

Jan. 1992

The logo for FFS (Fertility and Family Surveys) is a stylized, bold, black graphic. It consists of the letters 'F', 'F', and 'S' arranged in a way that they overlap and form a cohesive, modern design. The 'F's are positioned to the left of the 'S', and they are all rendered in a thick, sans-serif font.

NEWSLETTER 1

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), ECE, with financial assistance of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU with the objective of informing members of the FFS Informal Working Group as well as other interested individuals about recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, PAU, ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone 7346011, extension 2764, telefax 7346889.

1. Perhaps the best news to start this first FFS newsletter with is that the project has been successful in gaining full UNFPA support for the period 1992-1995. This means, among other things, that Erik Klijzing of the PAU will continue to co-ordinate FFS project activities in the years ahead, thus contributing towards the common goal of international comparability of FFS data.

2. As a result of UNFPA's approval, many initiatives need to be taken. For instance, an FFS associate expert will soon be recruited in order to assist the FFS project expert.

3. The Institute for Resource Development (IRD) has offered to pretest the FFS core and module questionnaires in January 1992, on the basis of a "December 1991" version that integrates the modules on migration and contra-ception. As soon as pretest results have been reported, the FFS core and module questionnaires will be finalized, copy-edited, and printed. It is expected that they will become available for use by countries participating in the FFS project not later than February 1992.

4. In addition to pretesting the FFS core and module questionnaires, the IRD will also provide training in the use of the Inte-grated System for Survey Analysis (ISSA), during a workshop from 10 to 28 February 1992 at the Institute of Statistics and Demography, Warsaw, Poland. The training will be based on the "December 1991" version of the FFS core and module questionnaires. Mrs. Jeanne Cushing (IRD), who will be giving the training, visited the PAU from 15 to 18 December 1991 in order to work out details of the training workshop in collaboration with Erik Klijzing. Half of the 16 participants registered so far are from central or eastern Europe.

5. The number of countries currently participating in the FFS project is 19, Estonia being the last to join. The timing of survey operations per country at the back of this newsletter is based on information collected during the June 1991 meeting of the FFS Informal Working Group. Each country will soon be asked to provide the PAU with an up-date of its FFS plans. Efforts to enlist the participation of ECE countries not yet involved in the FFS project, such as

Albania, Lithuania and Turkey, continue.

6. Poland fielded its FFS survey in October/November 1991, at the same time that Germany was conducting a first pilot study of its FFS questionnaire. The next countries to conduct their main fieldwork for the FFS project are likely to be Sweden and Yugoslavia (Serbia).

7. The FFS module on "values and beliefs" prepared by Freddy Deven of the CBGS, Brussels, is ready and will, after having been given the same layout as the other FFS questionnaires, become available for use in February 1992. Countries wishing to implement this module, which replaces Section 7 of the core, are themselves responsible for pretesting it.

8. A document containing rules and recommendations for the submission of Standard Recode Files and access to the FFS database is currently being prepared by the PAU. As soon as it is finalized, it will be distributed among members of the FFS Informal Working Group for comment.

May 1992

FFS NEWSLETTER 2

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), ECE, with financial assistance of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU with the objective of informing members of the FFS Informal Working Group as well as other interested individuals about recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, PAU, ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone 7346011, extension 2764, telefax 7346889.

1. The Institute for Resource Development (IRD), Columbia, Maryland (USA) has pretested the FFS core and module questionnaires in January 1992 using the "December 1991" version of the questionnaires, which included migration and contraception modules. The **FFS pretest** was carried out under the personal supervision of Mr. Martin Vaessen, Director, IRD.

2. The FFS pretest consisted of 312 personal interviews with men and women aged 20 to 39 years residing in Chittenden County, Vermont (USA). Male interviewers interviewed male respondents, and female interviewers interviewed female respondents. Separate versions of the FFS questionnaire were used to interview male and female respondents. All interviews were conducted in English.

3. Prior to the FFS pretest, fifteen professional researchers attended a three-day training session to familiarize themselves with the FFS survey instrument. This training session included a discussion of goals and objectives of the FFS project, an item-by-item review of the FFS questionnaire, and extensive role

playing. On the last day of the training session, four trainees interviewed four actual respondents while the other trainees watched and took notes from behind a one-way mirror. These four interviews were also videotaped.

4. The respondents for the actual FFS pretest were recruited by telephone. Difficulties were experienced in scheduling the interview appointments with the respondents. The vast majority of the individuals called refused to be interviewed. This, in turn, led to a very low response rate. Although no hard data exist for explaining the problems with the interview appointment scheduling, it is safe to assume that the majority of the refusals were caused by one of three reasons: (i) the respondents were not offered any compensation for their time; (ii) the interview was quite lengthy; (iii) the interview topics were personal in nature.

5. Approximately 3,000 households were called and asked for their participation in the FFS pretest. Over three-quarters of these households refused outright. Another ten percent

agreed to be interviewed but subsequently changed their minds. By extending the fieldwork period into early February, 312 interviews were eventually completed, yielding a survey response rate of approximately ten percent.

6. Given the refusal problems referred to above, the years of age and levels of income and education of the respondents were varied as much as possible. Every effort was made to evenly split the interviews between rural and urban settings.

7. The interview itself took approximately 35 minutes to administer. The shortest interview lasted 20 minutes, and the longest took 75 minutes. There were no instances of "break-offs" or "mid-terminates" during the scheduled interviews.

8. After the FFS pretest, Mr. Vaessen prepared a detailed report containing many useful suggestions for final revisions of the **FFS questionnaire**. He also made available to the PAU the interviewer's manual used during the FFS pretest, as well as the videotapes of the four training interviews. The material on the tapes, along with Vaessen's comments indicated, among other things, that no data should be collected on contraceptive use, employment, and residence episodes of less than 3 months.

9. Additional suggestions for final revisions in the FFS questionnaire were made by participants in the February 1992 training workshop in Warsaw (Poland) on the Integrated System for Survey Analysis (ISSA). Those suggestions led to revisions in the FFS questionnaire which would simplify the task of entering national FFS data using ISSA. After all final modifications were made, the FFS questionnaire as a whole was carefully checked and corrected for grammar and style by a professional copy-editor.

10. These revisions, which were implemented by Erik Klijzing, led

ultimately to the "March 1992" version of the FFS questionnaire, that is the final version of the questionnaire. Copies of this version were recently distributed among all countries participating in the FFS project for use in their national FFS surveys.

11. In addition to the modules on migration and contraception included in the "December 1991" pretest version of the FFS questionnaire, the "March 1992" version also integrates the module on "Values and beliefs" prepared by Freddy Deven of the Population and Family Study Centre (CBGS), Brussels (Belgium) and the module on "Population Policy Acceptance" (PPA) prepared by Hein Moors of the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI), The Hague (Netherlands), and Rossella Palomba of the Institute for Population Research (IRP), Rome (Italy).

12. The modules on "Values and beliefs" and "Population Policy Acceptance" were not included, however, in the pretest of the FFS questionnaire in January 1992 by IRD. Countries wishing to implement them in their national FFS questionnaires are urged, therefore, to pretest them as part of their pilot studies before the main fieldwork begins.

13. In addition to carrying out the FFS pretest, the IRD has also provided training in the use of ISSA at an **FFS workshop**, which took place during 10-28 February 1992 at the Institute of Statistics and Demography (ISD), Warsaw (Poland). The training provided by Mrs. Jeanne Cushing of IRD focussed on the use of ISSA for creating national FFS dictionaries, data files, Standard Recode Files, and tabulations. The three-weeks training workshop was attended by 15 participants from 11 countries (Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain, Turkey, and Yugoslavia). At the end of the training workshop the participants received a certificate of attendance from Mrs. Cushing of IRD, Mr. Holzer, Director of ISD hosting the workshop, and Mr.

Klijzing, FFS project expert.

14. Mr. Gijs Beets of NIDI has submitted to the PAU an **outline for FFS country reports** that is currently under review. The outline contains detailed proposals for topics to be covered and tables to be included in the country summaries of FFS findings. As soon as it is finalized, one of the countries that already collected and processed national FFS data, would be invited by the PAU to prepare an FFS country summary on the basis of this outline, after which the outline may be revised again. The revised outline will be on the agenda of the FFS Informal Working Group meeting to be convened in late 1992.

15. Currently, there are **21 countries participating** in the FFS project, Lithuania and Turkey being the last two to join. The funding of the national FFS surveys in these two countries as well as in some other FFS countries has not yet been secured, however. The Statistical Office in Tirana has indicated to the PAU that it is not the right time for Albania to participate in the FFS project but the issue of Albania's participation in the project may be reconsidered at a later time.



NEWSLETTER 3

November 1992

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), ECE, with financial assistance of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU with the objective of informing members of the FFS Informal Working Group as well as other interested individuals about recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, PAU, ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone 917 2764, telefax 917 6889.

1. The PAU plans to convene the **Fourth FFS Informal Working Group Meeting** from Wednesday 26 to Friday 28 May 1993 in Geneva. The agenda will include, among other things, the following items: (i) FFS country summaries of findings, (ii) FFS standard tabulations, (iii) FFS Standard Recode Files (SRF), and (iv) FFS data sharing arrangements.

2. Inputs to this meeting will consist, among other things, of the manual "**FFS Questionnaire and Codebook**" published recently by the ECE. Part IV, Section V, of this publication details the various ways in which a national SRF may be constructed. One way of doing so is through the FFS data entry program of the Integrated System for Survey Analysis (ISSA). This program, which is now available from the PAU, can be used by countries that field a national FFS questionnaire similar to the ECE FFS questionnaire contained in Part 2 of this publication.

3. The **FFS data entry program** follows exactly the skip pattern of the ECE FFS questionnaire and checks for permissible ranges of all variables. In addition, some 70 built-in consistency checks test for the logic of

relationships between variables. About half of these consistency checks were developed at the ISSA training workshop in Warsaw (Poland), 10-28 February 1992.

4. The PAU has started work on the compilation of **FFS References** through PROCITE, a software package for bibliographic applications. The November 1992 issue of "FFS References" lists 200 publications, currently available at the PAU, which are directly or indirectly related to fertility and/or family research. The publications are grouped under 6 major headings: Analytical Studies, Comparative Studies, Country Studies, Methodological Studies, Regional Studies, and Subregional Studies. Members of the FFS Informal Working Group are invited to suggest additional titles and, if possible, to provide the PAU with hard copies. It is suggested that titles be restricted to publications in English and French only. FFS researchers will themselves be responsible for compiling FFS references in their native language.

5. Erik Klijzing represented the ECE at the Expert Group Meeting on **Family Planning, Health and Family**

Well-being in Bangalore (India), 26-30 October 1992, with a discussion note on "Family Planning and Reproductive Health in Selected Member States of the Economic Commission for Europe". Geographically, the focus of the discussion note was on ECE member states in eastern Europe and the ex-Soviet Union. The meeting formed part of the preparations for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development. Recommendations for future research and policy action adopted during the meeting will be presented to the Preparatory Committee of the Conference when it meets in 1993.

