REALIZATION OF ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE AWP FOR UZB3P31A PROJECT

TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN, 1-7 JUNE 2013

MISSION REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT

Submitted by:
Tomáš Kučera
Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Science, Department of Demography and Geodemography, Albertov 6, 128 43 Prague 2, Czech Republic
e-mail: kucera@natur.cuni.cz, phone: (+420) 732 550 508

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Objective of the Mission:
1. To develop and conduct a 40–academic hour training course focused on teaching methods of basic Demography and methodology of demographic analysis: sources of data on population; world and regional population trends and prospects; components of population change; age-sex and marital status composition of the population; population distribution and factors influencing distribution; household and family structure; basic measures such as rate of population growth rate, crude birth and death rates, balancing equation, population density; dependency ratio etc; demographic transition; age-structure and dependency transition; population and development; population theories; population issues in Uzbek developmental context.

2. To provide recommendations on developing curriculum for the course of Demography and list of procurement of textbooks on Demography and Population Studies for the library of Tashkent branch of Russian Economic University named after G. Plekhanov.

Part I
Program and Travel Summary:

Monday, 27 May   Pre-departure activities (preparing the course program, list of literature and teaching materials)
Tuesday, 28 May   Pre-departure activities (preparing teaching materials)
Saturday, 1 June  Travel to Tashkent
Sunday, 2 June    Arrival to Tashkent, accommodation, preparation for teaching
Monday, 3 June    1st day of the course, meeting with the representatives of Tashkent Branch of the Russian Economic University after G. Plekhanov and UNFPA Uzbekistan (Ms. Gulchekhra Zakirova), opening of the course and teaching
Tuesday, 4 June   2nd day of the course, teaching
Wednesday, 5 June 3rd day of the course, teaching
Thursday, 6 June  4th day of the course, teaching, briefing with Mr. Fuad Aliev
Friday, 7 June 5th day of the course, teaching, evaluation of the course and passing the certificates, departure from Tashkent, briefing with Mr. Karl Kulessa and Ms. Gulchekhra Zakirova

Sunday, 16 June Post-departure activities (redaction of presentation in English and Russian)

Monday, 17 June Post-departure activities (redaction of presentation in English and Russian)

Tuesday, 18 June Post-departure activities (redaction of presentation in English and Russian, sending presentations to Tashkent)

Part II:

Purpose of the mission (as the Terms of References (TORs):

The International Consultant will be responsible for the overall training and its results, particularly the following:

- To develop outline of the training course and share it with UNFPA Uzbekistan for further discussion with and approval by the Tashkent branch of Russian Economic University named after G. Plekhanov;

Upon approval of the course outline:

- To develop training materials, including examples, that can instill knowledge and essential concepts, increase practical skills of the training participants;
- To prepare handout materials and additional information to support the lectures;
- To prepare relevant class exercises for each topic and sub topic of the course outline for class exercise sessions;
- To conduct all lectures and practical exercises in professional manner as per the agreed training course outline; including engaging in questions and answers sessions with participants;
- To conduct and analyze pre- and post-training assessments of the knowledge and skills of participants;
- To submit a report on the mission (training results, challenges, future recommendations to UNFPA).

Part III

Description of the mission:
(Referring to the TORs)

Tasks:

(a) To develop outline of the training course and share it with UNFPA Uzbekistan for further discussion with and approval by the Tashkent branch of Russian Economic University named after G. Plekhanov

(b) To develop outline of the training course and share it with UNFPA Uzbekistan for further discussion with and approval by the Tashkent branch of Russian Economic University named after G. Plekhanov;
(c) To develop training materials, including examples, that can fix knowledge of essential concepts and increase practical skills of the training course participants;

(d) To prepare handout materials and additional information to support the lectures;

(e) To prepare relevant class exercises for each topic and sub topic of the course outline for class exercise sessions;

(f) To conduct all lectures and practical exercises in professional manner as per the agreed training course outline; including engaging in questions and answers sessions with participants;

(g) To conduct and analyze pre- and post-training assessments of the knowledge and skills of participants;

(h) To submit a report on the mission (training results, challenges, future recommendations to UNFPA).

