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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 Ethiopia

Support of a comprehensive population programme

Estimated UNFPA contribution:	\$16 million
Estimated value of the Government's contribution:	\$73 million
Duration:	Five years
Estimated starting date:	July 1981
Executing Agencies:	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) International Labour Organisation (ILO) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Health Organization (WHO) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) UNFPA
Government Co-operating Agency:	Central Planning Supreme Council

## I. Summary

1. UNFPA proposes supporting a programme in the amount of \$16 million over a five-year period to assist the Government of Ethiopia, a priority country for UNFPA assistance, in achieving its population objectives. The proposed programme is based on the findings and recommendations of a needs assessment mission that visited the country in January 1980. It would, if approved, include projects in the areas of demographic data collection and analysis; population research and demographic training; maternal and child health and child-spacing; population information, education and communication; and special programmes for women and youth. Proposed UNFPA assistance would support institution-building; provide training (primarily within the country), short- and long-term advisory services, and expendable and non-expendable equipment; and cover some local costs.

## II. Background

2. Ethiopia, with an area of 1,222,000 square kilometres, is the ninth largest and the third most populous country in Africa. Since Ethiopia has never carried out a census, estimates of the total population vary widely. The most recent official Government estimate (1980) is 32.5 million people; the United Nations estimates the population in 1980 at 31.5 million. Most of the country's population is located in isolated rural areas; an estimated 12.6 per cent live in settlements of 2,000 or more people. Population density in 1980, according to United Nations estimates, averages 26 people per square kilometre over-all, and 215 people per square kilometre of arable land. The 1978 per capita gross national product is estimated by the World Bank at \$120.

3. According to United Nations estimates, the crude birth rate (1975-1980) is 49.8 per thousand and the crude death rate 25.2 per thousand, implying an annual natural growth rate of 2.5 per cent. The gross reproduction rate is 3.3 per cent. Approximately 45 per cent of the population are under 15 years of age, and only about 2.6 per cent are 65 or older. According to United Nations estimates, women in the reproductive years 15-49 account for 44.8 per cent of all women. The population is expected to double in about 28 years.

4. Life expectancy is estimated (1975-1980) by the United Nations at 37.5 years for males and 40.6 years for females. Government estimates place the infant mortality rate at as high as 162 per thousand live births. It has been estimated that over half of all children die before reaching the age of six.

5. The Government is keenly aware that the lack of population data has been an obstacle to realistic development planning, and it gives high priority to data collection activities including the need for a nationwide census.

6. Family planning is considered a social welfare measure. The Government permits, and to some extent supports, private efforts to add family planning services, distribution of contraceptives and, recently, training in family planning methods to the operations of both Government and privately-operated health clinics. The Government assigns great importance to developing a nationwide maternal and child health programme, and it is within the context of this programme that UNFPA proposes assistance to include child-spacing activities.

7. The country faces severe population distribution problems caused in part by spontaneous population movements which have intensified resettlement problems and in part by drought which has also contributed to severe widespread malnutrition and famine. The Government intends to attack these problems through rehabilitation and resettlement activities that include eradication of communicable diseases, expanding immunization programmes, providing maternal and child health and child-spacing services, improving nutrition, establishing health clinics, constructing water supply systems, and providing non-formal education. These activities, some of which fulfill the objectives of the population programme described in this document, will be co-ordinated by the Central Planning Supreme Council, which is responsible for overseeing all social and economic development programmes. They will be implemented by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission; the Ministries of Health, Education, Information and National Guidance; the Central Statistical Office; and the Nutrition Institute. The Family Guidance Association, which is the affiliate of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), is also expected to assist in implementation of the programme.

8. At its eighteenth session in June 1974, the Governing Council approved UNFPA assistance to the Government of Ethiopia in the amount of \$3.5 million for conducting a population and housing census.<sup>1/</sup> About \$500,000 of this amount was used for pre-project activities, mainly for cartographic work, and the remainder was unspent for various reasons, including changes in the governmental structure which necessitated the postponement of the census.

