

10TH EDITION
JULY – DECEMBER 2024



FORMAN
CHRISTIAN
COLLEGE
(A CHARTERED UNIVERSITY)



PRC - FCCU

NEWSLETTER



HIGHLIGHTS

EVENTS:

- Panel Discussion on Climate Change, Mega Cities, and Urban Floods
- Webinar - Orientation to MICS
- Open-house: Certification program in Demography
- Workshop on Univariate & Bivariate Analysis
- Dissemination Seminar on Transformations in Women's Contraceptive Use - Discontinuation and Switching Methods in Punjab by National Institute of Pakistan Studies (NIPS)

PUBLICATIONS:

- Journal Articles and Annual Booklet

TRAINING WORKSHOPS & CAPACITY BUILDING OF TEAM :

- Data for Development (D4D): Persuading with Data (Analysis and Interpretation)
- Data Analysis Using Python
- 5-DAY Training Workshop on 'Data Visualisation and Story Telling
- Youth Policy and Advocacy Dialogue (YPAD) in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- Population Association of Pakistan (PAP) 25th Annual Conference

OTHERS:

- Designing a program on "Demography and Population Studies in Pakistan"
- Collaboration Opportunities for National & International Linkages

D4D Series Panel Discussion on Climate Change, Mega Cities, and Urban Floods

The Population Research Center hosted the seminar titled "Climate Change, Mega Cities, and Urban Floods," on 23rd August 2024.

The event was organized in collaboration with the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), UNFPA, CePwS-NUST and PRC-UOP. It brought together academics, policymakers, and urban planners to explore solutions to one of the most crucial challenges faced by modern cities like Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, Faisalabad, Islamabad and many more. The event featured a distinguished panel of speakers, each bringing a unique perspective on the multifaceted issue of urban flooding. The seminar was divided into two sessions, Opening and panel discussion.



In the opening session:

- Dr. Jonathan Addleton (Rector, FCCU) emphasized the urgent threat of flooding in Pakistan.
- Ms. Tania Durrani (UNFPA) highlighted UNFPA's role in policy support, stressing the importance of gender-disaggregated data in addressing urban flooding and climate change.
- Dr. Sajid Amin Javed (Deputy Executive Director, SDPI) underscored the need for evidence-based data culture in Pakistan for better development planning.
- Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri (Executive Director, SDPI) focused on the impact of plastic pollution on urban sewer systems, especially in cities like Lahore and Karachi.
- Dr. Sana Bashir (EPD, Punjab) shared sustainable urban planning strategies, emphasizing climate mitigation, disaster management, and environmental monitoring.
- Mr. Irfan Ali Khan (PDMA) provided alarming statistics on the increased rainfall in Punjab, stressing the importance of precise weather forecasting for effective urban flood risk assessment.

**During the panel discussion:**

- Dr. Muhammad Omar Masud (Urban Unit) warned of climate change's impact on cities and the challenges of data sharing for managing urban flooding. He called for localized, city-level interventions.
- Dr. Rabia Chaudhry (CPPG, FCCU) pointed out how poor infrastructure exacerbates flood damage, particularly for vulnerable populations, and advocated for stronger local government involvement.
- Dr. Abdul Rehman (BUIITEMS) criticized the reactive approach to urbanization issues, emphasizing the need for reliable data and proactive measures.
- Dr. Muhammad Iqbal (Peshawar University) called for enhanced collaboration between academia and government to utilize research in developing effective strategies for urban flooding and climate change.



