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UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

PROPOSED PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

Recommendation by the Executive Director
Assistance to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire
Support for a comprehensive population programme

Proposed UNFPA assistance:	\$2.5 million
Estimated value of the Government's contribution:	To be determined
Duration:	Two years
Estimated starting date:	January 1990
Executing agencies:	Government of Côte d'Ivoire United Nations United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Health Organization
Government co-ordinating agency:	Ministry of Industry and Planning

COTE D'IVOIRE

Demographic facts

Population Total (000)		Population density (/sq.km.)	39
Total	12,596	Average annual change (000)	
Males	6,385	Population increase	544
Females	6,211	Births	701
Sex ratio (/100 females)	102.8	Deaths	181
Urban	5,870	Net migration	24
Rural	6,725	Annual population total (% growth) .	3.91
Per cent urban	46.6	urban	5.65
Population in year 2000 (000) .	18,547	rural	2.26
Functional age groups (%)		Crude birth rate (/1000)	50.2
Young child: 0-4	20.7	Crude death rate (/1000)	12.9
Child: 5-14	28.7	Net migration rate (/1000)	1.7
Youth: 15-24	18.4	Total fertility rate (/woman)	7.31
Elderly: 60+	3.7	Gross reproduction rate (/woman) . . .	3.60
65+	2.2	Net reproduction rate (/woman)	2.84
Women: 15-49	20.8	Infant mortality rate (/1000)	87
Median age (years)	15.3	Life expectancy at birth (years)	
Dependency ratios: total	106.9	Males	52.8
(/100) Aged 0-14	102.3	Females	56.2
Aged 65+	4.6	Both sexes	54.5
Agricultural population density		GNP per capita	
(/hectare of arable land)	1.44	(U.S. dollars, 1987)	740

Sources: Population density on arable land is derived from two publications issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: FAO Production Yearbook 1985 and World-wide Estimates and Projections of Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Population Segments 1950-2025, ESS/MIS/86/2; gross national production per capita: World Bank, World Development Report 1989. Figures for population, total population by sex, population by age group, age indicators, urban-rural population, and population density (/sq. km.) refer to the year 1990; figures for average annual change, rate of annual change, and fertility and mortality are the five-year averages for 1990-1995. These data are from the Population Division, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, World population prospects: 1988.

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I. SUMMARY

1. At the request of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, a priority country for UNFPA assistance since June 1988, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) proposes to support an interim population programme, in the amount of \$2.5 million, over a two-year period, starting January 1990. The objective of the programme would be to assist the Government in achieving its population and development objectives by creating favourable conditions for population activities and building a solid foundation for increasingly comprehensive population programmes in the future.

2. This interim population programme, the second cycle of UNFPA assistance to Côte d'Ivoire, is based on the findings and recommendations of the multisectoral review mission that visited the country in March 1989, as well as the findings of the Basic Needs Assessment Mission of February/March 1983. The proposed programme has been designed to complement and supplement the Government's orientation and goals regarding population and development, and takes into account the strategy for UNFPA assistance in sub-Saharan Africa (document DP/1987/37), and the Fund's strategy to deal with issues concerning women, population and development (document DP/1987/38).

3. As a first step in accommodating the recommendations of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) concerning joint programming, the interim programme would seek to prepare the groundwork for a subsequent population programme, 1992-1996, that would coincide with the next UNDP programme cycle in Côte d'Ivoire. A second step would be to adjust the UNDP and UNFPA programme cycles with that of the Government's development planning process.

4. The overall objectives of the proposed interim programme are threefold: (a) to promote awareness among policy-makers, parliamentarians, government officials, opinion leaders and national experts of population and gender issues; (b) to strengthen the national institutional capacity and develop human resources in the area of population and development; and (c) to integrate population variables into the development planning process.

5. In order to achieve these objectives, the programme would concentrate on: (a) creating and increasing the awareness of policy-makers, parliamentarians, government officials, opinion leaders, and national experts on the interactions between population and development; (b) improving rural health services, including those specifically dealing with child spacing; (c) promoting and enhancing the status of women; (d) increasing knowledge about population structure and trends; (e) establishing a demographic database through the implementation of population censuses and intercensal demographic surveys; and (f) establishing a population planning unit.

