

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



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OTHER FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES

PROPOSED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

Recommendation by the Executive Director

Assistance to the Government of the Sudan

Comprehensive population programme

Estimated UNFPA contribution:	\$ 12 million
Estimated value of the Government's contribution:	\$ 15,260,000
Duration:	Four years
Estimated starting date:	July 1980
Executing Agencies:	United Nations International Labour Organisation (ILO) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Health Organization (WHO)
Government Co-operating Agency:	Ministry of Planning

I. Summary

1. UNFPA proposes to assist the Government of the Sudan, a priority country for UNFPA assistance, with a comprehensive population programme, in the amount of \$12 million, over four years (1980-1983). The proposed programme is based on the findings and recommendations of a needs assessment mission that visited the country in 1978. The programme includes projects which would improve and expand the collection of population data to be used in planning; strengthen maternal and child health and family planning services and decentralizing them to the rural areas; assist relevant ministries and agencies in the dissemination of information and education about family welfare programmes, including maternal and child health and other population-related activities; and test a multi-sectoral approach to providing family welfare services. Some of the proposed projects are extensions and expansion of activities already assisted by UNFPA in previous years.

II. Background

2. The Sudan, covering over 2.5 million square kilometres, is the largest country in Africa. The total population is estimated at 18,370,900. Overall population density is seven persons per square kilometre, but the population is very unevenly distributed.

3. According to United Nations 1978 estimates, 44 per cent of the Sudanese are under the age of 15, and 45.7 per cent of the women are between the ages of 15 and 49. The crude birth rate is 45.8 per thousand and the crude death rate 18.4 per thousand; the natural population growth rate is 2.7 per cent per annum. At the present rate of growth the population is likely to double by the year 2000.

4. Life expectancy at birth is 47 years. Infant mortality is estimated at 135-145 per thousand live births, and maternal mortality at about 200 per one hundred thousand live births.

5. The estimated per capita gross national product in 1978 was \$320. About 19 per cent of adult Sudanese are literate.

6. Various estimates indicate that from 10 to 40 per cent of the population are nomads, pastoral people, or seasonal agricultural workers and thus are on the move at least part of the year; but accurate data on seasonal migration are not available. An estimated 24.8 per cent of the population live in urban areas.

7. The present six-year development plan, covering the period 1977/78 to 1982/83, gives priority to improving nutrition, sanitation, control of epidemic and endemic diseases, and extension of maternal and child health and family planning services, especially to the rural areas. The plan also aims at the eventual eradication of illiteracy, at the extension of secondary and higher education, especially for women, and at increased involvement of women in economic and social development.

8. Although the Government has not yet formulated an explicit policy, it is quite concerned about various population-related problems, such as the lack of demographic data required for planning and the low capacity to carry out and disseminate the results of demographic studies. An area in which the need for information is particularly acute is that of internal migration and its relation to manpower planning. Two other problems are the low level of health services, particularly in the rural areas, and the poor dissemination of information and education about family welfare, including health and nutrition.

9. Up through 1978, UNFPA had allocated a total of \$1.6 million to projects in the Sudan, with \$169,209 and \$8,178 budgeted for 1979 and 1980 respectively. Slightly more than half of the total funds supported the 1973 population census, which was the first count made of the total population (except for the nomadic part). Complete results of the 1973 census should be published by 1980. UNFPA has also supported a project to improve and expand civil registration of births and deaths, and in 1977, a UNFPA expert made a series of recommendations on this subject.

10. About 43 per cent of UNFPA assistance to the Sudan so far has gone to the Ministry of Health/World Health Organization (WHO) maternity centred family planning project begun in 1975. Under this project, UNFPA has provided advisory services, training, fellowships, equipment, and assistance for the construction of a centre in Omdurman that renders family planning services and provides training in maternal and child health care and family planning. Since 1977, UNFPA and WHO funds have also assisted a project based in Barakat, in Gezira Province, to train teachers in mother and child health care.

11. UNFPA jointly, with the Margaret Sanger Centre of New York, has also assisted a curriculum development project at the Higher College of Nursing at Khartoum; the project is now completed. UNFPA has also supported a project to provide population education for workers in Khartoum, scheduled for completion in 1980.

12. The Sudan has received relatively little assistance for population-related programmes from other external sources, with the exception of some grants from the United Kingdom, the United States, the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the Ford Foundation.

III. The programme

13. The proposed programme, developed on the basis of the findings and recommendations of the population needs assessment mission, largely reflects the Government's population-related concerns, as described above. Some of the projects included in this programme are continuations of previously assisted UNFPA projects, mentioned above.

14. The proposed programme has the following long-term objectives: to build up the country's capacity for effective socio-economic planning, by improving and expanding population data collection and analysis by relevant Government ministries and agencies; and to promote the inclusion of population-related policies and action programmes in plans for economic and social development.

