Strengthening Demographic Training in Francophone Africa is supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.