



National
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Studies

Research Briefs & News

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Research Briefs and News

inbrief



Remarks from Executive Director's Desk

The successful completion of Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (PDHS), 2006-07 is a moment of personal delight and institutional achievement. The conduct and completion of PDHS was a momentous task and could not have been accomplished without the support, guidance and advice from a number of professionals and institutions and at NIPS we gratefully acknowledge that. It is also a moment of celebration, reflection and critical appraisal. It gives me pleasure to report that both the research and administrative staff of NIPS has shown professional commitment in ensuring the successful completion of fieldwork. They have worked as a team that generated a spirit of camaraderie and were vigilant in monitoring and conducting the field activities. NIPS remains premier national institution conducting demographic surveys and research, I am confident once again it is poised to set new standards for producing reliable, accurate and quality data. The Preliminary Report on the findings of the PDHS is under review and would be released sometimes in June 2007.

In June, I also complete my tenure at NIPS and must move on; working here has been personal pleasure and professionally rewarding experience. I remain grateful to many individuals and institutions but most importantly to my colleagues at NIPS for envisioning and building an interactive research environment. Now that NIPS is reactivated and energized with commitment and dedication they must maintain the momentum. Personally and on behalf of NIPS' I want to thank the Ministry of Population Welfare, FBS, USAID, UNFPA, UNICEF, and Macro International for financial and technical support for the PDHS. More than ever NIPS deserve your attention and continued support for capacity building and realization of its full potential.

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Workshop on MPS Programme at the Universities of Faisalabad, Punjab and Karachi

In collaboration with the Ministry of Population Welfare, the National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS) organised a one-day workshop on January 9, 2007 for the faculty members and selected students of the three universities offering Master Degree Programme in Population Sciences (MPS). The workshop was held in the Seminar Room of the NIPS. The Secretary, Ministry of Population Welfare presided over the Inaugural Session.

The workshop was started with the recitation from the Holy Quran followed by a welcome address by the Executive Director, NIPS. While welcoming the participants and the chairperson for their presence in the workshop, the Executive Director explained that the basic objective of the workshop was to get the policymakers, the researchers and the academia together and review the MPS programme in the three universities, the types of courses offered by the universities, the progress made so far, the problems faced by the universities, and the type of facilitation that the policymakers and research community can offer. The Executive Director informed that NIPS is involved in four major activities which include evaluation of various components of the Population Welfare Programme; cross-sectional surveys focussing on reproductive health, family planning and health of mothers and children; population projections at national and

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Workshop on MPS Programme

provincial level; and training programmes for mid-level programme managers at district level. He offered that the NIPS can share its wealth of data with the universities and its MPS students for their dissertations and research work. Besides, NIPS can offer internship programme for short period for the MPS qualified graduates and can also invite few students in their quarterly training programme on research methodology and data analysis.

Ms Seemin Ashfaq of the Population Council briefed the participants on the role of the Population Council in the initiation of the MPS programme in the three universities of Pakistan. The Population Council initiated the process in 2001-02 and had various consultative meetings with the universities and was instrumental in drafting curricula by engaging national and international consultants and advisors. The Population Council provided support in the form of training of faculty abroad and locally; strengthening of library; provision of equipment; provision of internship for students; students participation in conferences; provision of resource persons; networking with national and international organisations; identification of training opportunities; and thesis supervision by consultants.

Dr. Muniruddin, Director MOPW presented the objectives, functions, achievements and recent initiatives of the Directorate of the Population Education of the MOPW. He informed that formal component of the population education was started in 1983 when the scope of the population programme was shifted from fertility control to holistic approach of population and development. He informed that the MOPW had established Population Study Centres in 1986 in the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and University of Karachi, but due to operational problems, the same were discontinued by the Universities in 1993. He informed that the M/o Population Welfare fully supports the initiative of the Population Council for facilitating the MPS programme in the three universities. He also presented the work done by the

Population Education Directorate during June 2005 to December 2006 and shared future plans of the Directorate.