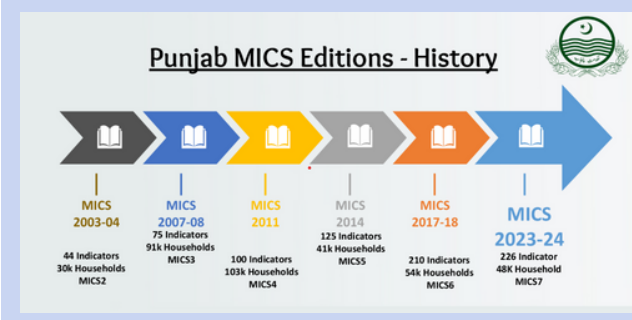
Panel Discussion Panelists: From left to right:
Dr. Rabia Chaudhry (Assistant Professor, CPPG, FCCU), Dr. Muhammad Omar Masud (CEO, Urban Unit), Dr. Abdul Rehman (Pro Vice Chancellor, BUIITEMS), Dr. Muhammad Iqbal (Professor & Director PRC, University of Peshawar)

Webinar – Orientation to Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 4th December 2024

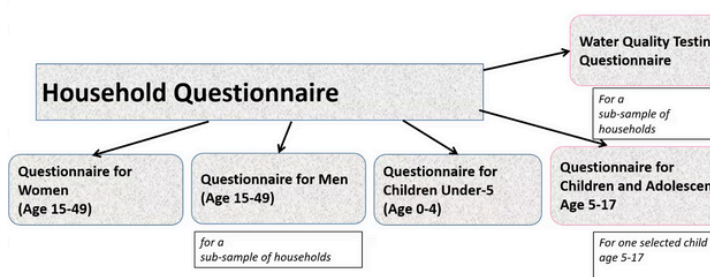
The PRC in collaboration with the Bureau of Statistics (BOS), Punjab organized a webinar on orientation to MICS on 4th December, 2024.

Mr. Isacc Shahzad was the speaker of the webinar. He started the webinar with a history and objectives of Multiple Cluster Indicator Survey (MICS) dataset. He stated important aspects of MICS datasets i.e. sampling methodology, household questionnaire & modules, quality assurance dimensions and relevancy development.

After explaining detailed quality assurance dimensions; relevance, validity, professionalism, enhancing interviewing quality, assessing data quality, control survey errors, developing the consistencies, coherence and interpretability, Mr. Isacc Shahzad explained usability of MICS data along with policy interventions. The event concluded with Q/A session.



MICS7 Questionnaires



Open-House: PRC Certification Program in Demography and Population Studies and Minor in Demography

The PRC team collaborated with different social sciences departments Economics, Statistics, Sociology and Geography to organize the Open House and visited baccalaureate classes to engage directly with students and discuss the significance of the certification program, addressing their questions and inquiries. Students were provided with details about the courses, program timeline, and registration process. Additionally, departmental representatives/course instructor explained how the certification program relates to their specific subjects.

It was emphasized that the program would equip students with the skills to critically evaluate existing policies and initiatives on population management and control, both globally and regionally, with a particular focus on Pakistan.



Workshop on Univariate and Bivariate Analysis

14th December, 2024

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM at E-241 Lab

Dr. M. Vaqas Ali (Associate Professor, Department of Sociology & Director PRC) facilitated this workshop titled 'Univariate and Bivariate Analysis using SPSS'.

The content of the workshop was designed for Bachelors and MPhil students which included the following:

- Univariate Analysis: Central tendency and dispersion, factor analysis, alpha test
- Bivariate Analysis: Chi square test, T-test, One way Anova, Correlation and Bivariate Regression.

Facilitator:
Dr. M. Vaqas Ali
 Associate Professor, Department of Sociology
 Director, PRC FCCU

