



Population Council records, Population in Development Planning Program, Accession 2, RG 2, Series 15

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator:	Population Council
Title:	Population Council records, Population in Development Planning Program, Accession 2, RG 2, Series 15
ID:	FA1435
Date [inclusive]:	1971-1977
Physical Description:	1.41 Cubic Feet 3 legal-size document boxes
Language of the Material:	English

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Biographical / Historical

The Population Council was founded by John D. Rockefeller 3rd in 1952 to undertake "significant activities in the broad field of population." Its goal has been to bring about a reduction in the number of births that occur in the world. In its early years, the business of the Population Council was conducted by a Demographic Division and a Biomedical Division. Through its Demographic Division, the Council sought to document what it conceived to be an overpopulation problem threatening many areas of the world. To accomplish this purpose, the Division facilitated research on the economic, social, and psychological factors which affect the growth and decline of human population. This Council-assisted research effort was conducted not only by staff of the Demographic Division but also by other institutions and scholars, some of whom received Council grants and fellowships and some of whom received informal advice and consultation on how to design and execute studies.

The Biomedical Division, which, beginning in 1959, occupied a laboratory at The Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research (now The Rockefeller University), has conducted pure and applied research on plant, animal, and human reproductive physiology and on the development, the physiological action, and the safety and effectiveness of contraceptive methods. The Council facilitated similar types of medical research by non-Council scientists at other institutions by giving grants and fellowships for such research. The Council's biomedical research and its support for research by non-Council scientists were instrumental in the development of the modern intrauterine coil and the birth control pill.

In about 1960, the scope of Population Council activities expanded. The Council began to render practical and technical aid to foreign nations. Beginning in that year, the Demographic Division, in addition to supervising research, became involved in Pakistan's family planning program, extending

practical and technical aid in organizing and running a national family planning program. By 1964 the Council's Demographic Division had assisted in organizing family planning programs in South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, and Turkey. In that year, the Council created the Technical Assistance Division. This division, in ensuing years, continued the assistance of the Council in the countries where it had already become involved and also helped start and run programs in India, Morocco, the Philippines, and Puerto Rico.

An underlying aim of the Council's grant programs has been to encourage the development and growth of institutions that would promote family planning programs. To this end, the Council has given grants and advice to various universities and research centers for starting and upgrading programs for demographic and biomedical training and research programs; has assisted the United Nations to set up and expand regional Demographic Training and Research Centres in Bombay, India, Santiago, Chile, and Cairo, Egypt; has worked with the Ford Foundation on family planning programs in Pakistan, India, and North Africa.

In addition to rendering technical aid and sponsoring research, the Council has undertaken several complementary public relations efforts. To reach the general populations of the United States and of foreign nations, Council officers have worked to inform the mass media about population issues and to encourage magazine articles, movies, and books dealing with population matters. Council officers and representatives have also made trips and prepared reports to convince various foreign government leaders of the importance and the desirability of promulgating family planning programs. In addition, Council officers participated in and helped organize and finance conferences for demographers and medical scientists active in population work.

The Population Council has obtained its financial support through large contributions. The Ford and Rockefeller Foundations and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund have been the principal institutional supporters of the Council. John D. Rockefeller 3rd has been the single most significant individual backer of the Council.

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Scope and Contents

The records of the Population Development Planning Program are primarily comprised of project administration files, as well as a small selection of program and policy planning and proposal documents. The project files often include correspondence, memos, progress reports, status and trip reports, and governing documents.

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Arrangement

Original order is maintained, as received. The records are loosely organized alphabetically by country.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

Open for research. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC.

Processing Information

Minimal processing, 2018. Some records remain in original file folders.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection is open for scholarly research. If accessing the records of the Population Council, I understand that I am given access to these records on condition that I will not identify by name, either in my research notes or in publication or recording, the names of individuals who received or apparently received medical diagnoses and/or treatments, whose case(s), may be documented or mentioned by personal name in the Population Council records.

Conditions Governing Use

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Collection Inventory

Population in Development Planning Program, 1971-1977		
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General - Program Statements, 1974-1976	box 1	folder 1
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Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) - Staff Development Awards, 1974-1976	box 1	folder 6
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) - Status Report, 1975-1976	box 1	folder 7
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) - Reports, 1973-1976	box 1	folder 8
Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) - Visting Personnel-Consultants, 1974-1976	box 1	folder 9
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