The Secretary, MOPW who was also chairing the inaugural session appreciated the efforts of the National Institute of Population Studies for holding this workshop and facilitating the interaction between the academia, researchers and the policymakers. He was appreciative of the efforts of the Population Council for initiation of the much needed MPS programme in the three universities and offered his help in personal capacity and that of the MOPW to help the universities sustain the MPS programme. He however, maintained that education programmes and degrees which are tailored along the lines and needs of the public and private sector are in a better position to sustain and flourish. Replying to a question, the Secretary informed that he will take up with the concerned quarters the question of compatibility of MPS in Population Studies and Population Sciences.

The Second Session focused on the presentations from the three universities. Dr. Muhammad Asghar Cheema, Dean / Chairman Department of Sociology, Agriculture University Faisalabad, Professor Dr. Fateh Muhammad Burfat, Chairman Department of Sociology, University of Karachi and Professor Khalil Ahmad, Department of Sociology, University of Punjab presented the progress of MPS programme in their respective universities and details of courses offered under the MPS programme.

Dr. Muhammad Asghar Cheema informed that the MPS programme was started in 2003 in collaboration with the Department of Rural Sociology. The students of two sessions have passed out while two sessions are in progress.

Dr. Burfat informed that consultative process for offering MPS programme in the University of Karachi was started in 2001, which has now materialized and the MPS programme in Population Sciences is being

offered by the Department of Sociology and Criminology from January 2007.

Professor Khalil Ahmad informed that the Department of Sociology, Punjab University has been upgraded into a full-fledged Institute with Population Sciences as one of its independent department.

The Executive Director NIPS appreciated the participation of the faculty members and students of the three universities, and the representatives of the Population Council and the M/o Population Welfare. He reassured all possible support for the MPS programme of the three universities. The workshop ended with mutual vote of thanks.

Broad agreements:

The curricula of the MPS programme were designed in consultation with local and foreign consultants. However, the contents of the curricula may be reviewed every two years and changes made keeping in view the market driven considerations.

The MOPW will take up the case of recognition of the MPS degree in Population Sciences with the concerned authorities. In this connection, the Secretary MOPW has already initiated the process. If needed, the Higher Education Commission may also be approached.

Graduates passing out are in demand and they are getting jobs. However, their absorption may further be facilitated by the MOPW, PWDs, national and provincial research organization, and national and international NGOs.

Technical training for students as well teachers may be arranged by the Population Council

Exchange of faculty members between the universities be encouraged

Latest books and journals may be provided. It was proposed that the Population Council may extend JStor facilities to the respective departments of the three universities.



Workshop at Sukkur

"Demographic Concepts and their Applications

(April 17-19, 2007)

The NIPS has taken a new initiative to start a training programme of three days duration at provincial level for capacity building of newly inducted demographers working at provincial and district levels in order to enhance their knowledge, skills and operational ability for achieving the goal of population stabilization. Under this programme, the Institute has planned to undertake a series of training workshops for concerned district level officers on "Demographic Concepts and Their Application" at provincial level. The objective of holding these workshops is to orient district level functionaries about the basic demographic concepts and enable them to manage/ utilize the basic demographic and statistical information available at district level in order to properly evaluate and monitor the performance of service delivery outlets.

The first workshop was held at Sukkur from 17-19 April 2007, under UNFPA assistance, for the field officers of PWD, Sindh. The participants of these workshops are required to be Demographers, Deputy Demographers and Statistical officers. The PWD, Sindh nominated mostly Tehsil and District Population Welfare Officers. The training workshop was, therefore, designed to enable tehsil level officers to utilize district level demographic and statistical information for desk as well as field monitoring in order to identify possible solutions for improving the performance at the lowest level. The training workshop was attended by 15 participants.