6. The strategy of the interim programme would focus on generating the political commitment needed to facilitate the adoption of administrative and

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legal measures that would help create favourable conditions for population activities, as well as improve the status of women and the health and well-being of mothers and children. This would require giving special attention to socio-cultural research, awareness creation, human resource development, and programmes to enhance the role and status of women. It would also necessitate the building up of a national monitoring and evaluation system, the strengthening of the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the strengthening of agency and donor co-ordination.

7. All projects under the proposed programme, as in all the UNFPA-assisted programmes, would be undertaken in accordance with the principles and objectives of the World Population Plan of Action; that is, that population policies should be consistent with internationally and nationally recognized human rights of individual freedom, justice and the survival of national, regional and minority groups (para. 14(d)); that respect for human life is basic to all human societies (para. 14 (e)); and that all couples and individuals have the basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so (para. 14 (f)).

II. BACKGROUND

8. In view of the country's total population size and density, estimated by the United Nations for 1990 at 12.6 million and 39 persons per square kilometre, respectively, the Government does not consider Côte d'Ivoire to have a population problem and believes that population can be a positive factor in the country's socio-economic development. Yet, according to the criteria approved by the Governing Council, Côte d'Ivoire has been designated as a priority country for UNFPA assistance. The annual rate of population growth is quite high, at 3.9 per cent, as are infant and maternal mortality rates (87 per 1,000 and 840 per 100,000,* respectively). The country has a young age-structure (49 per cent of its population is under 15 years of age and the median age of the population is 15.3 years) and a high total fertility rate (7.3 children per woman). Life expectancy is relatively low at 53 years for men and 56 years for women.

9. Health care in Côte d'Ivoire has improved considerably since the country gained Independence in 1960. Nevertheless, data clearly indicate that the country's exceptional economic growth of the first two decades after Independence (which, however, declined precipitously after 1980) did not have the anticipated effects in the social and health sectors. Still, efforts are being made to improve the general health conditions of the people, and of mothers and children in particular, though family planning has not yet been integrated into maternal and child health services. The Government has also invested a substantial amount of resources in the national education system. The extent of the Government's commitment to this sector is evidenced by the proportion of the recurrent budget devoted to it, which, according to the World Bank, amounted to 44.8 per cent in

* The figure for maternal mortality is based on Government projections.

1988, or approximately 7 per cent of the country's gross national product (GNP). However, the rapid growth in the number of school-age children, coupled with the declining economic situation, has contributed to a declining rate of school enrolment in recent years.

10. Since 1979, Côte d'Ivoire has encountered serious economic difficulties. According to a World Bank report (1987), the economic growth rate dropped from 6.8 per cent per year for the period 1965-1980 to -0.13 per cent for the period 1980-1986. By contrast, the already high proportion of GNP consumed by the national debt doubled between 1980 and 1985, from 40 to 80 per cent. This negative growth rate and growing national debt, coupled with a rapid population growth rate, have made it difficult for the Government to invest in social infrastructure and programmes. In fact, the Government has had to freeze state expenditures and investment in many social sectors, and this is likely to cause health coverage to deteriorate throughout the country. In view of these socio-economic difficulties, the Government launched an Economic Recovery Programme in the early 1980s, with support from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. While this has helped to reduce the national deficit, it has not alleviated any of the demographic pressures on the economy. This is primarily due to the fact that the various structural adjustment programmes do not include components that directly and specifically address the demographic aspects of the country's development issues.

11. Since 1986, Côte d'Ivoire has carried out its development process without a formally adopted social and economic development plan, although it does have a draft plan for 1986-1990. The "Schéma - Directeur de Loi Programme des Actions de l'Etat" (Guidelines for the law authorizing long-term government spending) is said by government authorities to be the main document guiding development. The Guidelines contain a rolling triennial programme of public investments, which is revised and updated each year in a supplementary document. The Guidelines do not include major issues concerning Côte d'Ivoire's demographic development, which may be due in part to the absence of a national population policy. However, preliminary work for the formulation of the new five-year plan 1991-1995 is already under way, and there are signs that the interactions between population and development may be reflected in the Government's current planning and programming processes.

