

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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OTHER FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

PROPOSED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

Assistance to the Government of Peru

1981 population and housing census

Estimated UNFPA contribution:	\$ 2,320,000
Estimated value of the Government's contribution:	\$ 5 million
Duration:	Two and one-half years
Estimated starting date:	July 1979
Executing Agencies:	United Nations UNFPA
Government Co-operating Agency:	National Statistical Office National Planning Institute

I. Summary

1. Pending a population needs assessment mission to Peru, planned for the second half of 1980, UNFPA proposes to assist the Government with its next population and housing census, scheduled for 1981. Peru, a borderline priority country for UNFPA assistance, needs reliable, up-to-date demographic data for development planning and for formulation of a population policy. The assistance requested, over a period of two and one-half years, amounts to \$2,320,000 million; of this amount, \$847,579 has already been allocated, so that activities could begin in 1979. UNFPA assistance will cover salaries of experts, some local salaries, training of national personnel, and supply of equipment.

II. Background

2. Peru, covering an area of 1,285,216 square kilometres, has a population estimated by the United Nations at 17.8 million. Population density overall is just under 14 persons per square kilometre, but the population is unevenly distributed, being concentrated mostly in the northern and western parts of the country. According to United Nations figures, 67 per cent of the population live in urban areas.

3. The crude birth rate is 40 per thousand, and the crude death rate 12 per thousand, giving an annual natural rate of population growth of 2.8 per cent. Peruvians under the age of 15 account for 42 per cent of the population, and 47 per cent of Peruvian women are between the fertile ages of 15 and 49. Life expectancy at birth is 57 years, 55 for males and 58 for females.

4. The per capita gross national product in 1976 was estimated at \$840. Unemployment and underemployment rates are very high.

5. As part of the 1975-1978 National Development Plan, guidelines for a population policy adopted by the Government call for reducing morbidity and mortality, especially among mothers and children, for an improved spatial distribution of the population, and for achieving a rate of population growth consistent with efforts to foster human development and with the ability of adults to make free but responsible decisions about family size. The Government has stated that it does not wish to set quantitative targets for the population. The 1981 census is expected to provide badly needed demographic data - on population growth, migration, distribution, etc. - to be used both in overall development planning and in the formulation of a more explicit population policy.

6. Previous and ongoing UNFPA assistance to Peru has been mainly in the area of demographic data collection and analysis and of maternal and child health. In 1974 UNFPA assisted the third round of a demographic sample survey with an allocation of \$84,480, and also supported the final round of this survey, completed in 1977, in the amount of \$27,492.

7. In 1977-1978 a national fertility survey, part of the World Fertility Survey programme, was conducted in Peru with UNFPA assistance amounting to over \$200,000.

8. The last census conducted in Peru, carried out in 1972, had several shortcomings, notably in cartographic work and in the technical capabilities of personnel, which resulted in poor quality of the data collected and of the processing of these data. UNFPA has already given the Government some assistance designed to ensure that the 1981 census does not suffer from the same shortcomings. Thus, in 1978, \$847,579 was allocated in support of cartographic work and a regional seminar to train personnel who will work on the 1981 census. The Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) in Santiago, Chile, has also given some short-term training courses to Peruvian personnel.

9. Another source of support to Peru in the demographic field has been the United States Health Statistics Centre, which has provided assistance for improving the collection of vital statistics in three demonstration areas.

III. The project

10. The long-term objectives of the 1981 census project are to produce better information on the country's population and establish the capability for population projections; create a data base to use in future demographic research; elaborate methods and procedures for censuses and surveys adapted to the regional conditions of Peru; and train personnel in the various disciplines of census methodology.

11. The short-term objectives are to present a reliable, complete and up-to-date picture of the social, demographic, and economic characteristics of the population, and make data on population structure, distribution, natural growth, and migratory movements available to Government and private users.

12. UNFPA will provide assistance to this project essentially in areas where problems were encountered in the 1972 census and where to overcome these problems is at present beyond the financial capacity of the Government. The UNFPA contribution will cover international experts (a census expert for 12 months in 1980 and 1981 and a systems analyst for six months in 1981); salary supplements for local personnel (mainly for enumerators but also for management, technical, printing and training personnel); study tours for four nationals to Brazil and the United States; expendable equipment and non-expendable equipment (data processing, printing, and audiovisual); and miscellaneous expenses, primarily the costs of a publicity campaign to promote the census.

13. The National Office of Statistics under the National Planning Institute, which is responsible for planning, directing, and supervising census operations and for co-ordinating census activities with other agencies, will be the Government Co-operating Agency.

14. The expenditure component of the proposed UNFPA contribution will be as follows:

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>Total</u>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
International experts	-	13 710	71 130	84 840
Salaries for local personnel	23 375	152 832	1 119 980	1 296 187
Training	7 600	8 448	-	16 048
Equipment	331 322	287 117	157 871	776 310
Miscellaneous	<u>10 480</u>	<u>12 893</u>	<u>123 242</u>	<u>146 615</u>
	372 777	475 000	1 472 223	2 320 000

15. The Government's contribution is estimated at \$5 million, of which about \$3.5 million will cover local salaries.

IV. Recommendation

16. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the population and housing census project in Peru in the amount of \$2,320,000 for two and one-half years; and

(b) Authorize the Executive Director to allocate funds and make the appropriate arrangements with the Government of Peru and the Executing Agencies.

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