The inaugural session started with the recitation from the Holy Quran. The objectives and scope of the training workshop were explained by Director (HRD), which was followed by introduction of the participants. After inaugural address by Executive Director, NIPS, the participants were invited to say a few words about their requirement and expectations from the workshop. The participants were keen to learn about different demographic concepts and definitions, management of statistical

and demographic data relevant to their job description.

The second session of the first day consisted of i) Introduction of Research Methodology and ii) Demographic Concepts by Dr. Saeed Shafqat and Mr. Mehboob Sultan respectively. Dr. Saeed Shafqat, Executive Director, NIPS gave an introduction of the research problem, research methods and development of a hypothesis and research statement. The participants were oriented that how and why it is essential to differentiate between fact, value and ideology while conducting the research. Under the "Demographic Concepts and Determinants of Fertility" Mr. Mehboob Sultan, Director (R&S), explained the basic demographic concepts and definitions, which the course participants are required to be aware for performing their duties. They were oriented about definitions of Demography, Population Dynamic, Demographic Cycle, Demographic Transition, Population Trend, Population Growth Rate, Doubling Time, Spatial Distribution of Population, Crude Birth Rate (CBR), General Fertility Rate (GFR), Age Specific Fertility Rate (ASFR), Total Fertility Rate (TFR), Gross Reproduction Rate (GRR), Net Reproduction Rate (NRR), Child Women Ratio (CWR), Children Ever Born (CEB), CPR, Dependency Ratio, Median Age, Index of Aging, Singulate Mean Age at Marriage, Child Women Ratio, Labour Force Participation Rate, School Enrolment Ratio, Student Teacher Ratio, Population pyramid, Replacement level fertility, and population explosion and its implications. The third session for the day was meant for "Introduction to the Office Automation and use of Computer for Data Analysis" by Mr. Faatehuddin who apprized the participants on data entry/editing, Microsoft word, Excel and Power point supported with practical exercises.

The second day of training focused on i) Data Sources and its Usage ii) Questionnaire Design and Surveys iii) Lesson from PDHS and Preparation of District Profile. Director (R&S), NIPS gave detailed presentation on the subjects explaining sources of data viz

census, surveys and vital registration system etc. The process and experience of conducting PDHS was also shared with the participants. The last item of the day was the orientation of the participants with the process of preparing District Profile. The importance of this activity, with relevance to the nature of the participant's job descriptions, was emphasized. District Profile of Bannu, developed by NIPS, was discussed and the participants were asked to identify the areas which they considered essential for inclusion in the District Profile of their District.

The last day was solely devoted to i) Collection and Utilization of Service Statistics for Programme Monitoring and ii) Supervision and field Monitoring of Programme Outlets which was conducted by Mr. Hamid Khalil, Director (PME), MoPW, Islamabad who thoroughly deliberated on the above-mentioned subjects. Presentation on collection and utilization of service statistics for programme monitoring encompassed the trends of monitoring, performance indicators and flow of service statistics from facility level upto Ministry level. These indicators covered contraceptive performance, logistics, expansion in service delivery, fund utilization, IEC activities and community mobilization. Various practical exercises were also given to the participants to make them thoroughly understand/absorb, the estimation of process involved in indicators. Second presentation, focused on supervision and field monitoring of programme outlets. Various tools designed by MoPW for standardized and uniform field monitoring were explained to the participants. Data sources i.e. record and reports generated by service outlets were also briefly discussed with the participants.

The concluding session was chaired by Mr. Iqbal Ahmad, Director (HRD), who thanked the participants for their participation and keen interest in the proceedings of training workshop. He also thanked UNFPA for providing financial assistance.



