

42nd Summer Seminar on Population

The East-West Center's
42nd Summer
Seminar on Population
will consist of
three workshops:

WORKSHOP 1

**Designing Fertility Analyses
in the Context of Low Fertility**

4-18 June 2011
Honolulu, Hawai'i

WORKSHOP 2

**Effective Responses
to HIV in a Funding-
Constrained World: Asia**

28 May-18 June 2011
Honolulu, Hawai'i

WORKSHOP 3

**Communicating with
Policymakers about
Population and Health**

28 May-18 June 2011
Honolulu, Hawai'i

EastWestCenter.org/SummerSeminar



EAST-WEST CENTER
COLLABORATION • EXPERTISE • LEADERSHIP

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Designing Fertility Analyses in the Context of Low Fertility

As countries in Asia and elsewhere move from high to low fertility, they are experiencing, at the same time, important changes in social, economic, and political conditions. These changes, in turn, result in widely diverse fertility behavior.

Consider the range of total fertility rates estimated for 2009 in the following countries: South Korea (1.2), Portugal (1.3), Japan (1.4), China (1.5), Bulgaria (1.6), Canada (1.7), Thailand (1.8), Australia (1.9), United States (2.0), and New Zealand (2.1). A total fertility rate that stays at a level of 1.2 or 2.1 has profoundly different effects on a country's age structure and population growth, along with important implications for institutions and policies.

As a result, fertility levels have captured the attention of policymakers and scientists alike. Research, however, has yet to produce comprehensive understanding of fertility behavior across low-fertility countries. This workshop will address challenges and new approaches in designing fertility analyses in the context of low fertility.

Who should attend?

Researchers who are currently analyzing or planning to analyze fertility behavior in the context of low fertility are encouraged to apply. Applicants should be familiar with at least one large data set collected for the analysis of fertility behavior. They should also have a working knowledge of basic statistical-analysis techniques, such as logistic regression and survival analysis, as well as the associated computer software.

Workshop participants will be a mix of researchers and advanced graduate students doing research on fertility change. Sessions will focus on three main topics: theories and empirical findings on low fertility; methodological considerations; and data requirements.

Topic 1: Theories and empirical findings on low fertility

Discussions will cover the importance and challenges of studying fertility in contemporary low-fertility settings. The potential childbearing period covers 30-

plus years for women and even longer for men, presenting challenges in countries where activities during the young-adult years are complex and dense.

For example, the period that women and men spend in the educational system extends well into the childbearing years, making it difficult to isolate the effect of education on fertility. Other examples include the changing role of marriage in the fertility process, including the substantial rise of non-marital fertility, and the complex relationship between female labor-force participation and fertility.

Topic 2: Methodological considerations

Different fertility measures will be discussed, including the strengths and weaknesses of cohort and period measures, age-based and parity-based measures, and fertility intentions and actual fertility. Ways to measure the influence of community-level variables will also be addressed. Countries and communities within countries differ widely in their institutional structures, and these institutional differences are theorized to affect fertility.

Topic 3: Data requirements

Discussion will cover the extent to which existing data sets and data series, such as the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS) project, meet the substantive and statistical needs of fertility studies. And to the extent that they do not, the workshop will discuss the types of survey designs that could be implemented to better serve the research community's needs.

Participant project

Participants are expected to participate actively in discussions on each topic and to share their experiences of fertility research. In addition, each participant is expected to complete a project during the course of the workshop. This will be a design for a significant part of a fertility analysis, either completed individually or as part of a small group.

Workshop coordinators

Minja Kim Choe (Ph.D. University of Hawaii) is a Senior Fellow in Population and Health Studies at the East-West Center.

Robert D. Retherford (Ph.D. University of California at Berkeley) is a Senior Fellow and Coordinator of Population and Health Studies at the East-West Center.

Effective Responses to HIV in a Funding-Constrained World: Asia

The global HIV pandemic and responses to it continue to evolve. In Asia, efforts to curtail HIV transmission in sex work are starting to have an impact. As they do, new infections increasingly focus among men who have sex with men (MSM), injecting drug users (IDUs), and wives of men at-risk. Unfortunately, few national programs are responding to these new challenges, and coverage among these groups remains low. In addition, little is known about preventing HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STI) in today's rapidly changing, technologically linked, and multinational social networks.

Today, development aid is increasingly constrained, and HIV programs face growing pressures to prove they are working, to demonstrate efficiency, and to justify continued funding. Yet few countries have solid cost, coverage, or evaluation data on HIV prevention programs. Without this information, they cannot show international donors the impacts of their efforts. Nor can they provide clear guidance to decision makers on the components of an effective program and their costs.

The East-West Center and its collaborators have developed approaches and tools to address these issues, including the Analysis and Advocacy (A²) process, the Asian Epidemic Model (AEM), and the policy analysis tools of the Commission on AIDS in Asia. This three-week workshop provides an overview of the A² process, gives participants hands-on experience with these tools, teaches them to compare and cost alternative responses, and develops recommendations for strengthening strategic planning and evaluation capacity.

Who should attend?

Workshop participants will be: program staff in strategic planning and national response monitoring and evaluation in Asia; staff of international agencies and donors interested in improving the focus, effectiveness, and impact of their HIV programs; and researchers, program staff, and community members working with MSM and IDU who seek to participate in national planning processes.

What's going on?

Participants will first review data on HIV, key behaviors, and responses to develop a clear picture of their own epidemics and identify important information needs. Emphasis will be on gaps in data for monitoring the epidemic and evaluating program impacts in key populations. Participants will construct an AEM for their countries.

What can we do about it?