15. The programme's immediate objectives are listed under the various projects below.

Data collection and analysis

16. UNFPA proposes the allocation of a total of \$2,783,292 for three projects in this category.

17. 1982 population and housing census: UNFPA has been requested to provide \$1,788,650 towards the planning, organization, and execution of the 1982 population and housing census and towards strengthening data processing facilities and capability. A communications component has been built into this project to help develop public understanding of, and support for the census. UNFPA funds will cover the costs of international experts; salaries for administrative support staff; training, including fellowships for cartographers, data processors and other national staff, group training, and study tours; equipment; and other costs. The Government agency responsible for the census is the Department of Statistics of the Ministry of National Planning; the Ministry of Information and Culture is responsible for the communications component. The Executing Agency is the United Nations.

18. Demographic studies: UNFPA proposes assisting the Department of Statistics of the Ministry of National Planning with these activities identified by the needs assessment mission as deserving priority attention: evaluation and analysis of data from the 1973 census, preparation of reliable population projections on the basis of these data, and a national survey on internal migration. UNFPA assistance, amounting to \$410,980, will cover the costs of international consultants; training (fellowships for four demographers, a study tour and seminars); equipment; and administrative and operating expenses. The Executing Agency is the United Nations.

19. Civil registration: UNFPA has already provided some support for the improvement and extension of the system of registering births and deaths. The present project, for which \$583,662 is earmarked, is designed to develop methods to improve and expand civil registration in pilot areas; once improved methods have been developed, they can be used to set up vital statistics and civil registration systems for the entire country. UNFPA assistance will provide for an international expert, administrative expenses, local salaries, training, equipment, and some other expenses. The responsible Government agency will be the Department of Statistics, in co-operation with the Ministry of Health. The Executing Agency is the United Nations.

Population dynamics and policy formulation

20. UNFPA proposes allocating a total of \$1,474,000 for three projects in this category.

21. Population, manpower and employment: The Government has requested UNFPA to assist the Manpower and Population Section of the Ministry of National Planning in carrying out data collection and analysis and policy-oriented studies in the areas of population, employment, and manpower. The results of the studies will be used for the formulation of comprehensive population and manpower/employment policies.

Support to the Section is also needed to enable it to co-ordinate all activities involving population and manpower development and to eventually function as the secretariat for a National Population Commission. UNFPA proposes allocating \$638,000 for this project, to cover international experts, training, equipment and administrative support. The Executing Agency is ILO.

22. Population Studies Centre, University of Gezira: UNFPA proposes the allocation of \$418,500 to assist the new University of Gezira in establishing a permanent Population Studies Centre for demographic research and the training of researchers and policymakers on population issues and the interaction of population factors with socio-economic development. The Centre will also serve as a regional data bank for population information. UNFPA funds will cover the costs of an international expert, fellowships, seminars and workshops, equipment and some other expenses. The Executing Agency is the United Nations.

23. Population and human resources development for the Southern Region at the University of Juba: UNFPA has been requested to assist the newly established University of Juba in the Southern Region, in building up its institutional capacity for developing a comprehensive population and manpower planning strategy for the Southern Region. The University has already established, with assistance from UNDP and ILO, a population and manpower unit to carry out studies and provide university and in-service courses. UNFPA support, amounting to \$417,500 will cover the costs of international personnel, administrative support, grants to institutions, training, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses. The Executing Agency is ILO.

Maternal and child health/family planning

24. UNFPA proposes allocating a total of \$4,450,000 for two major projects in maternal and child health and family planning service delivery and training.

25. Maternal and child health and family planning services: This project, builds on the Ministry of Health/WHO maternity centred family planning project initiated with UNFPA support in 1975. Its goal is to strengthen maternal and child health and family planning services, especially in the rural areas, so as to lower infant and maternal mortality and enable families to improve family health by spacing births. During the four years of the project, services will gradually expand to cover the whole country. Project activities include training, delivery of maternal and child health and family planning services, and supportive operational research. Most activities will be decentralized and placed under the responsibility of provincial staff. The Southern Region, with its special needs and problems, will receive particular attention, and one of the project's first steps will be to work out operating details with the Regional Ministry of Health in Juba. UNFPA assistance, in the amount of \$3,772,000, will cover the costs of a senior medical officer and a consultant, administrative support personnel, travel, local salaries, sub-contracts for operational research, training (including workshops, study tours and local training), equipment, expenses of constructing or upgrading training centres, contraceptives, and other expenses. The Ministry of Health is responsible for the project, and the Executing Agency is WHO.

26. Training teachers in maternal and child health and family planning: This proposed project also builds on an earlier WHO/UNFPA project designed to establish a training centre for teachers in Barakat, in Gezira Province. Teachers have been prepared to

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train community-based health workers in maternal and child health and family planning services, as one element in a comprehensive primary health care programme. The present project will continue to train such teachers and will also develop intensive in-service training programmes, as well as follow-up activities for trainees; gradually it will expand to serve other provinces, and eventually a second training centre will be developed in the Southern Region. UNFPA proposes allocating \$678,200 in support of this project, which will be co-ordinated with the maternal and child health and family planning project described above. UNFPA funds will cover the training consultants, personnel payments for two local project directors and three teachers, administration and other expenses, including travel, study tours and training courses, and equipment. The Executing Agency is WHO.