PDHS Implementation - Update April 2007

The National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS) successfully completed the field activities of the PDHS as scheduled at its launching. A number of activities were undertaken during January – April 2007 to achieve the objective, and these included:

Field Vigilance and Monitoring

The PDHS Core Team and all professional NIPS staff continued their field monitoring visits during January and February 2007 to ensure teams do not slack in work and maintain the quality of data being collected. Checking of completed questionnaires in the field, validation by revisits to households, and ensuring interviewers do revisits to complete interviews were critical measures undertaken during monitoring visits to ensure completion and quality of data.

Completion of Field Survey and Wrapping of Team

More than 95 percent work of data collection was completed by mid February 2007. The first team that completed its assigned clusters was the Mirpurkhas team in the last week of January 2007 and the last team wrapped its work in Dir on Feb 28, 2007. All completed clusters were received by NIPS by mid March 2007.

Data Editing and Cleaning

NIPS engaged a team of young graduates in questionnaire editing, coding and cleaning process. NIPS provided them necessary training to undertake the task. Their work was closely supervised by two supervisors and the process was quite interactive to ensure best cleaning and coding of open ended questions.

Secondary Editing Stage

A team of experienced field supervisors and field editors was engaged from January 2007 to re-examine queries pointed out as inconsistent between various sections of the questionnaire. This process was undertaken to ensure data quality.

Review of Verbal Autopsies

Review of two types of verbal autopsies (female and infant/child deaths) was initiated at National Committee on Maternal and Neonatal Health and Aga Khan University, Karachi. Both institutions have taken the responsibility under separate contracts with Macro Inc. to organize systematic review of all verbal autopsies and pass on the results to NIPS. Accordingly, NIPS provided logistic support to both agencies to meet their requirements. NIPS shared the data set with each agency and developed software to facilitate their data entry based on review of VAs by team of experts. Both agencies will provide soft copies of the results of reviews identifying 'causes of death', which will be incorporated into the main data set of PDHS.

Data Entry Process

A trained team of fifteen data entry operators worked continuously for six months in two shifts to enter completed questionnaires; to ensure accuracy of data entered as received from the field. This intensive process was also completed, by end March 2007.

Data Processing

PDHS monitoring was an interactive process wherein desk review of computer based results of specific indicators were shared with field monitoring teams. The results were further shared with the field teams to identify areas of weakness that needed careful data collection and reduction of errors. The data entry of all 972 clusters was completed in the last week of March 2007 that enabled NIPS to prepare a file needed to generate sample weights by Federal Bureau of Statistics. Using these weights on PDHS raw data, NIPS will be able to generate weighted estimates for all indicators.



PDHS Process and Implementation

A process sharing meeting on PDHS was held in the Seminar Room of the Institute on 28th March, 2007. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Population Welfare, Ministry of Health, Planning and Development Division, Federal Bureau of Statistics, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences, Pakistan Medical Research Council, Population Council, Green Star Social Marketing, Key Social Marketing, and National Health Policy Unit. NIPS research staff also participated.

The PDHS 2006-07 is unique in the sense that it is the first time ever that data have been collected on maternal mortality estimation at national level and reasons surrounding maternal and infant and child deaths are being captured. The meeting was also briefed about the problems encountered during the fieldwork, strategies adopted to overcome hardships and skills utilised to muster support from the communities. The participants were informed that the process of data collection was initiated and completed within the stipulated time frame.





PDHS - 2006-07

Training Workshop at Provincial level: A new Initiative

TAC:

The National Institute of Population Studies (NIPS) has successfully completed the fieldwork, data entry and some preliminary analysis of selected indicators of the Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey 2006-07. The survey has been primarily funded by the USAID and technical support was provided by the Macro International, USA. UNFPA and UNICEF provided logistical support for the PDHS.

To share the progress of the PDHS with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and seek its guidance to finalize the preliminary report, on May 10, 2007 a meeting of the TAC Members was held, which also was attended by a large number of professionals, Policy Makers including Dr. Annie Cross, Senior Demographic Expert, Macro International, USA.