Goals:

(a) To prepare confident, competent participants (lecturers and professors) on basic Demography and methodologies of demographic analysis

(b) To report on training activities (training results, challenges, future recommendations to UNFPA Uzbekistan Country Office)

Format:

Training course classes and exercises based on traditional as well as interactive methods of teaching and information exchange by way of discussions during lectures and exercises.

Steps:

1. The training course outlines design and their submission to partners (UNFPA CO, Tashkent Branch of Russian Economic University after G. Plekhanov) for approval;
2. Particular topics selection according to the adopted program and design of the training course classes;
3. Compilation, adaptation, translation and design of presentations and exercises into Russian and English to support planned mandatory teaching of 30 per cent courses at Uzbek Universities in English since nest academic year;
4. Handout materials and presentations preparation;
5. Conducting the training course classes: lecturing, performing exercises, and discussing with the course participants;
6. Evaluation of the course results, elaboration of recommendations with a special focus on further strengthening the capacity in teaching Demography at the Tashkent Branch of Russian Economic University after G. Plekhanov;
7. Writing and presentation of a mission report.

Realization and results:

The training course outlines proposals based on the previous discussion between the international consultant and representatives of the partners (the UNFPA Country Office and Tashkent Branch of the Economic University after G. Plekhanov) were prepared and submitted for partners’ approval together with a list of recommended basic demographic literature – textbooks in English for the library of the University. Partners’ requirements were incorporated and the program was
finalized. Design and translation materials into Russian for presentations and exercises were completed.

The training course covering planned topics were conducted in the required and agreed formats (lectures, exercises and discussions with workshop participants). The MS PowerPoint presentations were edited after the course, translated into English and sent for distribution to the organizers. Evaluation of the training course was conducted together with partners and certificates were passed to the participants.

**Outputs:**

- In total over 20 teachers and students were trained within the course.
- The list of recommended publications – demographic textbooks in English compiled and provided to the partners.
- Report on training activities (training results, challenges, future recommendations to UNFPA Uzbekistan Country Office)

**Part IV:**

**Conclusions:**

Population becomes globally more and more important factor of social and economic developments on all territorial levels of society organization. Population variables are integrated into many sectoral plans on national, regional and local levels, become unavoidable part of any evidence based decision making and are subject of policy formulations. This process requires corresponding capacities. A principal part of their building is preparation of specialists in different fields being acquainted with Demography, its knowledge and methods in the framework of ordinary forms of higher education.

In this context, the common effort of the UNFPA Uzbekistan and Tashkent Branch of the Economic University after G. Plekhanov is logical and highly needed. Economics is definitely one of the most promising platforms for development of Demography and its teaching/study. The effort of the University and its top management is serious, long-term and systematic, and therefore it is worth to be supported. It is manifested, for instance, by new demographic course for MA students of Labour Economics and detailed elaboration of its program. The conceptual and program material provided by the Economic University was reviewed in the framework of this mission, and resulting comments and recommendations were presented and discussed during one of the course classes (see Appendix II).

As it was already mentioned in my previous Mission Report from November 30, 2012, The Economic University plans and activities are worth of attention and wide support of governmental bodies and the UNFPA in Uzbekistan CO but also international professional and namely academic community. Referring to the general request of Uzbek Government addressed among others also to governmental bodies and academic institutions of the Czech Republic, Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Science and its Department of Demography and Geodemography has offered its assistance for development of teaching Demography and demographic research in Uzbekistan, namely in the Tashkent Branch of the Economic University after G. Plekhanov. This offer went in a form of a diplomatic nota of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Uzbek Ministry. It should arrive to its destination recently. As it is mentioned in the nota, our Department is ready to provide to Uzbek colleagues in general and in particular to those from the Economic University required technical assistance in their effort to establish a regular courses and/or entire study program in Demography.
The question, however, is not only the content of such assistance but also its effectiveness. Next activities should be targeted on particular teachers or their small groups, and should respect their role in designing and conducting the course or the entire Demography study program in the future. The general courses and training already fulfil its basic role and it is time to approach more focused and sufficiently deep training activities.

