

# 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 Zaire

#### Support of a national population census

Proposed UNFPA assistance:	\$2,470,192 <sup>1/</sup>
Estimated value of the Government's contribution:	\$5.3 million
Duration:	Six years <sup>2/</sup>
Estimated starting date:	Ongoing
Executing Agency:	United Nations
Government Co-operating Agency:	Ministry of Planning

## I. SUMMARY

1. UNFPA proposes to assist the Government of Zaire, a priority country for UNFPA assistance under the revised criteria for designation of priority status adopted by the Governing Council at its twenty-ninth session (decision 82/20), in the total amount of \$2,470,192 to undertake a national population census and subsequent analysis of census data.
2. UNFPA assistance to activities preparatory to the census began in 1979. Census enumeration was originally scheduled to take place in June 1980. However, due to various administrative delays, the census had to be rescheduled to mid-1983. A major reason for the delay has been the necessity for extensive cartographic and mapping work, which, because of the size of the country, the delay in the recruitment of a census expert, and the difficulty in obtaining cartographic and other equipment, has caused this preparatory phase to be stretched out to more than three years. The present request, earlier submission of which to the Governing Council was deferred in view of the complete review and reassessment of the total UNFPA programme for 1982-1985 undertaken by the Governing Council at its twenty-ninth session in June 1982, proposes UNFPA assistance of \$919,500 for the three-year period 1983-1985, in addition to support in the amount of \$1,550,192 extended by UNFPA during 1979-1982.
3. The only demographic data currently available in Zaire are from a demographic sample survey undertaken in 1955-1957 by the Government of Belgium before the independence of Zaire in 1960. Therefore, there is a complete lack of reliable, up-to-date data for socio-economic planning. The 1983 population census will be the first such operation in the country aiming at a complete enumeration of the population. The census will provide the Government with comprehensive data for use in planning and administration of social and economic development, as well as for an intensive study of population movements and the dynamics of population growth. The results will also help to establish a solid base for population policy formulation and programme planning. In addition, national technical staff would be trained in statistical and demographic techniques of investigation and in census administration.

## II. BACKGROUND

4. Zaire, with an area of 2,345,000 square kilometres, is the second largest African country south of the Sahara. The over-all population density is relatively low at 12 per square kilometre in 1980, according to the United Nations estimates, and is unequally distributed. The population density in the great forest zone is only about half the national average, with areas of several tens of thousands of square kilometres practically uninhabited, while certain areas belonging to the forest belt and partly cleared for cultivation have higher than average densities. The most densely populated area is lower Zaire west of Kinshasa, averaging about 100 per square kilometre.
5. The United Nations estimates the total 1980 mid-year population at 28,291,000. Population under the age of 15 constitutes about 44.6 per cent of the total, while women in the fertile year age group (15-49) represent about 45.6 per cent of the total female population. The crude birth rate (1975-1980) is 46.2 per 1,000, the

crude death rate 18.7 per 1,000 and the annual population growth rate is 2.75 per cent. Life expectancy at birth is 46 years (44.4 years for males, 47.6 years for females). According to the Population Division, the infant mortality rate (1975-1980) is 126.6 per 1,000 live births.

6. According to the United Nations, about 60.5 per cent of the population live in the rural areas while, according to the World Bank, about 75 per cent of the economically active population are employed in the primary sector. Per capita gross national product, according to the World Bank, was \$220 in 1980.

7. In 1983, it is expected that UNFPA will undertake a comprehensive assessment of the population needs and population assistance required by the Government in future years, on the basis of which future UNFPA assistance to Zaire will be decided upon.

8. Other multilateral assistance has been provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization in the field of population and food data analysis.

9. Bilateral assistance to Zaire in population-related areas has been provided by the United States Agency for International Development to support basic rural health services and family planning services, by the Danish International Development Agency to supply contraceptives and contraceptive materials, and by the Federal Republic of Germany to establish two health stations in Kinshasa.

10. Other external population assistance in the field of maternal and child health and family planning services, training of health personnel and research on fertility and infertility has been provided by the following non-governmental organizations: The Association for Voluntary Sterilization, Church World Service, Family Planning International Assistance (FPIA), the International Development Research Centre (Canada), International Fertility Research Programme, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Communauté Anglicane du Zaire, Oxfam, The Pathfinder Fund, The Population Council, and the Interdisciplinary Communications Programme.

### III. THE PROJECT

11. The proposed project would support the first modern and complete population census ever undertaken in Zaire. Its long-term objective is to provide the Government with comprehensive demographic data to be used in socio-economic development planning. The immediate objectives are to collect reliable and up-to-date data on the size, growth and structure of the population, fertility, internal and external migration and social characteristics; and to process, analyse and publish the data collected.

12. The Zaire population census was originally scheduled to take place in June 1980, with most of the funding to come from the Government and only minimum assistance from UNFPA. However, various delays in the approval and subsequent delivery of project inputs, both by the Government and by UNFPA through its Executing Agency - the United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development - forced the postponement of the census until mid-1983.

13. During the years 1979-1980, UNFPA assistance was primarily in the form of expert services - a cartographic expert and a census expert - as well as cartographic and office equipment, some vehicles, and fellowship training in demography, statistics and sampling and census administration. UNFPA allocations through 1980 totalled about \$620,000.

14. Due to delay in the recruitment of the census expert and delivery of equipment, the cartographic field work is expected to come to an end in April 1983 and the population enumeration will take place in August 1983. The results of the pilot census conducted in August 1982 are being used to finalize the census questionnaire and instructions for investigators, controllers and supervisors. Because of the postponement of the census and the fact that much groundwork has already been done on the census, UNFPA continued providing allocations to the project albeit at a lower level because of the resource situation, meanwhile also seeking multi-bilateral funds from other donors. The Government of the United Kingdom provided the project with 14 Landrovers, in 1982.

15. The Executive Director had intended to submit this census project to the Governing Council at its twenty-ninth session in June 1982, but decided to postpone its submission because of the pending complete review and reassessment of the total UNFPA programme 1982-1985 mandated by the Governing Council at its twenty-eighth session in June 1981 for review by the Council at its twenty-ninth session in June 1982.

16. Following discussions between UNFPA, the Executing Agency and the Government at the Tripartite Review meeting held in July 1982, the project's work plan and budget for 1983-1985 were prepared. The Government, which has already expended about 13 million Zaire (about \$ US 1.3 million) as of the end of 1982, foresees an allocation of 40 million Zaire (\$4 million) in 1983 and subsequent years.

17. UNFPA is being requested to provide assistance to the project for an additional three-year period (1983-1985), in order to cover the services of a census adviser for seventeen months, a cartographic expert for six months, a data processing consultant for six months, a demographic data analysis expert for fifteen months, administrative support personnel, six fellowships, office supplies, data processing equipment, costs of operation and maintenance of equipment and report and printing costs.

18. The proposed breakdown of the entire UNFPA support to the project, including support personnel for 1983-1985 subject to the availability of funds, is as follows:

International expert	\$ 971,097
Local personnel	39,050
Training	95,763
Equipment	689,105
Vehicles	577,121
Miscellaneous	<u>98,056</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$2,470,192</u>

19. The status of project development, as of June 1983, is expected to be as follows:

Approved	\$1,550,692
Pending	<u>919,500</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$2,470,192</u>

20. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve additional funds for the population census of Zaire for the three-year period 1983-1985 in the amount of \$919,500 to bring the total amount of UNFPA assistance to the project through 1985 to \$2,470,192; and

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

NOTES

1/ Including \$1,550,692 approved during the years 1979-1982.

2/ Pre-project activities began in 1979.