Donors:

The NIPS held a meeting with the donor community to share the preliminary findings of the PDHS on May 18, 2007. The NIPS gratefully acknowledges that the representatives of all the principal donors attended the meeting.



Human resource development through short term and medium term specialized training in Demography, Population and Development and skill in research training is one of the functions of National Institute of Population Studies. Training for the functionaries of Population Welfare Programme was being arranged at NIPS. Under this programme three training workshop on research methodology and data analysis for district level officer were held at NIPS during the year 2006. During the year 2007, the Institute has planned to undertake a series of workshop for concerned district level officers on "Demographic Concepts and Their Application" at provincial level. The objective of holding these workshops is to orient the district level functionaries about the basic demographic concepts and to enable them to manage/ utilize the basic demographic and statistical information available at the district level in order to properly evaluate and monitor the performance of service delivery outlets.

The contents of the training workshop have been worked out keeping in view the following job description of Demographers and Deputy Demographers posted at district level:

- o To maintain and update the population profile of the district
- o To monitor population growth by keeping in view the demographic indicators such as births, deaths, influx and outflow of population from the district
- o To plan and coordinate sample surveys
- o To monitor and analyze CPR and track the trend of family planning methods
- o To monitor compilation of performance data supply & sale of contraceptives
- o Keeping record and evaluating the contraceptive performance of district

In addition to holding the training workshops at a district head quarter, the other salient feature of this new initiative is to enhance the training skills of the NIPS research staff and the MOPW relevant officers.

A series of workshops are planned for the year 2007, under UNFPA assistance in Sindh, Punjab, NWFP, Balochistan and AJK/NA.

Workshop on Research Methodology and Statistical Modeling

Capacity building of NIPS research staff is being pursued with new vigor. To promote a culture of interactive dialogue and upgrade their research skills, a three day workshop was organized at NIPS from March 16-18, 2007. Dr. Arshed Mehmood, Director Research, Population Council was the resource person.





New Studies

Socio-cultural factors affecting Genetic Disorder in Population of Pakistan

by Ms. Azra Aziz, Senior Research Fellow, NIPS

There is general dearth of information on Genetic Disorders in Pakistan. On the other hand, there is growing evidence that congenital disorder is increasing with the rapid growth of Population in Pakistan. The demand for data on population with genetic disorder has recently increased in Pakistan, following the International Year of the disabled in 1981 and the United Nations declaration of 1983-1992 as the Decade of the Disabled. The Pakistan government also adopted a National Policy for Rehabilitation of the disabled in 1986.

The review of literature on the subject suggests that the socio-cultural factors affecting the increase in genetic disorder needs to be investigated. This will benefit the Ministry of Population Welfare, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Special Education and Ministry of Social Welfare.

The study aims to explore the socio-cultural factors associated in generating the disorder. The study sets out with the following objectives:

1. To assess socio-cultural determinants of genetic disorder in population of selected areas.
2. To make a profile of families affected by genetic disorder.
3. To assess the facilities used by the affected people
4. Recommendations and measures to be taken to control, treat and rehabilitate genetically disable people.
5. Two districts one from Punjab and one from Sindh would be selected.

SCOPE AND UTILITY OF THIS RESEARCH

It is expected that the findings of this Research would be useful for at least three ministries- the Ministry of Population Welfare, Ministry of Special Education and the Ministry of Health. The study would explore the causes and consequences of genetic diseases and calculate the rate of infected people. We could also estimate the number of people that are part of this society/community but

living a very despondent life. We would also be able to find out the concepts of people about this abnormality. What is the opinion of parents (Father and Mother) of these people that are infected or physically abnormal? Are they considering it disease or any other thing. What is the reason of this abnormality in according to parents of infected people? The findings of this study could help the above-mentioned three ministries to develop appropriate policy interventions.