Population information, education and communication

27. UNFPA proposes allocating a total of \$1,968,000 for four projects in this category.

28. In-school population and family life education: UNFPA will assist the Ministry of Education, over a four-year period, with a project to integrate population education into the curricula at all levels of the school system and at teacher-training institutions. The goal is to develop awareness of population matters and of their relationship with socio-economic planning and development. UNFPA's assistance, in the amount of \$569,100, covering international experts, administrative and personnel costs, training, and book production, will support the development of educational materials for teachers and students and the establishment of several documentation units. The Executing Agency is UNESCO.

29. Out-of-school population and family life education: UNFPA proposes allocating \$384,000, over two years, to a multi-sectoral project aimed at incorporating population education in the adult education programmes of various Government ministries and other institutions. Project activities include the training of teachers from these ministries and institutions in population education, and strengthening the present educational programmes by providing teaching and learning materials and equipment. The post-literacy programme of the Adult Education and Literacy Division of the Ministry of Education will be assisted to produce and disseminate appropriate materials through all its channels. UNFPA assistance will cover an international adviser, administrative and personnel costs, training, equipment, and sub-contracts for the production of materials. The Executing Agency is UNESCO.

30. Population Information/Communication Service Centre: The Government has requested assistance for the establishment of such a centre to be located in the Office of Development Communication of the Ministry of Culture and Information. UNFPA, with an allocation of \$730,000, over four years, will assist the Ministry in incorporating population communication into major development programmes; in training in this area, including research and evaluation and media development; in developing suitable communication materials; and in research on the development and implementation of an effective population communication programme. UNFPA funds will cover international experts, administrative support, sub-contracts for research, training, and equipment. The project has already received a total of \$670,000 in pre-project support. The responsible Government agency is the Ministry of Culture and Information, and the Executing Agency is UNESCO.

31. Population media development for adult literacy programme: UNFPA will assist the Ministry of Education in developing population and family planning materials for the adult literacy teaching programme. The proposal for this project was not finalized at the time of writing. UNFPA suggests putting aside \$285,000 for support of this project.

Special programmes (including women's programmes)

32. UNFPA proposes allocating a total of \$469,000 for two projects, using a multi-sectoral approach to providing family welfare services.

33. Integrated centres for family welfare: This project aims at up-grading three integrated centres for family welfare in areas with a high population density. Each centre contains an education unit for parents, a women's development unit, and an extension service. The project is intended to strengthen family welfare services in urban and rural areas, to promote integrated family welfare activities; to undertake research on experience gained from multi-disciplinary programmes, so that these programmes can be improved and expanded; and to provide training in integrated family welfare, women's development, children's services, and family planning. The project will provide for approximately 14 programmes and four seminars, three regional and one national. UNFPA assistance, in the amount of \$348,000, over four years, will cover international personnel, local personnel payments, training, and equipment. The Government agency responsible is the Social Affairs Section of the Ministry of Education.

34. Family welfare development in North Kordofan: The objective of this action research project is to test the effectiveness of providing family guidance to settled residents of selected villages in North Kordofan, so that family welfare can be improved and a significant number of women can take part in economic and social development efforts. The project will also determine to what extent the villagers will use birth spacing when the necessary services and supplies are delivered to them in their homes, as part of integrated family guidance which includes supply of nutrition supplements. UNFPA has been requested to provide \$121,000 for this project, over three years, to cover consultancy services and equipment. The responsible Government agency is the Social Affairs Section of the Ministry of Education.

Programme reserve

35. UNFPA proposes setting aside about \$855,000 as a reserve to cover funds required for new activities presently not foreseen.

36. The proposed UNFPA financial contribution for programme activities by year, and category, is as follows:

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Data collection and analysis	907 232	966 593	640 187	269 280	-	2 783 292
Population dynamics	116 500	669 650	490 750	197 100	-	1 474 000
Maternal and child health and family planning	909 300	496 900	1 420 400	1 002 600	621 000	4 450 200
Information, education and communication	553 250	548 050	553 650	313 150	-	1 968 100
Special programmes (including women)	<u>176 860</u>	<u>138 800</u>	<u>97 240</u>	<u>56 100</u>	-	<u>469 000</u>
	2 663 142	2 819 993	3 202 227	1 838 230	621 000	11 144 592
Reserve						<u>855 408</u>
						12 000 000

37. The status of programme development, at the time of writing is as follows:

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$</u>
Formulated projects	2 369 282	2 618 193	1 702 987	844 630	-	7 535 092
Pending	293 860	201 800	1 499 240	993 600	621 000	3 609 500
Reserve						<u>855 408</u>
						12 000 000

IV. Recommendation

38. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the programme for the Sudan for the period of four years (1980-1984) in the amount of \$12 million; and

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