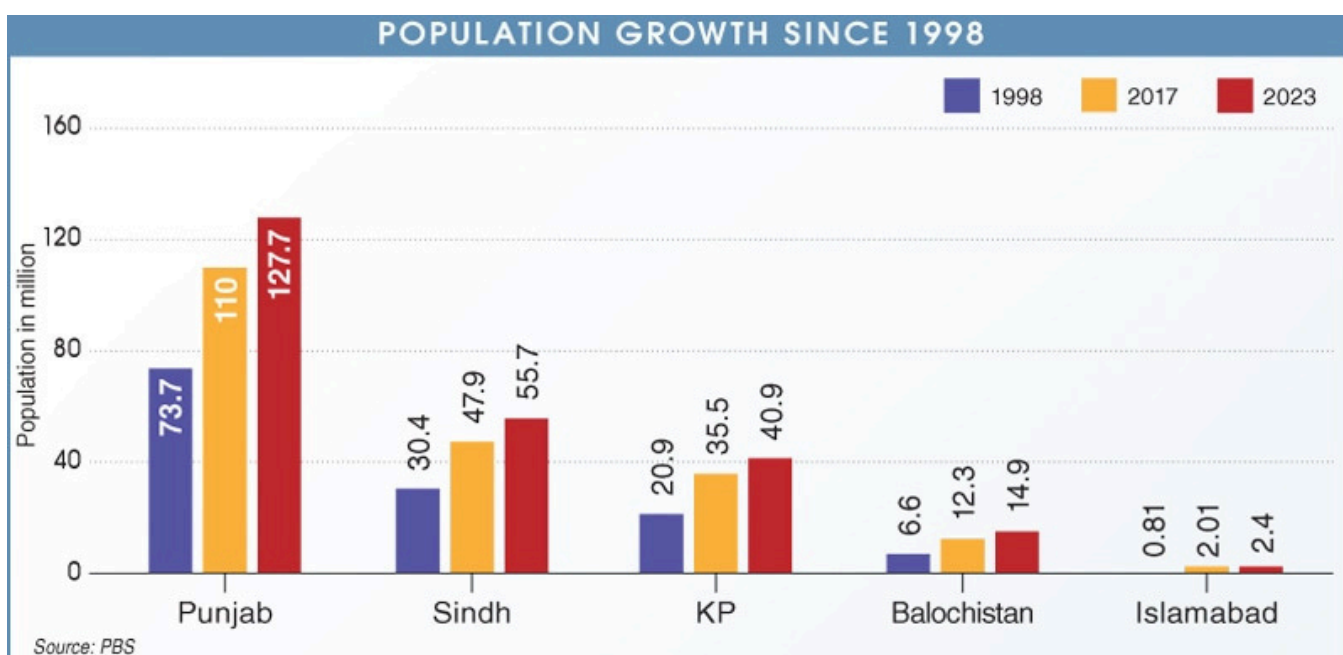


The registration for the workshop was conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. The students with foundational knowledge of SPSS were eligible to apply for participation. A total of 41 registrations were received from FCCU students, out of which 20 were selected to attend the workshop from different disciplines such as Sociology, Economic, Psychology and Biotechnology. The facilitator provided a comprehensive dataset for hands-on practice during the session. Certificates of participation awarded to all attendees who successfully completed the workshop.



Dissemination Seminar on Transformations in Women's Contraceptive Use - Discontinuation and Switching Methods in Punjab by National Institute of Pakistan Studies (NIPS) 9th December 2024

The PRC team upon invitation attended a seminar titled *Transformation in Women's Contraceptive Use - Discontinuation and switching methods in Punjab* at Indus Hall, Avari Hotel, Lahore on 9th December. Under UNFPA annual work plan, NIPS completed this study using data of four rounds of longitudinal panel study using the Performance Monitoring for Action (PMA) framework. The event started with welcome remarks by Ms. Rabia Zafar (Director, NIPS) followed by a detailed presentation of Dr. Tauseef Ahmed (Adviser, PMA, NIPS), remarks by Ms. Tania Durrani (UNFPA), Dr. Melinia Hidayat (UNFPA) and Ms. Saman Rai (DG, PWD, Punjab). The event was a great success for collaboration and further engagements.



The greatest threat to human existence may be our own inability to control our own numbers." - Stephen Hawking

PUBLICATIONS

Publication of Research Paper in a HEC Recognized Journal

The PRC has published a paper titled **"Child Abuse in Pakistan: A Sociological Examination of Contributing Factors"** in the journal "Global Sociological Review" Volume IX, Issue: III Summer (September-2024).