Population and Environment:

To ensure security from hunger, ignorance, poverty, health hazards, and ecological degradation, minimum goals should be established for human development and ecological security. The development indicators should define the objectives for sustainable relationship between population and environment

--- Mahbul ul Haq



Impact Evaluation of Media Campaign of Population Welfare Programme

By Ms. Aysha Sheraz, Research Fellow, NIPS

Ministry of Population Welfare (MoPW) aims to promote the Population Welfare Programme to bring attitudinal and behavior change as part of its Advocacy and Communication Strategy. To achieve this objective it develops and implements media campaigns. The review of literature shows that family planning communication campaigns increase contraceptive use, however it remains unclear whether exposure to messages about contraception through multiple media sources has a greater impact than exposure through one medium.

The NIPS has been asked by the MoPW to carry out the impact evaluation of the Media campaign. Any impact evaluation attempts to answer an essentially counterfactual question: how would individuals who did not benefit from the programme have fared in the absence of the programme? How would those who did not benefit have fared if they had been exposed to the programme? The main objectives of the study are:

1. To observe exposure of general public to media messages
2. To scrutinize the level of the knowledge and practice of Family Planning
3. To study recall value and effectiveness of the frequency of the campaign
4. To study understanding of the messages
5. To study the effectiveness of the channels used, and
6. To suggest appropriate recommendations for further improvement/continuity of the media campaign.

To gather information for the research, qualitative as well as quantitative approach will be utilized to supplement each other for more enriched information. The Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey 2006-07 has just been completed, therefore, the detailed Household IEC information will be utilized for the research. To elicit qualitative information research tools will be used including Community profile, In-depth Interview questionnaires and Focus



Impact study contd...

Group Discussions (FDGs). The purpose of using both interviews and focus group discussions is to capture individual behavior and practices through the interviews, while the focus group discussions will assist in understanding community practices and attitudes towards IEC messages. One community questionnaire, one male and one female FDG will be conducted and ten In-depth questionnaires will be filled in each area, comprising of five male and five female interviews.

The study will be undertaken in eleven areas of Pakistan including rural and semi-urban. Purposive sampling will be done to cover representation of all areas of Pakistan. The sample will consist of three areas from Punjab and two each from Sindh, NWFP and Balochistan and one each from Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Northern areas.

NWFP Demographers visit NIPS

A group of mid-level officers of the Population Welfare Department, NWFP visited NIPS on March 9, 2007. These officials were under 3-weeks training on "Demography and Operational research" organized by the Technical Assistance Management Agency (TAMA). The visit of these officers to NIPS was part of the training programme.

The group was briefed about the functions and the research activities of the NIPS. They were also informed about the Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (PDHS), being conducted by the Institute. The participants showed keen interest in the District Population and Development Profiles developed by the NIPS. The briefing was followed by a lively question-answer session.

Seminar Series

NIPS continues to hold its seminars on regular basis. In first quarter of 2007, following seminars were held, which were very well attended:

1. April 28, 2007

"Prehistoric Culture of the Indus Region: Population Diversity and Health Status"

Professor Jonathan Mark Kenoyer, President America Institute of Pakistan Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison (USA).

2. May 07, 2007

"Understanding the Gendered influences on Women's Reproductive Health in Pakistan: Moving Beyond Autonomy Paradigm"

Dr. Zubia Mumtaz, Assistant Professor, University of Saskatchewan, Canada.



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11th Meeting of Board of Governors (BOG), NIPS

The 11th Meeting of BOG, NIPS was held on January 27, 2007 which was presided over by the Chairman, BOG, NIPS/Minister for Population Welfare, Chaudhry Shahbaz Hussain. The meeting reviewed and appreciated the activities of NIPS.



Recognition

In recognition of meritorious services of *Dr. Sultan S. Hashmi* and *Dr. M.S. Jillani*, who made a difference in the professional lives of NIPS researchers and contributed towards institutional development of NIPS, the Institute has resolved to name its Library as Dr. Hashmi's Library and Seminar Room as Dr. Jillani's Seminar Room.



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