12. In Côte d'Ivoire, where women constitute 48 per cent of the population, the Constitution guarantees both sexes equal legal, social and economic rights. At present, however, females still lag behind men in several critical social and economic areas. For example, the school enrolment rate for girls is 31.9 per cent as compared to 44.4 per cent for boys, and illiteracy remains higher among women than among men. Moreover, women are mainly employed in agriculture and in low-paying, low-prestige jobs in both the private and public sectors. The proportion of female civil servants within the public sector, which is seen as one of the primary avenues of career advancement in the country, is only 16.3

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per cent of the total. In view of these and other disparities between men and women, the Government has charged the Ministry of Women's Promotion with the responsibility of ensuring that women enjoy the same rights as men; promoting women's status and education; and creating and increasing job opportunities for women in the modern sector. Unfortunately, the Ministry, which manages 84 women's educational institutions, has neither accurate data on women nor qualified personnel to discharge its duties in a proper manner. Although the ruling party created the Ivorian Association of Women in 1975 as a special wing of the party to address questions concerning women, women remain a weak political force in the country. Indeed, there are only 2 women ministers out of 39 in the Government, 10 women parliamentarians out of 175, 12 out of 113 members of the Social and Economic Commission, and 4 women elected as city mayors out of 135.

13. Côte d'Ivoire has not yet formulated a comprehensive population policy. The Government's position on population issues derives from its policy of "socio-economic liberalism" and can be summarized as follows: "Our concern is not to reduce the birth rates by aggressive intervention in the couple's privacy [but] rather ... to increase the life expectancy of young Ivorians. Our wish is to increase our means in order to ensure better health for mothers and children." However, the organization of two national seminars since December 1987 -- one on the "Interrelationship between Population and Development", the other on "Family Life Education" -- seems to signal a change in the Government's conception of the links between population issues and development strategies. Indeed, a group of parliamentarians in charge of population and development issues has since been created within Côte d'Ivoire's National Assembly.

III. REVIEW OF UNFPA AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO DATE

14. The first UNFPA-supported programme in Côte d'Ivoire was approved by the Governing Council in June 1985 in the amount of \$1.7 million over a period of four years. It provided assistance to five areas of activities: maternal and child health and family planning (MCH/FP); data collection and analysis; population information, education and communication (IEC); population dynamics; and women, population and development. Of the \$1.7 million approved, approximately \$1.2 million had been expended by the end of 1988. The allocation for 1990 is approximately \$160,000. Overall, implementation of the first programme was rather low, and this resulted in a delay of a year in the submission of the second country programme to the Governing Council. The low implementation rate was due to: (a) a generally weak institutional framework to implement the programme (for example, the Ministry of Industry and Planning, the main body responsible for co-ordinating development activities, was established only in July 1987); (b) the absence of a national social and economic development plan; (c) the generally low level of awareness among political and opinion leaders of population and gender issues; (d) the lack of qualified national expertise in the area of population and development; (e) the non-availability of accurate demographic data; and (f) the existence of the French Law of 1920 prohibiting the use of contraception.

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Maternal and child health and family planning

15. UNFPA initiated its support for MCH/FP and related IEC activities in 1983 following the February/March Basic Needs Assessment Mission, extending \$700,000 for MCH/FP and \$230,000 for IEC activities. Owing in part to the cautious position of the Ministry of Health and Population towards family planning services, however, attempts to develop a specific and autonomous MCH/FP project were unsuccessful. This required adopting a different approach to family planning, which resulted in an integrated pilot project of maternal and child health and family life education, formulated in collaboration with WHO and UNESCO. The objectives of this pilot project were to develop a strategy for IEC activities and to introduce awareness-creation programmes on family planning and population issues. Its main activities were a socio-cultural review focusing on women, population and health matters; a review of medical data on pre-, peri, and post-natal health care; and the organization of four information and awareness-creation seminars for 300 participants from the health and social sectors.

16. The major outcome of the integrated pilot project, according to the findings of an evaluation carried out by WHO and UNESCO, was the creation of awareness among the health and paramedical personnel of the utmost necessity of an interdisciplinary approach to health issues and of the importance of the link between various population factors and health issues. The evaluation identified other positive developments as well, such as the decision to include socio-cultural topics in the curricula of nursery schools and the teaching of reproductive health at the national Medical College, with a focus on an interdisciplinary approach to health problems and on the need to train health personnel as well as social workers in this field.