6. Following the Expert Group Meeting in Bangalore, Erik Klijsing then went on two separate missions to **Turkey** and **the Baltic republics** to discuss plans for an FFS in those countries. The granting of aid-recipient status to the Baltic republics by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Program in 1992 has opened the way for seeking external assistance to national population activities through the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

FFS COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

7. According to the latest information available to the PAU, prospects for obtaining the necessary funds for an FFS in Wallonia are definitely good. After Flanders and Brussels, this would be the third sub-national FFS in **Belgium**.

8. Although funds for an FFS in **Estonia** are still not fully secured, an Estonian FFS Working Group has been set up consisting of 18 members from various organizations, among them Luule Sakkeus of the Estonian Inter-university Population Research Centre (EIPRC) who attended the ISSA training workshop in Warsaw (Poland), 10-28 February 1992. Work on the female version of the Estonian FFS questionnaire began in May 1992, and a first pilot study is being planned for February 1993. The national FFS questionnaires for Estonia, one in Estonian and one in Russian, in

addition to being similar to the ECE FFS questionnaire, include in modified form module 1 on migration. Subject to availability of funds, the main fieldwork will be carried out at the end of 1993 by "Saar & Poll Ltd.", an independent survey research organization. A nationally representative sample of 5,000 female and 2,500 male respondents aged 20 to 70 years will be drawn on the basis of Estonia's own copy of national data from the USSR 1989 All-Union Population Census, to be up-dated through the national register of addresses. The University of Michigan and University of Stockholm are providing technical assistance to FFS- Estonia.

9. After a first pilot study of its national FFS questionnaire in December 1991 and a second one in March 1992, **Germany** carried out its main FFS fieldwork in the summer of 1992. The Federal Institute for Population Research (BIB) has provided the PAU with full information on the correspondence between the national FFS questionnaire and the ECE FFS questionnaire. Except for section IV on abortion and section VIII on education, all other sections recommended for inclusion in national FFS questionnaires were implemented in part or in total in the German FFS questionnaire. In addition, the module on Population Policy Acceptance (PPA) was implemented almost in full.

10. Like Estonia, **Latvia** is also trying to secure funds at home and/or abroad for an FFS. Unlike Estonia, however, Latvia has not yet obtained its copy of national data from the USSR 1989 All-Union Population Census. If efforts in both areas are successful, it is likely that a national FFS questionnaire for Latvia would be very similar to the ECE FFS questionnaire. In addition, a national FFS questionnaire for Latvia would most probably include modules 1 and 4 of the ECE FFS questionnaire, on migration and Population Policy Acceptance (PPA), respectively. Fieldwork for an FFS in Latvia may be carried out by the Social Research Centre (SRC), an independent

survey research organisation.

11. FFS project developments in **Lithuania** are similar to those in Latvia, except that the Department of Demography in charge of an FFS in Lithuania is in the process of being transferred from the Institute of Economics to the Institute of Sociology, both of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. For the time being, therefore, final decisions on an FFS in Lithuania are being postponed. The Department of Statistics remains strongly in favour of Lithuania's participation in the FFS project.

12. With the help of the PAU, the National Commission of Statistics in Bucharest has prepared and submitted for UNFPA approval a proposal to combine an FFS in **Romania** with a specialized survey on the demand for and supply of family planning services. If approved, the PAU will act as a backstopping agency for such an FFS-type survey, commissioning some of the work on the supply side of the project to consultants from INED. Information on the demand side could be obtained by including an adapted section on knowledge, attitudes, and practice of contraception in the Romanian FFS questionnaire.

13. If financial support can be obtained from abroad, an FFS in **Turkey** is likely to be carried out by the Institute of Population Studies of Hacettepe University, Ankara. This Institute has been conducting nationwide demographic surveys at intervals of five years since 1968, and in 1993 the sixth of these quinquennial surveys will be undertaken. The scope and content of the 1993 Turkish Population Survey (TPS) are almost identical to those of the FFS project. A combined FFS-TPS questionnaire, in addition to covering in part or in total all of the core sections of the ECE FFS questionnaire, will implement modules 2 and 3 of the ECE FFS questionnaire, on contraception and values/beliefs, respectively. A nationally representative sample of 20,000 households will be drawn, from which

4,500 ever-married women aged 15 to 54 years will be selected for interview. If currently married, their husbands will be interviewed as well, separately. The FFS-TPS fieldwork is scheduled for September 1993.

November 1993



NEWSLETTER 4

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone 917 2764, telefax 917 0101.

1. The **Fourth FFS Informal Working Group Meeting**, held from 26 to 28 May 1993 in Geneva, was attended by participants from twenty different countries, six of which (Canada, Estonia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Turkey and the United States of America) attended for the first time. Major agenda items were the revision of the outline for FFS Standard Country Reports (SCR) and instructions for Standard Recode Files (SRF), the latter having been published earlier as Part Four of FFS Questionnaire and Codebook (1992). The revised FFS SCR outline and the revised instructions for FFS SRF will appear shortly in a new FFS publication, FFS Standard Recode Files and Standard Country Reports (1993).

2. The revision of the **outline for FFS SCRs** included the elimination of one table from the original proposal, the addition of a new table, and changes to some of the remaining 21. The result is a 50-page blueprint for preparing national FFS SCRs.

3. **Norway** presented a first test report at the Fourth FFS Informal Working Group Meeting and may be the first national FFS SCR to be published. The report will be revised according to

the new outline, given a quick peer review, and finalized by the authors. UN/ECE publication is tentatively scheduled for early 1994. Other countries having completed their FFS fieldwork are expected to follow suit soon thereafter.

4. Changes made to **Part Four** of the FFS Questionnaire and Codebook are summarized as follows: (i) records corresponding to event histories have been expanded with one extra variable to indicate whether or not the month and/or year of the event was imputed; (ii) an extra variable has been added to the first record of each SRF for recording ethnicity or nationality; (iii) all alphanumerical variables have been made numerical; and (iv) old record 91 corresponding to the Population Policy Acceptance (PPA) module has been split into two for greater consistency with other FFS SRF record lengths.

5. The FFS project has obtained access to **BITNET** and can now send or receive electronic mail at KLIZING@UNICC.BITNET. Members of the FFS Informal Working Group are kindly requested to provide the PAU with their respective BITNET addresses.

6. The PAU has provided various forms of FFS-related technical assistance. In early August 1993 Erik Klijzing visited the Central Statistical Office in Budapest to train **data entry** operators in the use of the ISSA data entry program he had developed based on Hungary's national FFS questionnaire for women.

7. With an implementation score of almost 100 per cent, Hungary's FFS questionnaire for women is the closest to the ECE FFS questionnaire of all national FFS questionnaires fielded to date. Yet despite this compliance, some important differences remain. To address these differences Erik Klijzing has developed an ISSA **conversion** program for creating Hungary's FFS SRF. Conversion should take place after the FFS fieldwork for men, currently under way, is completed.

8. A third form of technical assistance that the PAU offers to countries participating in the FFS project is an ISSA **tabulation** program for the production of tables and graphs that go into each FFS SCR according to the outline provided. This program, which runs on FFS SRFs, is now available upon request from the PAU. Output from ISSA tabulations showing cumulative percentages of respondents according to the age at which they experienced a particular event can be imported directly into EXCEL for graphical representation.

9. With the help of the PAU the three Baltic republics have each prepared and submitted a preliminary request to **UNFPA** to help fund their national fertility and family surveys. However, because the Governing Council of the United Nations has decided to allocate regular budget funds for population activities only in the central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union, assistance with an FFS in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania may have to come from multi-bi sources. UNFPA has offered to help identify such sources.

10. **FFS References** has been updated

with a list of 67 additional titles of recent publications in French or English which are directly or indirectly related to fertility and/or family research. Because studies can often be classified in more than one category, the classification scheme adopted for the first issue of FFS References has now been abandoned.

11. Under the FFS project the PAU has started preparatory work on the organization of a 4-week **international training seminar** on event history analysis. The objective of this seminar will be the transfer of basic skills and expertise in the area of event history analysis to researchers, especially but not exclusively, from central and east European countries participating in the FFS project who will later be involved in the programme of FFS cross-country in-depth analyses. Topics to be covered at the seminar will include (i) event history data, (ii) event history models, (iii) specific problems of event history analysis, and (iv) available resources such as software and literature. The training will be given by one or more resource persons with extensive teaching and research experience in the field of event history analysis.

12. The seminar will be held during the Summer of 1994; exact dates and venue will be determined and announced at a later time. There will be no registration or tuition fee. However, the costs of travel, accommodation and daily subsistence will have to be borne by the countries themselves. Although no funds for this purpose are as yet available, the PAU will seek **extra support** for participants from countries most needing it. Members of the FFS Informal Working Group are kindly requested to let the PAU know, at their earliest convenience, if their country is interested in participating in this seminar and would need financial assistance. (Countries not eligible for UNFPA assistance cannot receive financial support from the UN/ECE.)

13. One of the sessions of the 1995 European Population Conference, to be

held from 4 to 8 September 1995 in Milano (Italy) under the joint auspices of the European Association for Population Studies (EAPS), the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), and a consortium of Italian demographers, will be on **Family and Fertility Surveys: National Findings and Cross-national Comparisons**, to be organized by Miroslav Macura of the PAU. The session will consider FFS as well as other fertility and family survey research findings.

14. A general **call for papers** for the Conference will be included in the First Information Bulletin of the Conference, which will be issued in early 1994. It is anticipated that the deadline for the submission of two-page outlines for papers will be July 1994. The deadline for the submission of papers will be April 1995.

15. The Instituto Nacional de Estatística in Lisboa, **Portugal**, has approached the PAU with a request for more information on the FFS project. A decision on participation will be taken at ministerial level, possibly before the end of 1993.

May 1994

FFS NEWSLETTER 5

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone (41 22) 917 2764/2477, telefax 917 0101.

1. From 7 to 11 February 1994 the FFS project manager visited the Central Bureau of Statistics in Oslo (Norway); from 11 to 13 April he was at the Federal Institute for Population Research in Wiesbaden (Germany). In close collaboration with Turid Noack and Katharina Pohl, respectively, he has helped to prepare the **FFS Standard Recode Files** (SRFs) for Norway and Germany. In addition to the preparation of the SRFs in Oslo and Wiesbaden, the FFS project manager also helped to produce the tables that should go into each FFS Standard Country Report (SCR) by using the ISSA tabulation program (see FFS Newsletter 4, November 1993, item 8).