9. Although Ethiopia has one of the lowest per capita incomes in the world, it has received relatively little development assistance from external sources in recent years. In 1978, total external assistance amounted to only \$208 million, of which 32 per cent was from the United Nations system, mainly the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme. In the field of population, the United States Agency for International Development (U.S. AID) provided aid until 1976, both directly to the Family Guidance Association and through intermediary organizations such as Family Planning International Assistance (FPIA). U.S. AID funds were used for training programmes, purchase of equipment such as maternal and child health kits, and the development and production of a book for traditional birth attendants. Since 1971, the International Planned Parenthood Federation has provided assistance to its affiliated organization, the Family Guidance Association of Ethiopia. IPPF expenditures, including commodity assistance, over the two year period 1979-1980 is estimated at approximately \$784,000. Other assistance has been provided by the Canadian International Development Research Centre (for a fertility/mortality study), World Education (a pilot project with the Ethiopian Women's Association on integrated family life education), World Neighbors (support of an MCH clinic and programme) and The Pathfinder Fund (for the development of educational materials).

10. The needs assessment mission undertaken in January 1980 identified three priority areas for population assistance: 1) collection of adequate demographic data and its integration into socio-economic development planning; 2) creation of awareness of the role population variables play in development and of the effect of development on population variables; 3) training of staff in data collection and analysis, maternal and child health and family planning, and information, education and communication activities. Specific recommendations are discussed under the proposed programme below.

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<sup>1/</sup> DP/FPA/1/Add.7

### III. The programme

11. The five-year population programme to which UNFPA proposes contributing a total of \$16 million has the following components:

#### Basic data collection and analysis

12. The needs assessment mission recommended support for the reformulation and implementation of the census project including rural mapping, demographic components of the National Household Survey Capability Programme and expansion and improvement of the civil registration system.

13. A total UNFPA contribution of \$7.4 million is proposed for four projects:

14. Rural mapping project. A UNFPA contribution of \$800,000, already allocated, will support local costs, provide expendable and non-expendable cartographic equipment, and cover printing expenses.

15. First nationwide census enumeration and associated data processing and analysis. This exercise, scheduled for 1982-83, would receive support amounting to \$5.9 million in the form of technical assistance, assistance with local expenses, and some equipment.

16. National Household Survey Capability Programme. UNFPA proposes participating in this multi-donor project, which should gather a wide range of demographic data as well as improve understanding of how demographic factors interact in socio-economic development. This project has been initiated by the United Nations Statistical Office. A UNFPA contribution of approximately \$500,000 would provide short-term technical assistance and cover some local costs.

17. Sample civil registration and vital statistics project. UNFPA proposes contributing \$200,000 to support this effort, to be undertaken after the census and household survey activities. Assistance would cover the training of statistical staff of various ministries involved in the project, provision of an international expert, and some equipment.

#### Population dynamics

18. The needs assessment mission recommended setting up a Centre for Population Studies, providing training for staff of the Central Statistical Office and the Nutrition Institute, and establishing a Demographic Training and Research Centre. UNFPA proposes assistance totalling \$1 million to be divided between two projects:

19. Establishment of a Centre for Population Studies. This Centre, to be set up within the Central Statistical Office, and to work in close co-operation with the University of Addis Ababa, would assist in developing methodologies for research and co-ordinate the analysis of census and survey data. It would also participate in training staff of the Central Statistical Office, the Nutrition Institute and the Government, including the Urban Dwellers'Associations and the Peasant Associations. UNFPA assistance would provide fellowships and short- and long-term advisers. It is hoped that establishment of the Centre would ensure that population considerations are taken into account in national planning and also lead to creation of a National Population Commission, for which further assistance may be requested in the future.

20. Establishment of a Demographic Training and Research Centre. This body, under the aegis of the Institute of Development Research of the University of Addis Ababa, would supply a much-needed research and training capability. UNFPA support would cover fellowships and provide short- and long-term advisers on demography and research.