**Recommendations:**

Referring to the study plans submitted for review, my recommendations are summarised in the Appendix II. The strongest recommendation is to calculate teaching and study time properly and to adopt sensitively the proposed rich content to time available.

Regarding capacity building, I can only repeat my last year recommendation to continue within the series of education and training activities with those specialists who have already passed the current one and to focus namely on those who should directly participate in the future educational process in Demography. Specialised training opportunities, in particular study tours, could make more effective the whole process of capacity building as well as could stimulate interest and effort to learn and to be innovative in own professional work.

Thematic focus of further training should be differentiated as well. Future teachers of demographic disciplines should start with individual specializations, participate in population research and become a part of international professional networks.

An access to demographic information and international literature will play a crucial role in the next stages of capacity building process. Therefore systematic attention should be paid to this question and necessary assistance from the UNFPA and other international partners in this respect should be provided.

**Acknowledgements:**

It is my pleasure to express sincere gratitude for well done organizational work of local organizers and traditional hospitality and care of all colleagues I met in Uzbekistan. My special thanks belong to the UNFPA in Uzbekistan Country Office and the Institute of Economics, Economic University after G. Plekhanov, in particular to Mr. Kalandar Abdurakhmanov, Mr. Fuad Aliev, Ms. Vinera Gabzalilova, Mr. Akmal Mamtkhanov and Ms. Gulchekhra Zakirova for their kind help and principal contribution to the attained results of my mission. Thank you.

Prague, 30 June 2013

Tomáš Kučera

Appendices (2)
Appendices

I. 5-day training course program:

UNFPA Uzbekistan  
Plekhanov Russian University of Economics, Tashkent Branch  

Program for a 5-day course of Demography for university teachers

Tashkent, June 3-7, 2013

Time budget: 40 contact academic hours  
Number of participants: 20 persons

Monday, June 3:

10:00 – 11:00 Registration of participants and opening ceremony  
11:00 – 11:50 Introduction to Demography  
11:50 – 12:10 Coffee-break  
12:10 – 13:00 Time in Demography and Lexis diagram  
13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break  
14:00 – 15:20 System of demographic indicators and their use  
15:20 – 15:40 Coffee-break  
15:40 – 17:00 Population size and demographic structures

Tuesday, June 4:

09:00 – 10:20 Population development process and its conceptualization  
10:20 – 10:40 Coffee-break  
10:40 – 12:00 Population development and current demographic situation in the world  
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch break  
13:00 – 14:20 Natality and fertility: principles of description and analysis  
14:20 – 14:40 Coffee-break  
14:40 – 16:00 Natality and fertility developments in the world

Wednesday, June 5:

09:00 – 10:20 Mortality: principles of description and analysis  
10:20 – 10:40 Coffee-break  
10:40 – 12:00 Mortality developments in the world  
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch break  
13:00 – 14:20 Migration: principles of demographic description and analysis; changing role of migration in population development of contemporary world  
14:20 – 14:40 Coffee-break  
14:40 – 16:00 Population reproduction assessment and its current features in the world

Thursday, June 6:

09:00 – 10:20 Design of a basic Demography course curriculum  
10:20 – 10:40 Coffee-break  
10:40 – 12:00 Study formats and teaching techniques for Demography  
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch break  
13:00 – 14:20 Practical exercise I - Searching demographic information on Internet
14:20 – 14:40  Coffee-break
14:40 – 16:00  Practical exercise II - Comparisons in Demography

Friday, June 7:
09:00 – 10:20  Practical exercise III - Demographic tables construction
10:20 – 10:40  Coffee-break
10:40 – 12:00  Practical exercise IV - Demographic tables construction (cont.), Estimation of reproduction indicators values
12:00 – 13:00  Lunch break
13:00 – 14:20  Population forecasts and forecasting
14:20 – 14:40  Coffee-break
14:40 – 16:00  World population development prospects
16:00 – 17:00  Presentation of certificates and closing of the course
II. Demography course curriculum design

1. Исходный материал
2. Адресаты курса
3. Цели курса
4. Увязка курса
5. Временные рамки
6. Программа курса
7. Учебные материалы
8. Техническое обеспечение
9. Контроль
10. Исполнители
11. Комментарии и рекомендации к преподаванию
Исходный материал

Рабочая программа учебной дисциплины «Основы Демографии»
1. Адресаты курса?
2. Цели курса?
3. Увязка курса?
4. Временные рамки?
5. Программа курса?
6. Учебные материалы?
7. Техническое обеспечение?
8. Контроль?
9. Исполнители?