2. On the basis of the FFS SCR outcomes for Norway and Germany, especially those concerning tables 4.4.4 and 4.6.2, it has been decided to regroup the **International Standard Classification of Education** (ISCED) codes into levels 0-2 (low), 3-4 (medium) and 5-6 (high). The original grouping into levels 0-1, 2-3 and 4-6, as indicated in the FFS SCR outline (pages 86-87 and 98), cuts across the age of compulsory education in most countries and is, therefore, less

meaningful. The new ISCED grouping scheme is reflected in the latest version of the ISSA tabulation program available.

3. In addition to these changes, it has been decided to include in the comparison of age groups 30-34 and 40-44 years for tables 5.1 and 5.2 of each FFS SCR, **where possible**, age groups 25-29 and 35-39 years (at the time of interview). This will enlarge the scope for inter-cohort comparisons between countries with different FFS sample designs.

4. Conditions for the release of SRFs to the FFS database in Geneva are stipulated in a document titled "**Arrangements for archiving and sharing of individual-level, depersonalized data**", which was prepared by the PAU to meet the demands of the Central Statistical Office in Oslo. Some of the more prominent conditions set out in this document are that (i) national statistical offices and population institutes participating in the FFS project will delete from their SRF information which is protected under national law and/or modify their FFS data as necessary for their release;

(ii) SRF data archived at the FFS database will not be released without prior permission of the data supplying organization; (iii) members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) representing countries that have supplied the PAU with their SRF and agreed to the data sharing terms will be granted access, for purposes of comparative research only, to any other SRF in the FFS database, provided this research is undertaken as part of the PAU-coordinated programme of FFS comparative research; (iv) PAU staff and IWG members participating in these comparative studies will register their names with the data supplying organizations and sign a confidentiality pledge promising not let anyone not having signed this pledge have access to individual-level data; (v) the PAU will also share the SRF data archived in the FFS database with individual scholars who will be invited by the PAU to participate in the PAU-coordinated comparative analyses in consultation with the FFS IWG; (vi) individual scholars thus selected will register their names with the data supplying organizations and sign the confidentiality pledge; (vii) after the completion of the PAU-coordinated programme of FFS comparative research the SRFs will be removed from the FFS database; and (viii) scholars then wishing to conduct further FFS research will enter into bilateral arrangements with the data supplying organizations.

5. The PAU plans to convene a small **FFS ad-hoc expert group meeting** in late 1994 in order to develop a PAU-coordinated programme of FFS comparative research, which will be carried out jointly by the PAU, members of the FFS IWG and possibly invited scholars who are not affiliated with the FFS project. The meeting, which will be attended by several FFS IWG members and a few scholars not members of the group will define the objectives and content of the comparative research as well as make recommendations on how to conduct it. An input to the meeting will be a PAU proposal on the objectives, themes and modalities of

comparative research, which during the meeting will be transformed into a research plan. Due to financial reasons the PAU cannot invite all FFS IWG members to this meeting and would, therefore, highly appreciate suggestions on comparative research from the members of the group and other individuals interested in the FFS project. Suggestions may be on research areas and themes, modalities of organizing research (e.g., strictly within the FFS IWG or together with other interested scholars), dissemination of papers (through professional journals, dedicated publications issued by a commercial publisher or UN/ECE). The deadline for submitting suggestions is 31 August 1994.

6. The **international training seminar on event history analysis** (see FFS Newsletter 4, November 1993, item 11) will take place in Geneva during 15-26 August 1994. The seminar is jointly organized by the PAU and the Laboratoire de Démographie Économique et Sociale of the University of Geneva, which will provide a seminar room and computer facilities at no cost to the UN/ECE. After a careful and lengthy selection procedure involving close consultations with seven experts in event history analysis from Europe and North America, the PAU invited Prof. Hans-Peter Blossfeld and his research assistant Mr. Götz Rohwer of the University of Bremen to provide the training at the seminar. Professor Blossfeld is widely recognized for his extensive teaching and research experience in the field of event history analysis. Mr. Rohwer has developed the Transition Data Analysis (TDA) software which was recommended by several experts consulted as being comprehensive, flexible and user-friendly and which will be used at the seminar. Each participant will be given a copy of TDA at no cost at the end of the seminar. Prof. Blossfeld and Mr. Rohwer have together organized similar seminars at the Universities of Cologne, Essex, Florence, Haifa, Madrid and Southampton. Based on their experience it was decided to reduce the

duration of the seminar to two weeks instead of the originally planned four weeks. A detailed programme was prepared by the FFS project manager during a working visit to Bremen, 14-15 April 1994. Morning sessions will be dedicated to classroom training in the various methodological aspects of event history analysis, whereas afternoon sessions will be used for computer-based exercises. It was further agreed to have the afternoon sessions focused on fertility and family formation and dissolution as inter-dependent processes, with a few selected FFS SRF variables as explanatory factors. Representative sample data for 1000 men and women will be used during these exercises. Copies of all relevant training materials will be made available free of charge to each participant at the beginning of the seminar. This includes a copy of the textbook Event History Analysis by Blossfeld et al., the cost of which (US \$ 50 per copy) will be borne by the UN/ECE. The cost of financial assistance to participants from transition countries amounts to US \$ 20,000, approximately. Twenty-three individuals, eleven of them representing transition countries, have so far registered for the seminar; twelve of them are women.

Jan. 1995



NEWSLETTER 6

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone (41 22) 917 2764/2477, tel efax 917 0101.

1. The **international training seminar** on event history analysis, from 15 to 26 August 1994 in Geneva (see FFS Newsletter 5, May 1994, item 6), was attended by 23 participants from 15 countries, 11 of them in central or eastern Europe. Morning sessions focused on theoretical and statistical aspects of event history analysis while afternoon sessions were devoted to the use of Transition Data Analysis (TDA) software. At the end of the seminar each participant received a certificate of attendance from the "Laboratoire de Démographie Économique et Sociale" of the University of Geneva, which co-organized the seminar with the PAU.

2. From 3 to 9 December 1994 the FFS project manager visited the Department of Demography, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, in **Vilnius** (Lithuania) to train local staff in the use of ISSA for FFS data entry. A first wave of 1,500 interviews was conducted in October-November 1994 using Government funds. A second, larger wave will get under way soon thanks to additional funds obtained from UNFPA.

3. The FFS database currently contains Standard Recode Files (SRF)

for Norway and Poland. Each exists in two different formats, both binary. One is a **transposed data file** which can only be read by ISSA. Each transposed SRF occupies approximately 30 per cent of the hard-disk space typically required by its ASCII counterpart. In addition to taking up less hard-disk space, a transposed SRF is processed much faster. ISSA can also be used to create secondary files for export to, SPSSPC+, for instance.

4. The other format in which each SRF resides in the FFS database is a **compact data archive** which can only be read by TDA. Each such archive consists of as many data files as there are different record types (00, 01, 02, ..., 92) in the corresponding SRF, which may differ from country to country depending on the implementation rates for core and module sections. TDA allows researchers to directly read and merge these files without need for extraction. A SRF archive occupies approximately 50 per cent of the hard-disk space required by a transposed SRF. The program to create an archive from an existing SRF was developed by Götz Rohwer of Bremen University.

5. As the overview at the back of this Newsletter indicates, some 8 additional SRFs are expected to arrive at the FFS database in the course of 1995. The FFS programme of comparative research, therefore, will probably only then get fully under way. In view of this, the main task of the **ad-hoc expert group meeting** (see FFS Newsletter 5, May 1994, item 5) on the FFS programme of comparative research, which was held from 17 to 18 November 1994 in Geneva, was to explore options of comparative research rather than take decisions. The meeting was attended by Peter Blossfeld, Fred Deven, Jan Hoem, Jerzy Holzer, Kathleen Kiernan, Erik Klijzing, Andras Klinger, Henri Leridon, Miroslav Macura, Lars Ostby, Nicola Robb, and Bernd Störtzbach.

the desirability of creating an Advisory Board to coordinate the FFS programme of comparative research. These and other issues will be taken up again at a subsequent meeting on the FFS programme of comparative research, possibly during the Milano conference in September this year. Copies of a report of the first ad-hoc meeting will be made available in the course of February.

6. A first draft of the **FFS programme of comparative research**, prepared by the PAU on the basis of contributions from various sources, contained preliminary proposals on (i) objectives of the programme, (ii) broad research themes, (iii) focused research topics, (iv) organizational aspects, and (v) peer review and dissemination of findings. These proposals served as a rough guideline for the meeting which proceeded without a formal agenda. The discussions touched upon such issues as: a conservative versus a more liberal policy with respect to FFS data access and sharing; centralized versus decentralized research; and,

Progression of countries through FFS main survey operations: 1991-'96+

	observed			expected		
	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96+
fund ing/				SLO		
sampl ing/				ITA		
questi on-	POL		ROM	SWI		
nai re	NOR		USA	SPA		
desi gn/	GER	SWE	LIT	LAT		
pretest	FIN	NET	FRA	CZE		
	BEL	HUN	EST	CAN	TUR	

field-				SLO	USA	
work/				SWI	ITA	
data				SPA	TUR	
entry/				LIT	ROM	
editing/	POL			HUN	LAT	
raw data	NOR	GER	SWE	FRA	CZE	
file	BEL	FIN	NET	EST	CAN	
						ITA
						EST
					GER	SWI
					FIN	SLO
					SWE	CAN
standard					SPA	CZE
recode					LIT	LAT
file/					HUN	ROM
tabulation/				POL	FRA	USA
analysis				NOR	BEL	TUR
					POL	
					GER	
					HUN	ITA
					NET	EST
					FIN	SWI
					SWE	CAN
standard					FRA	
CZE						
country					SLO	LAT
report/					SPA	ROM
review/					LIT	TUR
publication				NOR	BEL	USA

BEL = Belgium
CAN = Canada
CZE = Czech Republic
EST = Estonia
FIN = Finland
FRA = France
GER = Germany

HUN = Hungary
ITA = Italy
LAT = Latvia
LIT = Lithuania
NET = Netherlands
NOR = Norway
POL = Poland

ROM = Romania
SLO = Slovenia
SPA = Spain
SWE = Sweden
SWI = Switzerland
TUR = Turkey
USA = United States

July 1995



NEWSLETTER 7

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klizning, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone (41 22) 917 2764/2477, tel efax 917 0101.

1. The FFS fieldwork in the Republic of **Slovenia** was carried out from November 1994 to March 1995. Technical assistance was provided by the FFS project manager through electronic mail using his old BITNET address (see FFS Newsletter 4, November 1993, item 5). Since April 1995 messages can also be sent to KLIZING@UN.ORG on the INTERNET.

2. A fertility and family survey in **New Zealand** based on the FFS model questionnaire, scheduled for September-October 1995, will initially be restricted to women aged 20-59 years but may later be expanded to include men as well. The survey will be directed by Mr. Ian Pool of the Population Studies Centre, University of Waikato, Hamilton.

3. Mr. Wolfgang Lutz and Mr. Christopher Prinz conducted a feasibility study on a possible FFS in **Austria**. Their recommendations are contained in a 30-page report submitted to the Ministry of the Family in Vienna. If the necessary funds can be found, interviewing could start as early as October 1995.