Data collection and analysis

17. The country's second census, taken in March of 1988, benefited from a direct contribution from UNFPA in the amount of \$742,000, as well as assistance in the amount of \$211,000 from Finland and Canada provided through a multi-bilateral arrangement with UNFPA. The Government contribution amounted to \$9.2 million, which included a loan from the World Bank of approximately \$4.2 million. The objectives of the 1988 population census were to create a permanent legal framework for population censuses in the country and to ensure the availability of updated baseline demographic data. The census also attempted to update the country's Directory of Localities and to produce accurate and reliable demographic data for the elaboration of the next national social and economic development plan. The preliminary results of the March 1988 population census indicate a population of 10 million. The census project encountered two main difficulties, namely, fluctuations in the exchange rate of the dollar in 1986-1987 and a delay in the release of the World Bank loan, which consequently delayed the coding, inputting and analysis of data.

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Population dynamics

18. UNFPA has been providing assistance to Côte d'Ivoire's National School of Statistics and Applied Economics (ENSEA) since 1972 for demographic training and research. This assistance has comprised two components: a training component and a scholarship component. The training component has just been renewed by UNFPA for a new three-year period, the first year of which is part of the first country programme. The scholarship component was evaluated by the United Nations in August 1989 and found to be generally satisfactory. The mission recommended that both components be maintained and given continued support by UNFPA as the needs for training in demography remain crucial in this part of Africa. It also recognized that the trained students were suitably employed in their respective countries and that further efforts should address the issue of the enrolment of female students.

Other external assistance

19. Côte d'Ivoire receives substantial external assistance for its social and economic programmes from three main sources: United Nations agencies and organizations, which account for 60 per cent of the total volume; bilateral donors, 22 per cent; and other international institutions, 18 per cent. However, only a small part of this assistance goes directly to population and related activities. This is due primarily to the fact that Government policy favours a distribution of resources along the following lines: economy, 50 per cent; agriculture, 25 per cent; transportation and communication, 16 per cent; and other sectors (including population activities) 9 per cent. The major bilateral donors to Côte d'Ivoire are Belgium, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG), France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and the United States, among others. Much of this assistance is directed to the health and education sectors (for training, technical assistance, equipment, and facilities) as well as to agriculture.

IV. PROPOSED PROGRAMME 1990-1991

20. The proposed programme in the amount of \$2.5 million over a period of two years (1990-1991) is based on the findings and recommendations of a multisectoral review mission that visited Côte d'Ivoire in March 1989. It aims at: (a) increasing awareness among policy-makers, parliamentarians, government officials, opinion leaders and national experts of population and gender issues as well as of the health benefits of birth spacing; (b) building up and strengthening the national institutional and human resource capacity to design, implement and administer population activities through training and through seminars and workshops; and (c) strengthening the planning process through the integration of population variables into socio-economic development planning and the establishment of a population planning unit within the Ministry of Industry and Planning.

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21. The strategy of the interim programme would focus on generating the political commitment needed to facilitate the adoption of administrative and legal measures that would help create favourable conditions for population activities, as well as improve the status of women and the health and well-being of mothers and children. UNFPA would seek to ensure the effective co-ordination and close collaboration among all partners involved in the implementation and monitoring of the interim programme. The main components of the programme, which would be executed by UNESCO, WHO, and the United Nations, are described below.

22. To achieve these objectives the programme would focus on: (a) creating and increasing awareness of interactions between population and development through IEC activities; (b) improving rural health services, including those specifically dealing with child spacing; (c) promoting the status of women through literacy campaigns and through their participation in project activities; (d) improving and increasing knowledge about population structure and trends through demographic training and research; and (e) establishing a demographic database.

Maternal and child health and family planning

23. The principal health objectives of the Government are to lower the country's high maternal and child morbidity and mortality rates and to promote the well-being of all the people of Côte d'Ivoire. In this respect, the Government has, since Independence, invested considerable resources in the health sector, in particular in terms of developing appropriate infrastructure and human resources. With the adoption of the WHO strategy of "Health for All by the Year 2000", primary health care policies and measures have been implemented in the areas of preventative medicine and MCH services. Despite these efforts, maternal and infant mortality rates remain high, and there are signs of malnutrition among various groups within the population, particularly among women and children. Moreover, studies carried out in 1982 at the Treichvielle Teaching Hospital on maternal mortality during labour and delivery showed that a high percentage of maternal deaths occurred during the transfer of women in labour from rural health centres to better-equipped regional and urban hospitals.