Authors: Dr. Muhammad Vaqas Ali
Dr. Shamaila Athar
Dr. Shahid Rasheed



Abstract of the paper:

The study explores phenomenon of child abuse in Pakistan. It focuses on various kind of abuse like emotional, sexual and physical. Regardless of the presence of legal frameworks it remains a significant problem influenced by poverty, lack of education and cultural norms normalizing abusive behavior. The study employs sociological theories, like the cycle of violence, social situation theory, and cultural model, to understand complex roots of child abuse. It highlights how social forces, including household size, gender norms, and parental education levels, contribute to prevalence of abuse. Using data from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) Punjab (2017-2018) a logistic regression analysis was conducted to identify correlates of psychological, moderate physical, and severe physical abuse among children aged 5 to 14 years. The findings indicate that boys as compared to girls are more likely to experience abuse, wealth status negatively correlates with abuse, and household size positively correlates with abuse.

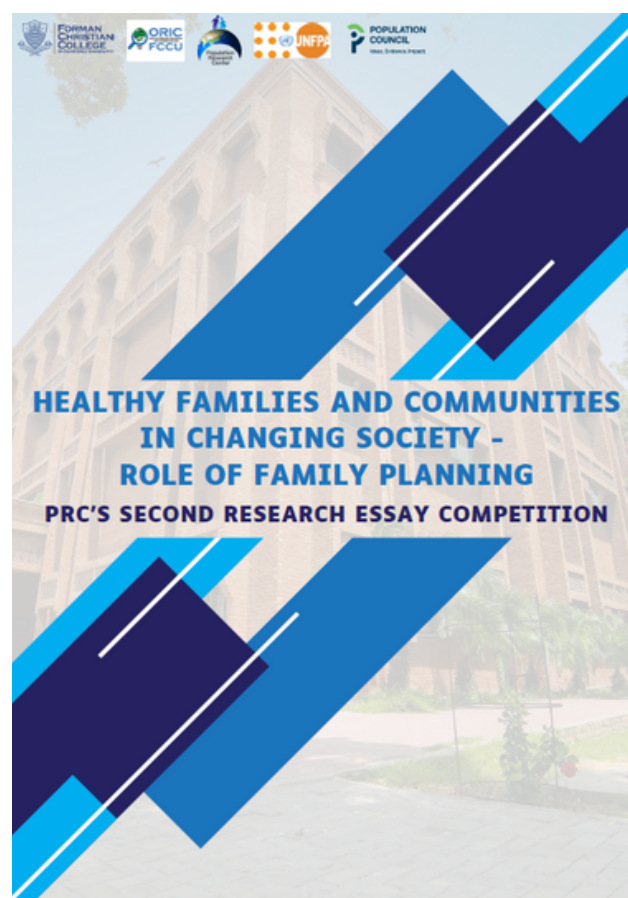
Keywords: Child Abuse, Emotional, Sociological Theories

Fulltext is available at:

<https://gsrjournal.com/article/child-abuse-in-pakistan-a-sociological-examination-of-contributing-factors>

Annual Booklet – PRC's research essay competition: Healthy Families and Communities in Changing Society – Role of Family Planning

The PRC at FCCU has published its third booklet "Healthy Families and Communities in Changing Society - Role of Family Planning - PRC's Second Research Essay Competition". The booklet contains the top fifteen essays from students who participated in PRC's second research essay competition held in 2024 funded by ORIC-FCCU.



Booklet can also be downloaded from the following:
PRC webpage:

<https://www.fccollege.edu.pk/population-research-center/>

PRC Digital Repository:

<http://digitalrepository.fccollege.edu.pk/handle/123456789/2447>

TRAINING WORKSHOPS & CAPACITY BUILDING

Data for Development (D4D): Persuading with Data (Analysis and Interpretation) 23rd –26th September 2024

By Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) & the UNFPA

The Population Research Center team members Dr. M. Vaqas Ali and Ms. Khizra Nasir participated in a 3-DAY training workshop 'Data for Development (D4D): Persuading with Data – Data Analysis and Interpretation' from 23rd Sep 2024 - 26th Sep 2024, organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) at the Ramada Hotel, Lahore.

This three-day interactive training workshop consisted of following three sessions daily:

Speaking Data (persuading with data), Feel-in-Class (Working with STATA) with hands-on application and

Data in policy perspective and evidence-based policy design.