4. The FFS Standard Country Report (SCR) for **Norway**, having gone through a lengthy and careful process of technical editing and desktop publishing, is now almost ready to go to the printer. Mrs. Elise Jones has been contracted by the PAU as an independent consultant to do the technical editing of FFS SCRs. Desktop-publishing is done in-house by Ms. Rosina Bisi of the PAU.

5. Technical editing and desktop publishing of the Norwegian FFS SCR have led to a few **changes** in the outline for FFS SCRs as well as in the ISSA tabulation program for generating FFS SCR tables. Changes in the SCR outline mostly concern the titles of tables and/or table panels; these changes will be reflected in the report for Norway. The most important change in the tabulation program is that cases with missing information on any variable(s) involved in the calculation of (cumulative) percentages for particular tables are now excluded from their respective base populations.

6. **Canada** has submitted a first draft of an FFS SCR based on the outcome of the 1990 General Social

Survey (GSS). In close consultation with the FFS project management, it has been decided that - in addition to preparing an FFS Standard Recode File (SRF) and SCR for GSS-1995, currently in the field - Canada will also prepare a SRF from its GSS-1990 data. This means that, in the end, there will actually be four Canadian FFS products: two reports and two files.

7. According to information available to the PAU, several other **SCRs** are currently being drafted as well. Among these reports are those for Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland and Sweden. First drafts are expected at the PAU before the end of this year.

8. Following the example set by Norway and Poland, **Germany** submitted its SRF to the FFS database in March 1995. Other countries known to be releasing their SRFs soon are Sweden and Finland.

9. **FFS References** (see FFS Newsletter 4, November 1993, item 10) has been continually up-dated and now includes close to 400 titles of studies on fertility and the family which have appeared in French or English since 1990. Being a PROCITE database, various literature searches are possible which may be useful for the FFS programme of comparative research.

10. A second **ad-hoc expert group meeting on the FFS programme of comparative research** has been scheduled for Tuesday, 5 September 1995 in Milano (Italy), after Plenary Session III of the European Population Conference. The meeting will address substantive as well as logistic aspects of the programme, including access to SRF data by scholars who are not members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) but wish to participate in the programme. Once formulated, the programme will be presented to the FFS IWG for consideration and adoption, after which it can be carried out. This is not expected to take place before early 1996.

11. Session I.1, "**Family and Fertility Surveys: National Findings and Cross-national Comparisons**", which is on the programme of the forthcoming European Population Conference (Milano, 4-8 September 1995), will take place in the afternoon of the first day of the Conference. As many as 15 papers may be presented or introduced during the session, which is being organized by Mr. Miroslav Macura. The majority of the papers will be based on FFS data. The International Organizing Committee of the Conference designated Mr. Robert Cliquet as a discussant for this session.

12. In view of the need for basic reproductive health data on transition countries, the PAU is seeking closer collaboration with the Scientific Working Group (SWG) on Reproductive Health Research in Eastern Europe of the **World Health Organization (WHO)**. Together with Mr. Tomas Frejka, who represented the PAU already at the first two meetings of this group, the FFS project manager attended the third meeting, which took place from 29 May to 1 June 1995 in Prague (Czech Republic). The objective of their attendance of the meeting was, among other things, to seek the advice of the SWG members on types of reproductive health information most needed in transition countries. Their advice will be used to start activities that may lead to a new project, "Fertility and Family Planning Surveys" (FFPS). The objective of the project may be reproductive health surveys in selected transition countries to be coordinated by the PAU during 1996-1999. These survey activities, which would run parallel to the continuing FFS activities, including the programme of comparative research during the same period, would involve - among other things - a reworking of the FFS model questionnaire (to accommodate specific reproductive health questions) while at the same time preserving as much comparability as possible with the FFS model questionnaire.

NOV. '95



NEWSLETTER 8

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone (41 22) 917 2764/2477, tel efax 917 0101.

1. The current UNFPA funding cycle for the FFS project will end on 31 December 1995. The PAU is currently negotiating with UNFPA to have the project extended through 31 March 1996. The **end-of-project meeting** has therefore been scheduled for 18-20 March 1996 rather than for the end of 1995 as originally envisaged by the FFS project document. The next project phase is expected to begin on 1 April 1996.

2. Invited to the end-of-project meeting will be members of the **FFS Informal Working Group (IWG)** who participated in earlier meetings, representatives from countries which joined the FFS project since May 1993, and selected experts who in recent years took part in various international projects designed to collect internationally comparable demographic survey data. Also, invitations will be extended to representatives of several international and national organizations active or interested in the type of activities of the IWG.

3. The **objectives** of the end-of-project meeting will include a review of FFS project performance during the past four years and a discussion of

project activities for the next period, including the work and finalization of Standard Country Reports. The meeting will also review and take decisions concerning a comprehensive programme of comparative research for the period 1996-1999, a proposal for which has been developed by the PAU on the basis of two ad-hoc expert group meetings. The third day of the meeting will provide an opportunity to interested participants to present and discuss FFS results of in-country or cross-country comparative studies already undertaken.

4. Recommendations contained in the feasibility study on a possible FFS in **Austria** (see FFS Newsletter 7, July 1995, item 3) have been favourably received and national as well as provincial government funds have been made available. Responsible for conducting the survey will be the Austrian Institute of Family Research together with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research. The target sample will consist of 4,500 women and 1,500 men in the age range of 20 to 54 years. The pretest has been concluded and after the questionnaire has been adjusted, fieldwork is expected to take until March 1996.

5. Both **Finland** and **Sweden** submitted their FFS Standard Recode Files (SRF) to the ECE database in Geneva. After one round of revisions, both files were found fit for the standard tabulation program of the Integrated System for Survey Analysis (ISSA). Based on the resulting standard tables sent to them, Mr. Timo Nikander of Statistics Finland and Mr. Fredrik Granström of Statistics Sweden are now drafting their country's FFS Standard Country Report.

6. From 25 to 30 September 1995, the FFS project manager visited the Center of Demography and the Central Statistical Office in Riga, **Latvia**, to train local staff in the use of ISSA for entering the Latvian FFS data on 2,700 women and 1,500 men aged 18-49 years which were collected during September 1995. Data entry will be ready before the end of the year.

7. Eighteen countries have now completed their **FFS fieldwork**. An overview at the back of this Newsletter illustrates how their questionnaires compare to the model:

OCT. '96



NEWSLETTER 9

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klizning, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone (41 22) 917 2764/2477, tel efax 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klizning@unece.org.

1. Regular recipients of the FFS Newsletter and other project materials will recall that at its fifth meeting (18-20 March 1996, Geneva), the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) decided to create an **Advisory Group (AG) on the FFS programme of comparative research**. The following individuals were appointed to this AG: Mr. Gijs Beets (Netherlands), Mr. Jerzy Holzer (Poland), Ms. Kathleen Kiernan (United Kingdom), Mr. Andras Klinger (Hungary), Ms. Antonella Pinnelli (Italy), Mr. Lars Østby (Norway), Mr. Laurent Toulemon (France), and Messrs. Erik Klizning and Miroslav Macura (PAU) as ex-officio members.

2. The first meeting of this group took place on 7-8 October 1996 in Budapest. The host was the Hungarian Central Statistical Office. Among other things, the AG recommended to the PAU to urgently issue a **call for research proposals** along with related requests for FFS data, which will be carried out in the context of the FFS programme of comparative research. The call for proposals will be included in the forthcoming issues of selected professional journals and newsletters of professional population

associations. The basic information to be provided in the call is contained in the next three paragraphs (see also <http://www.undp.org/popin/popin.htm>).

3. Researchers from all countries participating in the FFS project as well as those not taking part in it, who are interested in analyzing the FFS Standard Recode File (SRF) data currently available from the FFS database in Geneva, whether for purposes of national or cross-national research, are invited to submit their proposals and corresponding data requests as soon as possible to the PAU. The deadline for submitting first-round proposals will be **1 March 1997**, that for second-round proposals **1 October 1997**. Deadlines for subsequent rounds will be announced in due time.

4. FFS research proposals and their corresponding data requests should be submitted through special application forms. As long as the PAU home page on the World Wide Web (WWW) is still under development, copies of such forms can be obtained from the FFS project manager. First-round proposals will be considered by the AG during its next meeting, 7-8 April 1997, whereas

second-round proposals will be considered during its meeting on 5 November 1997, just before the **Sixth IWG Meeting, 6-7 November 1997**, when the AG will report to the IWG.

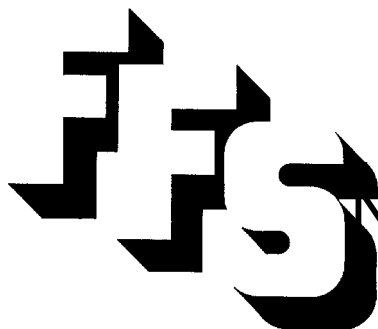
5. Countries for which SRF data are expected to be(come) available for comparative research **as of the Spring of 1997** are Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden (see overview at the back of this Newsletter). SRF data for Estonia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United States of America may become available in the Fall of 1997.

6. The FFS project manager together with the Chief of the PAU prepared a solicited paper on **cohabitation and extra-marital childbearing** for presentation at formal session F20 of the XXIII IUSSP General Population Conference, 11-17 October 1997, Beijing (China), using FFS Standard Country Report (SCR) data for 19 participating countries. The study reveals intriguing differentials in cohabitation and extra-marital childbearing patterns and levels across the countries examined.

7. The ECE and UNFPA recently reached an agreement on continued UNFPA support to the FFS project until 30 June 1998. As part of this new phase of the project, the PAU will embark on a **reproductive health** study of FFS data for Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, and possibly other countries as well. Representatives from these six countries will, at ECE expense, attend a training workshop in early 1997 on reproductive health analysis and then

prepare national reports for dissemination at meetings with government officials, programme administrators and media representatives. Selected results from these in-depth country reports may later be compiled in a cross-country comparative study to be published in English by the ECE. Researchers interested in joining this PAU initiative on reproductive health analysis are urged to contact the FFS project manager.

APR. '97



NEWSLETTER 10

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klizjing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klizjing@unece.org.

At its second meeting, 7-8 April 1997 in Rome (Italy), the FFS Advisory Group approved 22 research proposals for the first round of comparative analysis of FFS data. The identification numbers of these research proposals, their titles and main contact persons and addresses are presented in this special issue of the FFS Newsletter. The next issue, to appear soon hereafter, will provide additional information on the FFS programme of comparative research.