#### Maternal and child health and child-spacing activities

21. The needs assessment mission strongly supported the Government's intent to build up, in the course of the next ten years, a nationwide maternal and child health programme, including child-spacing activities, to be integrated into the basic health care system. It made a number of specific recommendations concerning this programme: for example, setting up a department within the Ministry of Health to be charged with the implementation of the national programme as well as regional maternal and child health offices; establishing a six-tier maternal and child health referral system leading from the community health agent up to the national hospital level; establishing a National Centre for Maternal and Child Health to provide specialized services, technical advice, and training; constructing health centres and a health stations network; constructing training facilities for various categories of personnel; establishing a viable transportation system to provide efficient delivery of MCH services.

22. UNFPA proposes allocating \$6 million to assist the Government in establishing this programme. The UNFPA contribution would provide international technical assistance, fellowships, and study tours; cover salaries of some local personnel and costs of constructing 40 health centres and 200 health stations; and supply equipment and contraceptives. Related assistance is being provided by the World Health Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Programme and the Swedish International Development Authority. The over-all programme calls for a large outlay in infrastructure support, and the Government may require assistance from still other donors. It is also expected that the Government will request further assistance from UNFPA for the second phase of this programme, to begin in 1981.

#### Population information, education and communication

23. In the area of information, education and communication, the needs assessment mission recommended a number of activities, including carrying out a campaign to sensitize decision-makers and opinion leaders to population questions, and to integrate population education into the formal school system and adult education programmes.

24. UNFPA proposes providing a total of \$1.3 million for support of population information, education and communication activities, to be used for two projects:

25. Promoting population awareness. Approximately \$300,000 would be earmarked for seminars and workshops aimed at sensitizing decision-makers and opinion leaders, especially in the Central Planning Supreme Council, to population issues and to motivating the population to accept child-spacing services as part of the MCH system.

26. Population education and communication in non-formal programmes, including adult literacy activities. UNFPA assistance in the amount of about \$1 million would provide some technical assistance and support development and dissemination of printed materials and radio and television programming, teacher training, evaluation activities and provision of audio-visual equipment and vehicles.

Special programmes (women and youth)

27. UNFPA proposes allocating a total of \$300,000 for projects serving women and youth.

28. UNFPA proposes to assist the Government in taking all the steps necessary to ensure that, to the extent possible, women's needs and interests are taken into consideration in activities to be supported by the UNFPA. Furthermore, the Fund proposes allocating funds to be used for specific projects serving women. This assistance would be mainly in the areas of educational and training activities, including skills development, aimed at enabling women to participate in non-traditional economic activities as well as in the administrative, supervisory and managerial aspects of population and development-related programmes. The national authorities attach importance to promoting the participation of women's associations at the community and national levels and the Fund plans to assist by providing these associations with the technical and financial support they need to carry out their tasks satisfactorily. Assistance may also be provided to establish or strengthen governmental mechanisms for developing, implementing, monitoring and co-ordinating women-oriented activities.

29. With respect to youth, UNFPA will, in accordance with the recommendation of the needs assessment mission, assist the National Children's Commission with identifying and carrying out population-related activities of importance to this group.

Institutional and administrative arrangements

30. The Government Co-operating Agency would be the Central Planning Supreme Council, which is responsible for all development activity in Ethiopia. Executing Agencies, still to be designated for some projects, would include relevant United Nations agencies or organizations, and the Government.

31. The proposed UNFPA contribution for the five-year period, subject to availability of funds, by Work Plan category, is as follows:

Basic data collection and analysis	\$7 400 000
Population dynamics	1 000 000
Maternal and child health and child-spacing	6 000 000
Population information, education and communication	1 300 000
Special programmes (women and youth)	<u>300 000</u>
Total	16 000 000

32. The status of programme and project development, as of February 1981, is as follows:

Approved	\$3 800 000
Pending	6 000 000
Foreseen	<u>6 200 000</u>

Grand total 16 000 000

IV. Recommendation

33. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the programme for Ethiopia for the period 1981-1985 in the total amount of \$16 million (including \$800,000 already allocated for rural mapping); and

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

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