The event concluded with closing remarks of Dr. Rubina Ali (Assistant Representative, UNFPA, Pakistan), Ms. Tania Durrani (UNFPA, Lahore), special remarks by Dr. Naeem Uz Zafar (Chief Statistician, PBS) and Director Generals from Bureau of Statistics (BOS) KPK, Balochistan and Punjab and vote of thanks by Dr. Sajid Amin Javed (Deputy Executive Director, SDPI).



Trainers who instructed these sessions were Dr. Rafi Amir Ud Din (HOD/Associate Professor, Comsats), Dr. Fareeha Armughan (Research Fellow, SDPI), Dr. Saud Ahmad (Assistant Professor, PIDE), Dr. Hadia Majid (HOD Economics, LUMS), Dr. Adeel Tariq (Associate Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, LUMS) and Dr. Athar Waheed (DIG, Police).

The training workshop participants were from the PRC-FCCU, the Centre of Excellence on Population and Wellbeing Studies (CePWS), NUST, IBA Karachi, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, the Bureau of Statistics of all provinces, Population Welfare Department (PWD), Punjab, Provincial planning and development departments and Director, Commissionerate of Afghan Refugees.



Ms. Khizra Nasir while presenting an assigned group activity task

Data Analysis Using Python

By Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) & the UNFPA

2nd – 6th December 2024

Ms. Khizra Nasir (Research Associate, PRC) has successfully completed a 5-DAY training workshop on “Data Analysis Using Python” organized by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) in collaboration with the UNFPA from 2nd-6th December 2024 at Board Room 01, Roomy Signature Hotel, Islamabad.

The workshop included a detailed analysis of data coding using python software, Jupyter notebook, Anaconda and R. After going through coding analysis, sessions on forecasting, machine learning, deep learning, data imaging, and web scraping had also been conducted with hands-on practice throughout five days of workshop. Participants from Pakistan Bureau, provincial bureaus, P&Ds, and PRCs participated in this workshop. Workshop concluded with closing remarks by Mr. Sarwar Gondal (PBS) and Ms. Farah and Ms. Mehwish (UNFPA).

Dr. Waseem Haider, PhD (Associate Professor, Bio Sciences, Comsats, Islamabad) facilitated the workshop along with his team.



5-DAY Training Workshop on 'Data Visualization and Story Telling'

Organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in collaboration with the UNFPA

2nd-6th December 2024



The Population Research Center student, Mr. Muhammad Asfand Yar participated in the Data for Development (D4D): Five Days Training on Data Visualization and Story Telling from 2nd – 6th Dec 2024 at Roomy Signature Hotel, Islamabad organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI).

This five-day interactive training workshop consisted of multiple sessions, including data storytelling, communication of data for development, data journalism, leveraging data story telling for policy impact, and Power BI hands-on practice. The trainers who instructed these sessions were Mr. Sufian Abu Harb from Palestine, Dr. Shafqat Munir (SDPI), Dr. Naveed Iftekhar (atomcamp), Dr. Adeel Tariq (Associate Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, LUMS), and Mr. Kashif Iqbal.

Multiple participants from different departments and institutions, including the Population Research Center, FCCU, Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, the Bureau of Statistics of all provinces, Hum News, Dawn News, PTV, Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences Quetta (BUIEMS), University of Peshawar, provincial planning and development departments, and the Commissionerate of Afghan Refugees, attended the workshop.

Youth Policy and Advocacy Dialogue (YPAD) in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)-15th Nov'2024



The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in collaboration with the School of Leadership Foundation organized the Youth Policy and Advocacy Dialogue (YPAD) on 15th November 2024 at the Park Lane Hotel, Lahore. Being UNFPA's partner, PRC at FCCU nominated twenty FCCU students from different disciplines, Political Science, Psychology, Economics, Business, Public Policy and HR. This Dialogue aimed to empower youth across Pakistan by actively involving them in a policy-based discussion. Students participated in the dialogue with a keen interest in connecting with policymakers and to raise their concerns.