1. Parity-specific fertility analysis and union stability in Austria within the European context

tedrow@cc.wvu.edu

Wolfgang Lutz, Austrian Institute for Family Research, Gonzagagasse 19/8, A-1010 Vienna, Austria.

lutz@iiasa.ac.at

2. Comparative analysis of contraceptive behaviours and sterilization practices

Catherine de Guibert-Lantoine, Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques, rue du Commandeur 27, 75675 Paris Cedex 14, France.

lantoine@ined.fr

3. A comparative analysis of the living arrangements of families with children

Lucky Tedrow, Western Washington University, Demographic Research Laboratory, Bellingham, WA 98225-9081, United States of America.

tedrow@cc.wvu.edu

4. Consequences of early child-bearing

Lucky Tedrow, Western Washington University, Demographic Research Laboratory, Bellingham, WA 98225-9081, United States of America.

5. Family disruption in a comparative perspective

Kathleen Kiernan, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom.

k.kiernan@lse.ac.uk

6. Changing patterns of family formation

Kathleen Kiernan, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom.

k.kiernan@lse.ac.uk

7. The changing lives of women: a comparative perspective

Melinda Mills, Population Research Centre, University of Groningen, P.O. Box 800, 9700 AV Groningen, The Netherlands.

m.mills@frw.rug.nl

8. Dynamics in the individual fertility career: country-specific differentials of the impact on the fertility career of the educational, occupational, partner and housing careers in Western countries

Willy Bosveld, Department of Planning and Demography, University of

Amsterdam, Nieuwe Prinsengracht 130,
1018 VZ Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

bosveld@ivip.frw.uva.nl

9. Objective and subjective social indicators of social change - employment and family patterns and attitudes towards family/children

Roland Habich, Social Science Research Center Berlin, Reichpietschufer 50, D-10785 Berlin, Germany.

rhabich@medea.wz-berlin.de

10. Family change and the regulation of social inequalities by the Welfare State

Beat Fux, Soziologisches Institut der Universität Zürich, Rämistrasse 69, CH-8001 Zürich, Switzerland.

fux@soziologie.unizh.ch

11. A comparison of recall lapse and item non-response in FFS event history data

Erik Klijzing, Population Activities Unit, Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

erik.klizing@unece.org

12. Comparative differences in children's family experience: consequences of unmarried childbearing, cohabitation, marriage and union stability

Larry Bumpass, University of Wisconsin, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison WI 53706, United States of America.

bumpass@ssc.wisc.edu

13. Discontinuities and paradoxes of the familial models in Europe: analysis and interpretation of selected critical issues

Paolo de Sandre, Dipartimento Statistico, Università degli studi di Padova, Via S. Francesco 33, 35100 Padova, Italia.

desandre@hal.stat.unipd.it

14. Marginal fertility behaviour - comparative analysis of the timing of first births: early, late, too late

Claudine Sauvain-Dugerdil, Laboratoire de démographie économique et sociale, Université de Genève, 2 rue Dancet, 1211 Genève 4, Suisse.

sauvain@ibm.unige.ch

15. Cohabitation and extra-marital childbearing: early FFS evidence

Erik Klijzing, Population Activities Unit, Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

erik.klizing@unece.org

16. New forms of reproductive and family behaviour in contemporary Europe: a review of recent findings

An-Magritt Jensen, Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research, P.O. Box 44 Blindern, N-0313 Oslo, Norway.

an-magritt.jensen@nibr.no

17. The role of the educational and employment systems on demographic behaviour - institutionalization vs. de-institutionalization of biographies

Gert Hullen, Federal Institute for Population Research, Friedrich Ebert Allee 4, 65185 Wiesbaden, Germany.

bib-2499@t-online.de

18. The decline of nuptiality - a new gain of privacy or a loss of private and family investments?

Gert Hullen, Federal Institute for Population Research, Friedrich Ebert Allee 4, 65185 Wiesbaden, Germany.

bib-2499@t-online.de

19. Individualization and pluralization of living arrangements and the duality of family and gainful employment in Europe

Jürgen Dorbritz, Federal Institute for Population Research, Friedrich Ebert Allee 4, 65185 Wiesbaden, Germany.

bib-2499@t-online.de

20. The changing dynamics of union formation

Pierre Turcotte, Population Studies and Training Center, Brown University, Box 1916, Providence, Rhode Island, United States of America 02912.

pierre_turcotte@brown.edu

21. European variation in the timing of first births and education

Gijs Beets, Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, P.O. Box 11650, 2502 AR The Hague, The Netherlands.

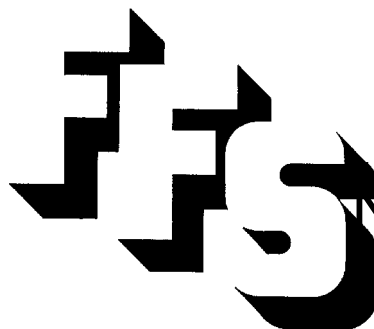
beets@nidi.nl

22. **Transition into adulthood in Europe: from a matter of standard to a matter of choice**

Martine Corijn, Population and Family Study Centre, Markiesstraat 1, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium.

cbgs@innet.be

MAY '97



NEWSLETTER 11

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klizning, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klizning@unece.org.

CALL

FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS ON COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF FFS DATA

SECOND ROUND

Standard Recode Files (SRF) containing Fertility and Family Survey (FFS) data collected in recent years under the auspices of the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe are now available for analysis by the international research community.

Each SRF contains individual-level, depersonalized data on a wide range of topics, including event history data on union formation and dissolution, live births and other pregnancy outcomes, as well as education and work. In addition, each file also contains information on household composition, the parental home, contraception, fertility preferences, and various values and beliefs.

Researchers interested in analyzing these SRF data as part of the FFS programme of comparative research are invited to submit their research proposals and corresponding data requests to:

**Population Activities Unit
Room 439
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10**

Copies of application forms for FFS research proposals/data requests can be obtained via <http://www.unece.org/deap/pau/ffs/applicat.htm> (see at the back of this newsletter for an overview of the new FFS home page), or from the FFS project manager at (41 22) 917 2477 (telephone), (41 22) 917 0101/0309 (telefax) or erik.klizning@unece.org (e-mail).

Research proposals requiring **individual-level data** should be submitted on these PAU application forms. The applications will be considered by the Advisory Group on the FFS programme of comparative research at its third meeting, 5 November 1997. The deadline for submission of **second-round** applications will be 1 October 1997 and applicants will be notified of the outcome by 1 December 1997. For approved applications, copies of the SRF data and relevant documentation will be dispatched by the PAU immediately after the receipt of signed confidentiality pledges.

Requests for **aggregate-level data** prepared for FFS Standard Country Reports, which should also be made using these application forms, are not subject to the FFS Advisory Group review and will be processed as promptly as possible.

PAU HOME PAGE

<http://www.unece.org/deap/pau>

FFS HOME PAGE

http://www.unece.org/deap/pau/f_home1.htm

SELECTED MEMBER

SURVEY DESIGN

IMPLEMENTATION SCORES

QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN

FFS MODEL QUESTIONNAIRE

FEMALE MODEL QUESTIONNAIRE

DATA ENTRY

"BLUE" MANUAL

CERTAIN ACTIVITIES...

STANDARD (SRF) RECODE FILES

- V001-014
- V101-112
- V113-124
- V201-215
- V218-230
- V301-309
- V314-322
- V401-414
- V501-517
- V518-526
- V602-617
- V701-707
- V708-721
- V801-810
- V812-821
- V902-919
- V921-933

APPLICATION FORM

ADVISORY GROUP

REFERENCE LIST

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

STANDARD (SCR) COUNTRY REPORT

- COUNTRY
- TABLE 1
- TABLE 2
- TABLE...
- TABLE 35
- TABLE 36

INFORMAL (IWG) WORKING GROUP

IWG MEMBERS

RESOLUTION DOCUMENT

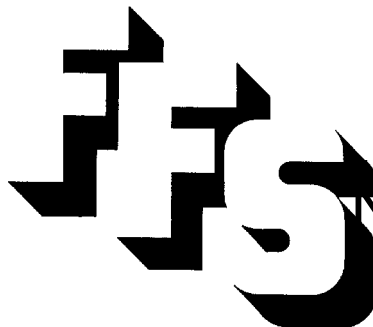
FFS NEWSLETTER

- FFSNEWS1.LET
- FFSNEWS2.LET
- FFSNEWS3.LET
- FFSNEWS4.LET
- FFSNEWS5.LET
- FFSNEWS6.LET
- FFSNEWS7.LET
- FFSNEWS8.LET
- FFSNEWS9.LET
- FFSNEWS10.LET
- FFSNEWS11.LET

FFS PROJECT MANAGER

NEW VERSION

NOV. '97



NEWSLETTER 12

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klizning, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klizning@unece.org.

At its third meeting, 5 November 1997 in Geneva (Switzerland), the FFS Advisory Group approved 24 research proposals for the second round of comparative analysis of FFS data. The identification numbers of these research proposals, their titles and main contact persons and addresses are presented in this special issue of the FFS Newsletter. For first-round proposals, see FFS Newsletter 10 (April 1997). Second- and first-round FFS researchers with similar topics are strongly encouraged to contact each other so as to avoid overlap.

24. Case studies of rapid fertility declines to below replacement

John A. Ross, The Futures Group Int.,
80 Glastonbury Blvd., Glastonbury, CT
06033, United States of America.

j.ross@tfgi.com

25. The changing dynamics of union formation

Pierre Turcotte, Statistics Canada, 7-
C2, Jean Talon Building, Ottawa,
Ontario K1A 0T6, Canada.

turcpie@statcan.ca

26. Uncertainty, expectations or institutional change: what causes the fertility decline in Eastern Germany and Eastern Europe?