24. UNFPA assistance to this sector would focus on: (a) improving the collection, dissemination and utilization of health statistics, especially those concerning groups at high risk (e.g., adolescents, pregnant women, children); and (b) strengthening the technical capability of the Ministry of Health and Population at the national level by improving its planning, evaluation, monitoring and co-ordination mechanisms and by training health professionals in MCH/FP and related areas through fellowships abroad, local seminars and workshops and study tours. As far as birth-spacing services are concerned, UNFPA assistance in the amount of \$100,000 would be channeled through the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) affiliate Ivorian Family Welfare Association, which currently provides modern contraceptives in its clinics in the capital and in three other cities, in order to expand the coverage of the

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Association's birth-spacing services as well as of its IEC programme. UNFPA would also provide \$200,000 for audio-visual and medical equipment, rehabilitation of selected rural MCH centres, and short-term consultancies in health management and planning. WHO would serve as the executing agency.

Information, education and communication

25. Since gaining Independence in 1960, the Government has accorded the education sector its highest priority, devoting considerable resources to it. Unfortunately, very little has been developed in either the formal or non-formal education sector in terms of population/family life education curricula or in terms of the production of educational materials to address population and gender issues. UNFPA would provide assistance in the amount of \$800,000 for population IEC activities in both the formal and non-formal sectors with a view to creating and enhancing public awareness of family life and population issues. To ensure that the IEC activities take into account the socio-cultural values of the country, pre-project baseline surveys on the level of awareness of, attitudes towards and practices concerning population and gender issues would be undertaken prior to the formulation of the projects.

26. UNFPA assistance would aim at securing the commitment of policy-makers and decision-makers to population programmes and at broadening the acceptance of population activities on the part of the administrators and the general public. The strategy to achieve these objectives would focus on creating awareness and deepening the general understanding at all levels of government and society of issues and implications of population growth. The implementation of a strategy would require a number of lines of action. One line of action would be to educate key leaders about population issues. The primary aim of this activity would be to motivate these leaders to endorse IEC activities for the administrators and technical staff they supervise. A second line of action would be to gain the support of potential sources of opposition to population activities. This would require paying particular attention to efforts to increase their level of understanding of population and related issues. Other lines of action would include: (a) the training of the managers and technicians in the basic principles of population education and in communication techniques; (b) the use of mass media to convey messages and images that have been carefully pre-tested with intended audiences, with more detailed and informative messages to be developed after a base of support has been established; and (c) the convening of various groups within the community to discuss children's needs in terms of education and health services and to get feedback for use in determining or revising the content of population education messages.

27. In response to the increasing magnitude of problems among young people in Côte d'Ivoire (e.g., juvenile delinquency in schools, sexually transmitted diseases among students, pregnancies among teen-agers, high-school drop-outs, and induced abortions), the Government introduced in 1984 the teaching of "Civic Rights and Duties" and "Moral Values" into the curricula of elementary and

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secondary schools. The IEC activities of the UNFPA programme would be designed to complement and supplement these efforts by introducing family life education and other pertinent subject matters into the curricula of natural science, geography, civil rights and duties, and moral values. Other activities would include the production of appropriate audio-visual materials and the training of school teachers in population and related issues. UNDP would join UNFPA in carrying out such IEC activities and would jointly finance activities that fall beyond UNFPA's mandate (e.g., drug prevention and juvenile delinquency). The project in the formal sector would start on a pilot basis covering a few selected schools and then extend progressively to cover the whole country. An amount of \$400,000 is earmarked to support the cost of an international expert, training of teachers locally and abroad, provision of administrative support, holding of seminars and workshops, and the provision of teaching material and equipment. UNESCO would be the executing agency.