Адресаты курса

Направление подготовки: 080100.62 - «Экономика»

Профиль подготовки: Экономика труда (только ?)

Квалификация (степень) выпускника: Бакалавр Экономики
Цели курса

Воспитать квалифицированного производителя демографических знаний или пользователя демографических знаний?

Каким путем?

Увязка курса

На знании каких дисциплин будет основан процесс обучения демографии?

Важны знания Статистики!
Временные рамки

Объем курса и форма аттестации:
всего: 68 часов / 2 зачетные ед., в т.ч.
аудиторные занятия – 26 часов / 1 зачетная ед.;
самостоятельная работа – 42 часа / 1 зачетная ед.;

По системе ECTS этот бюджет времени представляет 2,27 кредита.
Тем не менее, полный курс начальных демографических знаний составляет 5-6 кредитов ECTS, то есть 150-180 часов работы студента. Из них аудиторных часов должно быть не менее 60 и остальные посвящены самостоятельной работе студентов.

Самостоятельная работа-занятия (стр. 3) – явное противоречие!
Самостоятельная работа – 42 часа на стр. 3 сверх того ведутся в колонке «Аудиторные часы-Семинарские занятия»

Программа курса

1. Предмет, методы, цели и задачи демографии

2. Источники данных о населении и демографических процессах – после этой темы должна следовать отдельная тема Время в демографии и сетка Лексиса

3. Численность и структура населения

4. Общие измерители уровня и динамики демографических процессов - демографические коэффициенты и вероятности – здесь не хватает стандартизации!

5. Демографический анализ брачности и разводимости – второстепенная тема, возможно отменить

6. Рождаемость и репродуктивное поведение – ключевая тема, больше времени!
Программа курса

7. Смертность, продолжительность жизни, самосохранительное поведение — ключевая тема, существенно больше времени!
8. Естественное движение населения. Воспроизводство населения и его типы
9. Урбанизация и особенности расселения населения — второстепенная тема, возможно отменить
10. Механическое движение населения. Миграционные процессы в мире, России и Республике Узбекистан
11. Социально-демографическое прогнозирование
12. Демографическая политика, ее взаимосвязь с социально-экономической политикой

Программа курса

В программе курса не хватает тем:
1. Актуальные вопросы современной демографии
2. Развитие мирового населения, Узбекистана и Центральной Азии
3. Использование демографических знаний на практике
Учебные материалы

В дополнение к русской литературе следует рекомендовать и другую иностранную литературу и международные источники демографических данных.

Техническое обеспечение

Выявление потребностей касающихся аппаратного и программного обеспечения курса.
Контроль

Достаточно определен

Исполнители

1. Сколько учителей будут осуществлять курс?
2. Требования к учителям, их квалификация
3. Как будут распределены роли между учителями?
Комментарии и рекомендации

1. Стимулировать студентов в самом начале, а также в ходе курса показывая на конкретных примерах:
   - где и как демография может быть полезна
   - каковы возможности применения и перспективы специалистов в данной области
   - как демография пересекается с другими дисциплинами, которые изучаются студентами

2. Достаточное количество часов посвятить практическим занятиям, сосредоточив внимание на расчетах и графическом представлении входов (Lexis), и результатах учебных исследований и задач

3. Продумать размеры заданных семинарных работ, чтобы успевать тщательно проверять результаты

4. Помочь студентам с ориентацией в основной (обязательной) литературой, разработкой учебных текстов (за исключением монографии), так называемых “Readings”.

Семинар «Демография для преподавателей ВУЗов»
Филиал РЭУ им. Плеханова, Ташкент, 3-7 июня 2013 г.