Hans-Peter Kohler, MPI for Demographic
Research, Doberaner Str. 114, 18057
Rostock, Germany.

kohler@demogr.mpg.de

27. The impact of female labour force participation on the timing of births, a comparative analysis

Mr. Marc Callens, Population and Family
Study Centre, Markiesstraat 1,
B-1000 Brussels, Belgium.

marc.callens@advalvas.be

28. Development of families in the Baltic region

Peteris Zvidrins, Dpt. of Demography,
University of Latvia, 19 Rainis
Boulevard, LV 1586 Riga, Latvia.

zvidrins@lanet.lv

29. Complex paternal roles in Europe and North America

Eva Bernhardt, Demography Unit,
Stockholm University, 106 91 Stockholm,
Sweden.

eva.bernhardt@suda.su.se

30. Comparative differences in fertility behaviour and reproductive values/beliefs between married and cohabiting unions

Majda Cernic Istenic, Scientific
Research Center of the Slovenian
Academy of Science and Arts, Gosposka
13, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

zrc@zrc-sazu.si

31. The impact of age at first birth, definite childlessness and the occurrence of third births in determining the level of fertility

Ronald Schoenmaeckers, Population and
Family Study Centre, Markiesstraat 1,
1000 Brussels, Belgium.

cbgs@innet.be

32. Changes in contraceptive behaviour during the second demographic transition

Irma-Leena Notkola, Dpt. of Public Health and General Practice, University of Kuopio, P.O. Box 1627, 70211 Kuopio, Finland.

notkola@uku.fi

33. Reproductive health in countries in transition: a workshop

Lynda Clarke, Centre for Population Studies, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 99 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AZ, United Kingdom.

l.clarke@lshtm.ac.uk

34. Attitudes towards marriage and cohabitation and levels of fertility: comparative analysis

Elizabeth Brown, Institut de Démographie de l'Université Paris I, 22 rue Vauquelin, 75005 Paris, France.

cridup@univ-paris1.fr

35. Educational homogamy, sexual division of labour and divorce

Hans-Peter Blossfeld, Sfb186, Universität Bremen, Postfach 330 440, D-28334 Bremen, Germany.

hpb@sfb186.uni-bremen.de

36. Avoidable cancer in Europe: estimating cause-attributable fractions

Paola Pisani, International Agency for Research on Cancr, 150 Cours Albert-Thomas, 69372 Lyon, Cedex 08, France.

pisani@iarc.fr

37. Intergenerational continuities in fertility behaviour

Michael Murphy, Population Studies, Dpt. of Social Policy, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom.

m.murphy@lse.ac.uk

38. Towards a world population system?

David Coleman, Dpt. of Applied Social Studies, Barnett House, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2ER, UK.

david.coleman@socres.ox.ac.uk

39. Post-modern fertility preferences

Dirk J. van de Kaa, Van Hogenhoucklaan 63, 2596 TB The Hague, The Netherlands.

40. A comparative analysis of entry into first sexual intercourse and the use of contraceptive methods

Dunja Obersnel Kveder, Scientific Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Science and Arts, Gosposka 13, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

zrc@zrc-sazu.si

41. Changing patterns of family formation in EU-member countries

Aart Liefbroer, Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, P.O. Box 11650, 2502 AR The Hague, The Netherlands.

liefbroer@nidi.nl

42. Family policy and types of female-headed family households

Faith Dasko, Sfb186, Universität Bremen, Postfach 330 440, D-28334 Bremen, Germany.

fdasko@sfb186.uni-bremen.de

43. Leaving home and family formation among young adults: a cross-national comparison

Ann Berrington, Dpt. of Social Statistics, University of Southampton, Southampton S017 1BJ, United Kingdom.

amb6@soton.ac.uk

44. Patterns of change in family formation in the socialist and transition period: the case of Hungary and Poland

Ewa Fratzczak, Institute of Statistics and Demography, Al. Niepodleglosci 162, 02-554 Warsaw, Poland.

45. Demographic change in central and eastern Europe during the transition to market economies

Miroslav Macura, Population Activities Unit, Economic Commission for Europe, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

miroslav.macura@unece.org

46. One or many patterns? A comparative study of period parity-progression ratios in FFS countries

Nicholas Barkalov, Development Group Int., 700 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, USA.

dgmain@devgroup.com

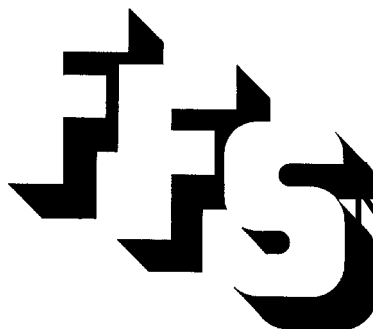
47. Influence of government policy

**on the timing and number of births in
Western Europe**

Johan Delbeke, Dpt. of Economics, Stony
Brook, NY 11794-4384, USA.

jdelbeke@ccvm.sunysb.edu

NOV '97



NEWSLETTER 13

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys now being conducted in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Division for Economic Analysis and Projections (DEAP), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klijzing@unece.org.

CALL

FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS ON COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF FFS DATA

THIRD ROUND

Submission deadlines:

1 February 1998
1 May 1998
1 August 1998
1 November 1998

Standard Recode Files (SRF) containing Fertility and Family Survey (FFS) data collected in recent years under the auspices of the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) are now available for analysis by the international research community.

Each SRF contains individual-level, depersonalized data on a wide range of topics, including event history data on union formation and dissolution, live births and other pregnancy outcomes, as well as education and work. In addition, each file also contains information on household composition, the parental home, contraception, fertility preferences, and various values and beliefs.

Researchers interested in analyzing these SRF data as part of the third round of the FFS programme of comparative research are invited to submit their research proposals and corresponding data requests on special application forms to:

**Population Activities Unit
Room 351
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10**

Copies of these application forms can be obtained from the FFS home page at <http://www.unece.org/deap/pau/ffs/applicat.htm> or from the FFS project manager at (41 22) 917 2477 (telephone), (41 22) 917 0101/0309 (telefax), erik.klijzing@unece.org (e-mail). Proposals and requests will be reviewed by the FFS Advisory Group within 1 month of each of the above submission deadlines. For approved applications, copies of the requested SRF data and relevant documentation will be dispatched immediately after duly signed confidentiality pledges have been received.

Only proposals for specific, well-defined comparative research projects with finite time frames will be accepted. For this third round, the AG will welcome in particular proposals for analysis of selected methodological issues affecting cross-national comparability of results, such as national differences in:

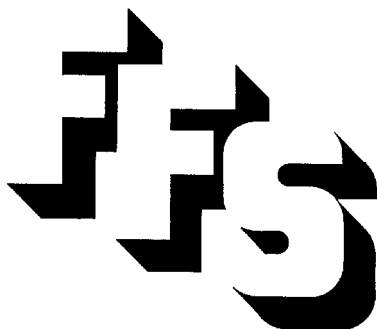
- total non-response;
- sampling frame used;
- sampling errors;
- selecting single- versus five-year birth cohorts;
- interviewing 1 or more than 1 respondent (e.g., partners) per household;
- collecting event histories (connected versus disconnected);
- post-stratification weighting; and
- imputation of missing and/or implausible data.

It is envisaged that an international conference on substantive fertility and family issues, to be organized as part of the FFS project possibly early in the year 2000, will have one or more sessions dedicated to these and other methodological issues.

Countries for which SRF data are currently available for cross-national comparative research are: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. SRF data for additional countries are expected to become available in the course of 1998.

For lists of topics already covered under the first and second round of the FFS programme of comparative research, see FFS Newsletters 10 and 12 on the FFS home page: http://www.unece.org/deap/pau/ffs/f_h_3.htm.

OCT. '98



NEWSLETTER 14

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys conducted in recent years in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Economic Analysis Division (EAD), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klijzing@unece.org. The address of the FFS homepage is <http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/fchart.htm>.

The FFS Advisory Group (AG) has so far approved 8 research proposals as part of the third round of comparative analysis of FFS data. The identification numbers of these proposals, their titles and main contact persons and addresses are presented in this special issue of the FFS Newsletter (see also overleaf). In addition to its continuing work on the FFS programme of comparative research, the AG also started preparations for the FFS Flagship Conference (see FFS Newsletter 15).

48. Consensual unions in Western Europe

Frank Eisele, Universität Konstanz, Fachgruppe Soziologie, Fach D 33, 78457 Konstanz, Germany.

frank.eisele@uni-konstanz.de

49. Unmet family planning needs in Europe?

Erik Klijzing, Population Activities Unit, Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

erik.klijzing@unece.org

50. Population decline and parity distribution in low fertility countries

Nada Chaya, Population Action International, 1120 19th St. NW, Suite 550, Washington, DC 20036, United States of America.

nchaya@popact.org

51. The negative effects of growing up in a non-intact family and family policy in cross-national perspective

Jonathan Make, 5609 SE Mitchell Street, Portland, OR 97206, United States of America.

jonathan.david.make@directory.reed.edu

52. European East-West contrasts in

family planning: a comparative analysis based on FFS evidence

Libor Stloukal, Institute of Population Studies, University of Exeter, 101 Pennsylvania road, Exeter, EX4 6DT, United Kingdom.

l.stloukal@exeter.ac.uk

53. Fertility and reproductive preferences in developed countries

John Bongaarts, The Population Council, One Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, New York, NY 10017, United States of America.

jbongaarts@popcouncil.org

54. Fathers' involvement in parenting and fertility expectations in Germany

Elwood Carlson, Department of Sociology, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, United States of America.

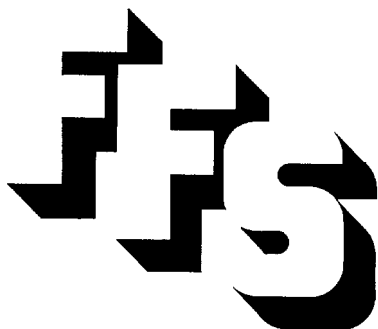
carlson@garnet.cla.sc.edu

55. A comparative study concerning family and household structures of young adults in Germany and Italy

Karl U. Mayer, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Lentzeallee 94, D-14195 Berlin, Germany.

mayer@mpib-berlin.mpg.de

NOV. '98



NEWSLETTER 15

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys conducted in recent years in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Economic Analysis Division (EAD), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klijzing@unece.org. The address of the FFS homepage is <http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/fchart.htm>.

ADVANCE NOTICE AND CALL FOR PAPERS

F F_S FLAGSHIP CONFERENCE

PARTNERSHIP AND FERTILITY - A REVOLUTION?

Brussels, Belgium
29-31 May 2000

Preamble Between 1988 and 1997, as part of the Fertility and Family Surveys (FFS) project co-ordinated by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), cross-national comparable data on fertility and the family have been collected in 22 ECE Member States. These surveys have generated a wealth of information for a better description and explanation of recent changes in partnership and fertility behaviour in this part of the world. On 31 December 1999 the FFS project, generously supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) since 1992, will come to an end. To mark that event the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG, consisting of representatives from all countries participating in the FFS project) has decided to organise an end-of-project conference. It has entrusted the FFS Advisory Group (AG, responsible for providing guidance to the PAU on the FFS programme of comparative research) with its organisation. The conference, which will take stock of what is known from FFS as well as from other data on new partnership and fertility behaviour patterns in Europe and North America, will be held from 29 to 31 May in the year 2000. It will be hosted by the Population and Family Study Centre (CBGS) in Brussels, Belgium. The general theme of the conference will be: "Partnership and fertility - a revolution?"

Nature This FFS Flagship Conference will be a scientific conference addressing substantive fertility and family issues, their developments over time and their dynamics from a comparative perspective. It will also discuss policy implications. Five issues have been identified for plenary address (see Conference Programme below). There will be no parallel sessions nor simultaneous translations; the official conference language will be English.

Structure The conference will be opened by a representative of the Belgian Government, followed by statements of other representatives. Thereafter, the scientific programme will consist of 2 opening keynote addresses, 5 plenary sessions, and 1 concluding keynote address. Each keynote address will take 30 minutes maximum, each plenary session 3 hours maximum, for a total conference duration of 3 days. The weekend prior to the conference will be reserved for the arrival and registration of participants, set-up of poster presentations and other necessary preparations.