28. Non-formal education sector. Non-formal education in Côte d'Ivoire is handled by various ministries such as Youth and Sports, Social Affairs, Agriculture, Women's Promotion, and Information and Communication. These ministries, according to the findings of the multisectoral review mission, have a great deal of potential for developing and supporting population and related activities as well as family life education. The UNFPA project would, therefore, seek to infuse the non-formal education programmes of these ministries with concepts of family life education and information on the health benefits of birth spacing, in order to enhance people's understanding of these issues and thereby lessen opposition to family planning services. Activities in this area would include the training (locally and abroad) of the staff of ministerial departments as well as the promotion of awareness through various media (notably radio) and seminars and workshops. The themes of the seminars and workshops would be based on the findings of socio-cultural studies and demographic surveys carried out in other UNFPA-funded projects. The main target groups of the activities in the non-formal education sector would be youth organizations, women who participate in activities at social centres, students of agricultural training centres, agricultural extension workers and members of rural communities. UNFPA assistance in the amount of \$200,000 would cover consultancies, training, seminars, study tours, and administrative support costs. UNESCO would execute the project in collaboration with the relevant ministries and selected non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

29. Information and communication. Côte d'Ivoire is, among the sub-Saharan countries in West Africa, the best equipped in terms of information and communication capabilities. When the country gained Independence in 1960, it had only a limited national radio system. However, in order to make social, health and political information available to the majority of the people, the country progressively extended the coverage of national radio and installed and developed a national television network, both now reaching approximately 90 per cent of the population. The country's daily newspaper "Fraternité Matin", launched in 1964, is currently read by the majority of the literate Ivorians

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(some 30 per cent of the population). However, despite the rapid development of the various media, messages dealing with population and gender-related issues have not been given the required emphasis in either radio and television programmes or in the newspapers. The UNFPA programme would therefore assist the Government in its efforts to train and sensitize national journalists about population and related issues. The trained media personnel would be expected to play an important role in preparing and disseminating information about family life, family well-being and birth-spacing services, as well as in softening the opposition of male partners, who are currently one of the most serious obstacles to the use of birth-spacing methods in many parts of the country. UNFPA's input in the amount of \$200,000 would support the cost of training, attendance at international meetings and short-term consultancies. UNESCO would execute the project and, in co-operation with national NGOs, assist the Government in its implementation.

Basic data collection and analysis

30. The Ministry of Industry and Planning has underscored the importance of collecting, disseminating and utilizing demographic data as a means of updating its knowledge of population composition, structure and trends. As part of this effort, Côte d'Ivoire carried out its second population and housing census in March 1988 and established the legal framework for conducting population censuses on a decennial basis. Although the preliminary results of the census are now available, the census exercise has not yet been completed. In addition, as a follow-up to the census activities, the country plans to carry out two surveys - one on migration, the other on employment and households. UNFPA proposes to provide \$300,000 to cover the cost of completing the census exercise and to conduct the surveys.

31. With a view to putting in place an effective national system of civil registration, a pilot project would also be initiated with UNFPA support in the amount of \$100,000. The immediate objective of the project would be to improve the current civil registration system. The United Nations would serve as executing agency for both the population census and civil registration projects. The Economic Commission for Africa would provide technical backstopping, as and when required.

Population policy formulation

32. The first programme did not include a sector on population policy formulation primarily because of the Government's generally cautious attitude towards population issues at that time. However, the multisectoral review mission emphasized the need for increasing awareness about the interrelationship between population and development and for establishing a national population policy. It recommended, therefore, that national and regional seminars and workshops geared to policy-makers, parliamentarians, government officials, opinion leaders and national planners be organized with a view to promoting

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awareness of population issues as well as creating favourable conditions to facilitate the formulation of a population policy that would complement and supplement Côte d'Ivoire's development policy. The mission also proposed, among other things, the establishment of a population planning unit responsible for: (a) carrying out surveys, research and studies on fertility, mortality and various aspects of internal and external migration; (b) compiling an inventory of demographic and socio-economic data and assessing the quality of these data; and (c) assisting the Government in the formulation of an appropriate methodology to integrate demographic variables into the development planning process.

33. In view of the weakness of the national institutional capacity and the low level of awareness about population issues, the project activities in this sector would concentrate on training national experts locally and abroad, and carrying out national and regional seminars and workshops for policy-makers, parliamentarians, opinion leaders and national planners. Study tours would also be organized for national experts to enable them to benefit from the experiences of other countries in this area. The newly created population planning unit in the Ministry of Industry and Planning should also begin operations during this pilot phase, paving the way for the formulation of a population policy and the integration of demographic variables into the development planning process. The population planning unit would, among other things, undertake small-scale studies in close collaboration with national research institutions.

