

Training Workshop in Demographic Estimation Amman, 9-13 December 2012

Information Note

Introduction

Within the framework of the efforts made by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in the area of strengthening national capacities in compiling, disseminating and analysing population data, ESCWA and UNFPA are organizing a training workshop in methods of calculating and estimating demographic indicators during the period 9 to 13 December, 2012 in Amman, Jordan.

Vital registration data (the classic source of for producing fertility and mortality estimates) are often unavailable or too poor to be used for demographic estimation in the Arab region. This makes census data, which are more readily available, vital to the production of various demographic indicators such as, population estimates, growth rate, child mortality, life expectancy at birth and total fertility rate.

From here stems the importance of evaluating census and vital registration data and choosing methods for calculating current estimates for demographic indicators, including indirect estimates of infant and child mortality and total fertility rate.

To this end, the workshop will focus on training personnel working in statistical offices on producing demographic estimates from available data sources such as the census, using the computer software MORTPAK. Furthermore, participants will be trained on how to evaluate age and sex data from census and fertility and mortality from vital registration data.

Finally the workshop will cover scientific methods for estimating demographic indicators based on sample surveys such as the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) and the PAPFAM.

A. Objectives

The objectives of the workshop are:

- 1) Providing personnel working in data analysis in Arab statistical offices with scientific skills for producing demographic estimates;
- 2) Training the participants in evaluating and using official national data to produce current demographic estimates including,

population growth rate and estimates, infant and child mortality, life expectancy at birth and fertility rates.

The topics covered in the training workshop are:

- 1) Current estimates in basic demographic indicators, including, population growth rate and estimates, infant and child mortality, life expectancy at birth and fertility rates;
- 2) Producing life tables and mortality tables;
- 3) Evaluating the quality of census data and vital registration records;
- 4) Estimating fertility and child mortality through indirect methods;
- 5) Calculating demographic estimates from survey data;
- 6) Discussing ESCWA's Bulletin on Population and Vital Statistics and reaching a mechanism to collect comprehensive data;

B. Participants and Trainers

Participants: Statisticians and demographers employed by National Statistical offices in the Arab region;

Trainers: Regional and International experts working in the area of demographic analysis.

C. Documents

Training materials provided by the trainers;

D. Language

The language of the workshop will be in Arabic and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be made available.

E. Venue and time of the workshop

The training workshop will be held during the period of 9-13 December 2012 in Amman, Jordan.

F. Administrative arrangements

Participants are requested to make their own arrangements regarding their entry visa to Jordan.

G. For further information, contact:

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