Each plenary session will start with the presentation of a solicited paper by a well-known population scientist who will speak on the subject for about 30 minutes. This will be followed by a presentation/discussion of a selection of the best papers contributed to each session. Thereafter, the floor will be open for general debate. A chairperson will be responsible for ensuring that the session's programme is adhered to. In-between plenary sessions there will be time to visit poster presentations.

Papers Outlines for papers to be contributed should be submitted to the Conference Secretariat as soon as possible but not later than 31 July 1999. Outlines will be 1 page maximum, providing information on at least the following:

- 1) session number and title for which the paper is intended;
- 2) name, institutional affiliation, address, position, telephone, fax and e-mail address of the author(s);
- 3) tentative title of the paper;
- 4) the issue(s) to be addressed by the paper;
- 5) method(s) to be employed;
- 6) data source(s) to be used; and, if applicable,
- 7) countries to be compared.

Outlines proposing co-operation between participants in different projects of the FFS programme of comparative research who are working on related topics will be particularly welcomed. In September 1999, based on their outlines as submitted, authors will then be informed to start preparing their paper, either as proposed or somehow modified.

Papers should be submitted to the Conference Secretariat by 29 February 2000 at the latest. Given the nature of the conference, all papers will be expected to be original, written in English, and - particularly if intended for session 1, 2 or 3 - comparative, issue-driven, and, when possible, to draw policy implications and/or assess the impact of existing policies.

Copies of solicited papers will be distributed prior to the conference, whereas authors of contributed papers will be expected to bring 100+ copies with them. Solicited papers will not exceed 8,000 words maximum (30 pages), including graphs, tables and references, whereas contributed papers will not exceed 5,000 words (20 pages).

Data Authors wishing to contribute a paper based in part or in full on FFS individual-level data that are not yet at their disposal are advised to apply for them as soon as possible. Application forms as well as other materials related to the FFS programme of comparative research are available from the FFS homepage at <http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/fchart.htm>.

Publications It is envisaged that outlines of all contributed papers will be published in a booklet to be made available at the registration desk. Furthermore, keynote addresses and solicited papers will be commercially published as an edited volume after the conference. A second volume to be published commercially will contain a selection of the best contributed papers, 2 to 3 per session.

Finances Funds permitting, travel grants to authors of contributed papers from countries in central and eastern Europe will be made available on a selective basis. All other participants will be expected to attend at their own cost.

Organising Committee The Organising Committee currently consists of Mr. Gijs Beets, Mr. Jerzy Holzer, Ms. Kathleen Kiernan, Mr. Erik Klizing, Mr. Andras Klinger, Mr. Miroslav Macura, Mr. Lars Østby, Ms. Antonella Pinnelli and Mr. Laurent Toulemon as AG members, and of Mr. Pierre Turcotte and Mr. Ronald Schoenmaeckers as IWG members. The Conference Secretariat is located at:

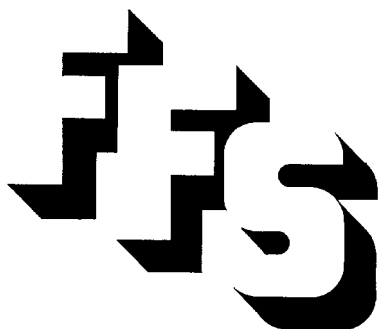
Population Activities Unit
FFS Flagship Conference
Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

41 22 917 2477/0101 (phone/fax)
erik.klizing@unece.org (e-mail)

Conference Programme

- Monday, 29 May
Morning
- Opening of the Conference by a Representative of the Belgian Government
- Opening statements by other officials
- Keynote address: "Fertility and partnership developments in Europe and North America in the 1990s"
- Miroslav Macura*
- Keynote address: "Origin and history of the FFS project: achievements and limitations"
- Robert Cliquet*
- Monday, 29 May
Afternoon
- Plenary session 1: "Partnership behaviour"
- Andras Klinger* (chairperson)
Kathleen Kiernan (author of solicited paper)
Erik Klijzing (discussant of contributed papers)
- Tuesday, 30 May
Morning
- Plenary session 2: "Fertility behaviour"
- Martine Corijn* (chairperson)
John Hobcraft (author of solicited paper)
Jerzy Holzer (discussant of contributed papers)
- Tuesday, 30 May
Afternoon
- Plenary session 3: "Partnership and fertility behaviours as inter-dependent processes"
- Henri Leridon* (chairperson)
Antonella Pinnelli (author of solicited paper)
An-Magritt Jensen (discussant of contributed papers)
- Wednesday, 31 May
Morning
- Plenary session 4: "New approaches and methodological innovations in the study of partnership and fertility behaviour"
- Gigi Santow* (chairperson)
Daniel Courceau (author of solicited paper)
Wolfgang Lutz (discussant of contributed papers)
- Wednesday, 31 May
Afternoon
- Plenary session 5: "The role of survey, in particular FFS, and other data in contemporary fertility and partnership research, and future data and theory requirements"
- Lars Østby* (chairperson)
Frances Goldscheider (author of solicited paper)
Larry Bumpass (discussant of contributed papers)
- Keynote address: "Future directions for fertility and partnership research: an agenda for the 21st century"
- Ron Lesthaeghe*

APR. '99



NEWSLETTER 16

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys conducted in recent years in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Economic Analysis Division (EAD), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klijzing@unece.org. The address of the FFS homepage is <http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/fchart.htm>.

1. The FFS **Standard Country Report (SCR)** on Spain has been published as No. 10i in the *Economic Studies* series of the Economic Analysis Division (EAD), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), and will soon be distributed. The SCR on Hungary will be printed as No. 10j. Thereafter will come, in order of receipt for final editing and desktop publishing,

11)	Canada	(No. 10k)
12)	Belgium	(No. 10l)
13)	Switzerland	(No. 10m)
14)	Germany	(No. 10n)
15)	Estonia	(No. 10o)
16)	Italy	(No. 10p).

Reports for Slovenia and Portugal are currently being reviewed, the one for Lithuania revised. Expectations are that by the time the FFS end-of-project Flagship Conference takes place, in May 2000, the SCR publication programme will have been completed.

2. Researchers interested in contributing papers to the **FFS Flagship Conference** are kindly reminded that the deadline for submitting paper outlines is 31 July 1999 (see FFS Newsletter 15, November 1998). Outlines should be sent to the Population Activities Unit, C.403, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10.

3. Four more third-round proposals for comparative analysis of FFS data have been received and approved by the FFS Advisory Group since October 1998. The proposals which have been numbered 56 to 59 are:

Comparative analysis of the non-response bias in FFS (no. 56). Andrej Kveder, Institute of Medical Sciences,

Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Science and Arts, Novi trg 5, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

andrej.kveder@cati.si

Child well-being, family structure and the Welfare State (no. 57). Patrick Heuveline, Population Research Center, NORC & the University of Chicago, 1155 E. 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637, United States of America.

p-heuveline@uchicago.edu

Contraceptive use: patterns and attitudes in European countries (no. 58). Ralf E. Ulrich, Schönholzer Weg 3a, 13158 Berlin, Germany.

ralf.ulrich@sowi.hu-berlin.de

A comparative study concerning the changing of partnership in western Europe (no. 59). Laurence Charton, 22 rue de Rosheim, 67000 Strasbourg, France.

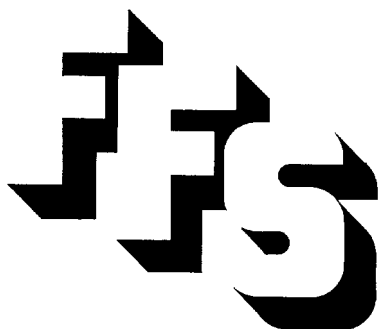
lcharton@aol.com

4. Agreements have been signed with the appropriate authorities in the **Czech Republic and Portugal** on the use of their FFS data in the FFS programme of comparative research. Researchers participating in this programme and interested in using these data are kindly requested to contact the FFS project manager. Special confidentiality pledges will not be needed.

5. As part of the FFS programme of comparative research, close to 400 **individual-level data** sets have so far been disseminated to some 40 researchers in 15 different countries

(see overleaf). These numbers are expected to increase further as the programme continues. Aggregate-level data are routinely added to the FFS homepage.

JUNE '99



NEWSLETTER 17

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys conducted in recent years in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Economic Analysis Division (EAD), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Mr. Erik Klijzing, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail erik.klijzing@unece.org. The address of the FFS homepage is <http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/fchart.htm>.

1. Erik Klijzing has accepted a senior research position at a university in Germany and will leave the PAU as **FFS project manager** as of 1 September 1999. Arrangements for his replacement are being finalised.

2. Statistics **Netherlands** (CBS) has agreed to the release by the PAU of Dutch FFS data to researchers participating in the FFS programme of comparative research under approved project numbers. A list of 33 such researchers interested in their use has been communicated to the CBS. They will shortly receive an application form for a bilateral contract with the CBS. Once completed, signed and returned to the CBS, this form will then pave the way for data release by the PAU. Currently available in Geneva however are only the original FFS data, although their documentation is in English. The data come as SPSS export files, one for 4,516 women with 349 variables, and one for 3,705 men with 185 variables. It will still be a while before a Dutch FFS Standard Recode File (SRF) may become available.

3. Dimitar Philipov of **Bulgaria** has finished preparing his country's SRF, which is now available for comparative analysis. The same is true for the SRF of the **United States of America**. Researchers participating in the FFS programme of comparative research and interested in these FFS data are kindly requested to contact the FFS project manager. FFS implementation details on both surveys are available on the FFS homepage.

4. Researchers wishing to contribute a spontaneous paper to the FFS Flagship Conference (see the advance

notice and call for papers in FFS Newsletter 15, November 1998) are reminded that outlines are due by **31 July 1999 at the latest**. Outlines received after this deadline will not be considered by the Organising Committee. Paper outlines should be 1 page maximum, providing information on (i) session number and title for which the paper is intended; (ii) name, institutional affiliation, address, position, telephone, fax and e-mail address of the author(s); (iii) tentative title of the paper; (iv) the issue(s) to be addressed by the paper; (v) method(s) to be employed; (vi) data source(s) to be used; and, if applicable, (vii) countries to be compared.

5. Two more third-round proposals for comparative analysis of FFS data have been approved by the FFS Advisory Group (AG) since April 1999:

Reproductive behaviour in women after induced abortion and labour - a comparison of FFS with Russian data (no. 60), by Ms. Ekaterina Vikhlyaeva, Research Centre of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Perinatology, Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, Oparin str. 4, 117815 Moscow, Russian Federation.

e.vikhlyaeva@mtu-net.ru

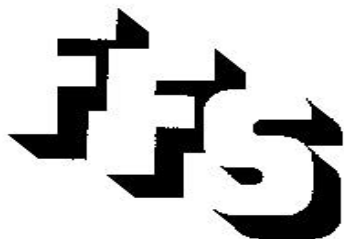
Life-courses in the globalisation process (no. 61), by Mr. Jens-Thorsten Sommer, Faculty of Sociology, University of Bielefeld, P.O. Box 100131, D-33501 Bielefeld.

thorsten.sommer@post.uni-bielefeld.de

6. The FFS Standard Country Report

for Lithuania has been revised and will be published as no. 17 in the *Economic Studies* series (see overleaf for a complete project overview as of June 1999).