34. UNFPA would provide a total amount of \$400,000 in order to help the Government establish the population planning unit and to carry out the activities mentioned above. The United Nations would serve as the executing agency. UNFPA would work closely in this area with UNDP, which recently assigned an international team of consultants to the Ministry of Industry and Planning to assist the Government in establishing a socio-economic development planning unit.

Population dynamics

35. In the area of population dynamics, UNFPA would continue to support demographic training, research activities and field exercises undertaken in collaboration with ENSEA. Moreover, in view of the generally favourable assessment of the August 1989 evaluation, UNFPA assistance would also be used to further strengthen the scholarship component of ENSEA. UNFPA proposes to provide \$300,000 to this sector.

Women, population and development

36. Despite the increasing interest of the Government in promoting the status of women and integrating them into economic, social and cultural development activities, little in terms of programmes has been done to improve the reproductive health of women and to educate Ivorians on family life and gender issues. At the request of the Government, UNFPA would join other donors in assisting the Government in formulating and implementing programmes and projects

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geared to promoting the status of women, improving their health and socio-economic status and upgrading their managerial skills. UNFPA would provide \$200,000 to conduct surveys on women's socio-cultural beliefs and practices; to compile an inventory of studies on Ivorian family values and on women's roles in society and the economy; to provide training to improve women's managerial skills; and to hold seminars and workshops on family life education. UNFPA assistance would also be used to help the Government assess the feasibility of involving national women's organizations in the implementation of project activities. The Ivorian Association of Women, the Ministry of Women's Promotion and the Ministry of Social Welfare would implement the project. Appropriate national NGOs would provide technical support.

Programme reserve

37. An amount of \$100,000 would be held in reserve for new proposals that would be developed within the framework of the proposed programme.

Programme co-ordination

38. To ensure close co-ordination between the second UNFPA population programme and the population and development programmes of the Government and other donors, the Government will, for each project, set up a technical committee composed of representatives from concerned ministries. These technical committees will also be responsible for supervising and monitoring project activities. The committee members will meet twice a year to discuss matters concerning project execution and to identify bottlenecks that need to be addressed. The UNFPA Country Director would also convene quarterly meetings of managers of UNFPA-supported projects to discuss project-related problems, exchange information and ensure feedback. The project managers would also participate in an annual meeting of all donor agencies involved in the field of population organized by the Ministry of Industry and Planning. Finally, joint financed projects would be encouraged between UNFPA and other United Nations agencies in order to ensure close collaboration, joint programming and evaluation, and sharing of lessons learned.

Programme monitoring, evaluation and management

39. To ensure high quality, timely implementation and effectiveness, the programme would be monitored and evaluated in accordance with standard UNFPA procedures. Individual projects would have monitoring and evaluation components built into their activities. The preparation of periodic progress reports (PPRs), the conduct of annual country reviews (ACRs) and the holding of routine tripartite project review (TPR) meetings would also be built into the annual schedule of activities. Reports of these reviews and meetings would be shared by the UNFPA field office and headquarters, as well as with all executing agencies, with a view to identifying weaknesses and strengths of the programme. Furthermore, a mid-term programme review would be undertaken, and if deemed

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necessary, some selected components of the country programme would be evaluated independently. The results of all these exercises would be used to adjust and reorient programme and project activities as needed.

40. The proposed programme would be managed by the UNDP Resident Representative who also serves as the UNFPA Representative and by the UNFPA Country Director. The Country Director would be assisted by a National Programme Officer, a bilingual secretary and a driver. Taking into account the scope of the proposed second country programme, however, UNFPA would strengthen its field office staff by assigning a full-time national administrative and finance assistant.

Financial summary

41. As indicated in paragraph 1, UNFPA proposes to support a programme in the amount of \$2.5 million covering the period 1990-1994. The breakdown by work-plan category is as follows:

	<u>UNFPA regular funds</u>
	\$
Maternal child health and family planning	300,000
Information, education and communication	800,000
Data collection and analysis	400,000
Population policy formulation	400,000
Population dynamics	300,000
Women, population and development	200,000
Programme reserve	100,000
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TOTAL	\$2,500,000

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V. RECOMMENDATION

42. The Executive Director recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the programme for Côte d'Ivoire in the amount of \$2.5 million for the two-year period 1990-1991;

(b) Authorize the Executive Director to allocate the funds and make appropriate arrangements with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and with the executing agencies.