Participants will then examine alternative strategies for national programs and patterns of resource allocation using models and policy tools. They will assess the impact of program coverage in key populations, the costs of an effective response, and the additional resources needed. Participants will also explore how to mobilize and balance support from various funding sources, including donors, national budgets, local budgets, and the private sector.

In Asia, engaging affected communities is central to effective HIV prevention and care efforts. These communities cannot play their critical role without resources. Workshop participants will learn to assess community resource needs and develop approaches for building community capacity.

Do we get our money's worth?

The workshop will close by exploring monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of national programs, reviewing the data systems required to track costs, determining program coverage and effectiveness, and assessing implementation capacity. Participants will identify gaps in current data-collection efforts and discuss ways to improve existing M&E systems, including both HIV and response surveillance, to track and evaluate program effectiveness and redirect available resources for maximum impact.

Workshop coordinators

Tim Brown, Senior Fellow, Population and Health Studies, East-West Center.

Amala Reddy, Regional Program Advisor—Strategic Information, UNAIDS Regional Support Team for Asia and the Pacific.

Resource persons

Brad Otto, Senior Fellow, Centre for International Health, Burnet Institute; **Wiwat Peerapatapanokin**, Research Associate, Population and Health Studies, East-West Center; and **Nalyn Siripong**, Health Economist, Population and Health Studies, East-West Center.

Communicating with Policymakers about Population and Health

Population and health researchers, managers, and practitioners have extensive knowledge of demographic surveys, censuses, and other studies plus long experience with programs and familiarity with user needs. This expertise should play a key role in guiding policy decisions. Yet all too often, relevant research findings, knowledge, and experience fail to reach influential policy audiences and, consequently, are not used to shape policies and programs.

Since 1996, the East-West Center has offered an annual workshop to help improve communication among researchers, practitioners, program managers, and policymakers. The objective is to improve the use of research findings and professional knowledge in the design of population and health policies and programs.

Who should attend?

Workshop participants must be actively involved in population and health research, program management, or policymaking. Participants should have computer experience and be fluent in English. They should bring their own research results or project data that can be used to address a policy problem. They should also be familiar with the most recent Demographic and Health Survey or equivalent national survey from their home country.

Workshop sessions

Plenary and small-group sessions, incorporating a hands-on, participatory approach, will cover five areas:

Exploring the policy process

Participants will examine the factors that influence the policy process, discuss the differing roles of policymakers, practitioners, and researchers, and generate ideas on how to increase the use of research evidence in population and health policy.

Designing strategies to communicate research findings to policymakers

Participants will analyze the policy context of their own research and will develop communication strategies that include identification of policy goals, analysis of primary and secondary audiences, development of clear and compelling messages, and selection of appropriate channels and formats. Discussion will cover how to recognize communication opportunities, build a policy coalition, and design and carry out an action plan.

Communicating research results through the media

Participants will learn how to communicate to policymakers through newspapers, radio, and television. Skill-building exercises will include drafting a press release, practicing interview techniques, and learning how to build and maintain good relationships with journalists.

Writing fact sheets and policy memoranda and conducting policy briefings

Participants will prepare fact sheets based on current data from their home countries and policy memoranda based on a case study. In role-play exercises, they will conduct policy briefings for high-level government officials.

Making oral presentations to policy audiences

Workshop sessions will introduce a step-by-step approach to organizing effective policy presentations and will provide design tips for presenting text, graphs, flowcharts, and photos. Each participant will prepare an oral presentation of research results or project information for a policy audience. These presentations will be videotaped and critiqued.

Workshop coordinators

Sidney B. Westley (B.A. Smith College) is a Communications Specialist with the Research Program at the East-West Center.

Phyllis Tilson Piotrow (Ph.D. Johns Hopkins University) was the founder and first Director of the Center for Communication Programs at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHU/CCP).

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Questions?

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Requirements for participation

Applicants should be university graduates proficient in English with training and experience in a field relevant to the topic of their workshop. Individuals will be selected on the basis of their potential contribution to their workshop and to future professional work.

Assessment of each applicant will be based on the information provided in the application form plus the required workshop statement, other materials submitted as part of the application, and evidence of relevant experience and interest. In preparing application materials, applicants should take care to address the selection criteria that are specified in each workshop description.

Deadline for applications

Completed application documents need to arrive in Honolulu by 31 December 2010. These include an application form, workshop statement, funding and housing form, and reference form. Applicants should mail their completed application forms and other documents as soon as possible to:

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East-West Center, Population and Health Studies
1601 East-West Road
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96848-1601 USA

Applications sent by fax or email should be followed by an original sent by air mail. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Acceptance letters will be sent out in February 2011.

Accommodations and participant costs

Workshop participants stay in graduate-student housing at the East-West Center. Accommodations consist of private rooms in all-male, all-female, or mixed dormitory areas, all with shared bathrooms and kitchens.

Estimated participant costs are US\$3,220 for Workshop 1, US\$4,685 for Workshop 2, and US\$4,790 for Workshop 3. These costs include tuition, dormitory housing, a meal allowance, and all activities in Honolulu. They do not include air travel or mandatory insurance.

A few small apartments are also available on a first-come-first-served basis. The additional cost for apartment accommodation is US\$17 per night.

All prospective Summer Seminar applicants are advised to seek funding from their home organizations or from national or international agencies. Applicants are expected to seek their own financial support and indicate prospective sponsors on their application forms. The East-West Center can only provide financial assistance to a very few outstanding candidates.

Formal confirmation of support may be forwarded to the East-West Center after the 31 December deadline. Confirmation of funding is essential, however, before documents can be issued for visa purposes.

Learn more and
download application forms at:
EastWestCenter.org/SummerSeminar



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