FEB. 2000



NEWSLETTER 18

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys conducted in recent years in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Economic Analysis Division (EAD), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Ms. Martine Corijn, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101/0309, e-mail martine.corijn@unece.org. The address of the FFS homepage is <http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/fchart.htm>.

1. Formally the FFS project ended in December 1999. Being in the stage of completing the 1996-1999 project and launching a 2000-2003 project, we still want to share with you some information on the FFS project.

2. Martine Corijn has accepted the position of **FFS Project Manager** at the PAU as of 6 September 1999.

3. As an end of project event **an FFS Flagship Conference** will take place in Brussels (Belgium) from 29 to 31 May 2000. More information on this conference can be found on the FFS Web-site at www.unece.org/ead/pau/flag.

4. Since June 1999, **the Standard Recode Files** from Bulgaria, New Zealand, the United States of America and Estonia became available. Researchers participating in the FFS programme of comparative research and interested in these FFS data are kindly requested to contact the FFS project manager. The Standard Recode File of Greece is in preparation. Contrary to the message in the previous FFS Newsletter, the Standard Recode File of the Netherlands is not yet available.

5. The **Standard Country Reports** of Belgium and of Switzerland are available. Researchers interested in extra copies are kindly requested to contact the FFS project manager. Having no longer an editor at the

PAU, due to budgetary restrictions, other arrangements had to be looked for. The Standard Country Reports of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal and Slovenia are in the process of being edited. Having no longer a desktop publisher at the PAU, due to budgetary restrictions, extra resources are being looked for to do the desktop publishing of these five Standard Country Reports. A second draft of the Standard Country Report of New Zealand is in preparation. A first draft of the Bulgarian Standard Country Report is in preparation.

6. Several **proposals for comparative analysis** of FFS data have been approved by the FFS Advisory Group (AG) since August 1999:

Comparative analysis of differences in desired and realised fertility (no. 62) by C. Van Peer, Population and Family Study Center, Markiesstraat 1, 1000 Brussels, Belgium.

k.v.peer@worldonline.be

Abortion in European countries - policies and acceptance (no. 63) by J. Roloff, Federal Institute for Population Research, Friedrich Ebert Allee 4, 65185 Wiesbaden, Germany.

juliane.roloff@statistik-bund.de

The decline of the fertility rates in Middle Eastern Europe after 1989 (no. 64) by Y. Niephaus, Institute of Sociology, University of Heidelberg, Sandgasse, 9, 69117 Heidelberg, Germany.

yasemine.niephaus@urz.uni-heidelberg.de

The pluralization of living arrangements and family forms (no. 65) by J. Brüderl and S. Aisenbrey, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, MZES, 68131 Mannheim, Germany.

silke.aisenbrey@mzes.uni-mannheim.de

Household Dynamics of the Elderly using a microsimulation method (no. 66) by T. Armstrong, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Doberaner Strasse 114, 18057 Rostock, Germany.

armstrong@demogr.mpg.de

Achieving partnership in sexual and reproductive health (no. 67) by J.E. Darroch, S. Singh, A. Bankole, The Alan Guttmacher Institute, 120 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005, USA.

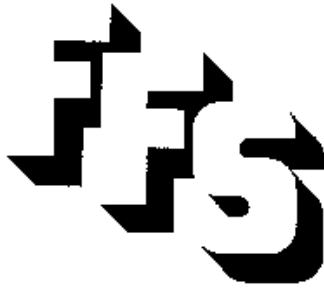
jedarroch@agi-usa.org

FFS Evaluation: comparability of the database (no. 68) by P. Festy, INED, 133 Boulevard Davout, 75980 Paris Cedex 20, France.

festy@ined.fr

7. Project 68 will support the PAU in complying with the request of the Conference of European Statisticians to have the 1990s survey round evaluated before starting any next survey round.

OCT. 2000



NEWSLETTER 19

LAST ISSUE

FFS is the acronym for Fertility and Family Surveys conducted in recent years in selected member countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE). Certain activities relating to the surveys are being carried out under the auspices of a project implemented by the Population Activities Unit (PAU) of the Economic Analysis Division (EAD), UN/ECE, with financial assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The title of this project is "Fertility and Family Surveys in Countries of the ECE Region". The FFS Newsletter is published periodically by the PAU to inform members of the FFS Informal Working Group (IWG) and other interested individuals of recent FFS project developments. Persons wishing to have their name added to the FFS mailing list should contact Mr. Miroslav Macura, Chief, or Ms. Martine Corijn, FFS project manager, PAU, UN/ECE, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, telephone + 41 22 917 2764/2477, telefax + 41 22 917 0101, e-mail martine.corijn@unece.org. The address of the FFS homepage is <http://www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/fchart.htm>.

1. Formally the FFS project ended on 31 December 1999. Therefore, this is **the last issue** of the FFS Newsletter. We are grateful to Erik Klijzing who has been informing you twice a year on the progress of the FFS project by this Newsletter.

2. In January 2000 a new programme - called the **Generations and Gender Programme (GGP)** - was launched by the PAU. Information on this programme is available at the PAU web-site www.unece.org/ead/pau/g&g/.

3. In the context of this Generations and Gender programme a **GGP Newsletter** will be launched. Special issues and/or sections of this GGP Newsletter will be devoted to any further FFS-related activities.

4. Readers of the FFS Newsletter who want to be on the GGP Newsletter **distribution** list via Internet are kindly requested to inform the PAU secretary (tresa.anthony@unece.org) of this. Readers having no access to Internet may request hard copies of the GGP Newsletter by writing to Tresa Anthony, PAU - ECE, Room C.405, Palais des Nations, CH 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

5. All **papers** presented at the FFS Flagship Conference (Brussels, 29-31 May 2000) are available at the FFS web-site at www.unece.org/ead/pau/flag/.

6. All solicited papers and a selection of contributed papers of the FFS Flagship

Conference will be published in an **UN/ECE-CBGS publication**. The review process for this publication has started. The publication is planned for mid-2001.

7. The **FFS Standard Country Reports (SCR)** of Estonia, Italy and Portugal will soon be published. Second drafts of the FFS SCRs of New Zealand and Bulgaria are in preparation. A report similar to the FFS SCR will be prepared for Denmark based on data available from various sources.

8. The FFS Advisory Group has proposed a **time schedule** to speed up the publication of the remaining 13 FFS Standard Country Reports, including those referred to above.

9. National representatives of the 24 countries participating in the FFS project have been asked to provide the PAU with an update of the **FFS-outputs** in their country. The outputs can be found at the FFS web-site www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/countrypub

10. Authors of comparative research projects based on FFS data have been asked to provide **progress reports** on their research projects. The outputs can be found at the FFS web-site at www.unece.org/ead/pau/ffs/reseali

11. The Conference of European Statisticians requested an **evaluation of the FFS project**. The PAU commissioned researchers of INED (Paris) to perform this evaluation. By the end of the year a final report on this evaluation will be available.

12. Several **proposals for comparative analysis** of FFS data have been approved by

the FFS Advisory Group (AG) since April 2000:

Does the gender pattern of children influence their parents risk of divorce ? (no. 69) by A. Diekmann and K. Schmidheiny, University of Bern, Gesellschaftsstrasse, 49, CH 3012 Bern, Switzerland
schmidheiny@vwi.unibe.ch

Demographic implications of social exclusion (no. 70) by D. Avramov, Population and Social Policy Consultants, Maria-Louizasquare, 33 bl, B 1000 Brussels, Belgium
psp@village.uunet.be

Leaving home in Poland and Spain: real or apparent similarities (no. 71) by P. Baizan and F. Billari, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Doberaner Strasse 114, D-18057 Rostock, Germany, and E. Fratzczak, Warsaw School of Economics, Al Niepodleglosci 162, PL 02 554 Warsaw, Poland
baizan@demogr.mpg.de

Comparing family change in South Europe 1965-1999: female experiences in combining family and work (no. 72) by M. Bozini Andinach, Department of History and Civilisation, Via Boccaccio, 121, I-50133 San Domenico di Fiesole, Italy
bozini@datacomm.iue.it

Partnership and fertility in Europe (no. 73) by T. Klein and W. Lauterbach, respectively Heidelberg University, D-69117 Heidelberg and University of Konstanz, D-78434 Konstanz, Germany
thomas.kleind@urz.uni-heidelberg.de
wolfgang.lauterbach@uni-konstanz.de

Transitions to adulthood: cross-national perspectives (no.74) by A. Gauthier and E. Fussell, respectively University of Calgary, Calgary (Alberta) Canada and University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA
gauthier@ucalgary.ca
fussell@ssc.upenn.edu

Contemporary European fertility and family dynamics (no. 75) by J. Hoem, A. Frnkranz-Prskawetz, F. Billari, H.P. Kohler, Max-Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Doberaner

Strasse 114, D-18057 Rostock, Germany

hoem@demogr.mpg.de
philipov@demogr.mpg.de

Changing patterns of family formation and dissolution: the influence of welfare state regimes on demographic behaviour (no. 76) by M. Solsona and M.J. Gonzalez, Centre d'Estudis Demografics, Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, 08193 Cerdanyola de Vallès, Barcelona, Spain
mjgonzalez@cedserver.uab.es

Comparative studies of stepfamily fertility (no. 77) by E. Thomson, J.M. Hoem, A. Vikat, respectively Department of Sociology and Center for Demography and Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1180 Observatory Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53706 USA and Max-Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Doberaner Strasse 114, D-18057 Rostock, Germany
thomson@ssc.wisc.edu
hoem@demogr.mpg.de

Female employment and family formation in national institutional contexts (no. 78) by P. Elias and G. Pierre, Institute for Employment Research, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7 AL United Kingdom
g.pierre@warwick.ac.uk

Fertility and family responses to social change (no. 79) by J. Rychtarikova, Department of Demography and Geodemography, Faculty of Science, Charles University, Albertov 6, 128 43 Praha 2, Czech Republic
rychta@natur.cuni.cz

13. The **FFS programme of comparative research** continues. Researchers can still submit research proposals and apply for the FFS Standard Recode File data. The FFS Advisory Group, which monitors these FFS research projects will continue to exist. Information on new FFS research projects will be available on the FFS web-site.

14. A small working group was formed to establish an **archive of documentation** on the various in-country FFS activities. This group had its first meeting on 5 and 6 October. Information pertaining to the work of this group will be available at the FFS web-site.