Population Association of Pakistan (PAP) 25th Annual Conference

4th–5th December, 2024, Main Campus, IBA Karachi

The Population Research Center, FCCU, Director, Dr. M. Vaqas Ali attended the 25th Annual Population Research Conference 2024 on 4th and 5th December at Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi. The Conference was held on the overarching theme “Pathways to Sustainable Development: Navigating Population Growth, Poverty, Productivity, and Climate Change”,

The primary objective of the 25th Annual Population Research Conference is to bring policy makers, donors, practitioners, researchers, and youth to a common platform to discuss persistent population problems, challenges, and potential solutions for translating the National and Provincial Narratives on Population into actionable solutions for population development, in the context of a changing socio-cultural context. Accounting for key challenges, the conference aims to strengthen evidence-based policy direction for Pakistan on a variety of topics conference sub themes, including Stagnant Family Planning, Persistent Poverty and Inequity, Low Productivity, and Declining Resilience



Dr. M. Vaqas Ali participated in the conference in two sessions:

- *As a Co-Chair in Technical Session three: Poverty, Gender, Health and Health Systems*
- *As a panel presenter in Spotlight session: Data for Development*



Designing a program on "Demography and Population Studies in Pakistan"

The PRC has developed a program titled "Demography of Pakistan," with the primary objective of analyzing the social science aspects of demography in Pakistan. The program is structured to position demography and population studies as an interdisciplinary field that intersects with various academic disciplines. A total of eight courses will be offered from which two will be compulsory and six will be elective. Compulsory courses will emphasize a special focus on discourse, knowledge and theories of demography as a whole and an analysis of demographic trends, data collection techniques, and survey data including census etc. of Pakistan. While elective courses will focus on the linkages between demography and other aspects of social science i.e. crime (types, practices, outcomes, policies), health/public health (mortality, morbidity, aging), economy (inflation, unemployment, market), migration (urbanization) and gender (domestic violence). The courses to be offered are as follows:

- Introduction to Demography: An Analysis of Pakistan
- Statistical Analysis: Data and tools
- Economic demography
- Public health and demography
- Crime and demography
- Political demography
- Introduction to gender studies
- Research methods in demography

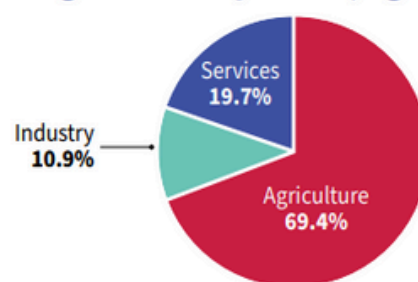


PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent of Population
Working	10 to 14	9.8% (2,261,704)
Hazardous Work by Children	15 to 17	Unavailable
Attending School	10 to 14	78.0%
Combining Work and School	10 to 14	0.8%

Working Children by Sector, Ages 5-14



Source: U.S Department of Labor (2023)

Children in Pakistan are subjected to the worst forms of child labor, including commercial sexual exploitation, domestic work, and brick manufacturing. However, In 2023, Pakistan made moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. Punjab's provincial assembly passed the Punjab Home-Based Workers Act of 2023, which prohibits the employment of children under 15 years in home-based work.

Suggested Govt. Actions to Eliminate Child Labor:

- Lega Framework
- Enforcement
- Coordination
- Social Programs

Collaborations & Linkages: National & International

The PRC team held multiple meetings with the Director General of the Punjab Bureau of Statistics, where both departments expressed a mutual interest in exploring new avenues for future collaboration, knowledge sharing, and internship opportunities for FCCU students. Although the Bureau of Statistics, Punjab, is restricted from signing an MOU with any educational institution due to government policies, they agreed to organize additional workshops and seminars at FCCU, with the hope of finding a path forward that would benefit both institutions.

In addition, the PRC has established ties with the Population Welfare Department, Punjab, by hosting esteemed guest speakers at FCCU for a seminar following a panel discussion. Both parties have agreed to continue their collaboration on future initiatives.

On an international level, the PRC is strengthening connections by inviting renowned demographers and professors to FCCU, enriching students' learning experiences. The PRC has collaborated with the University of Hong Kong, the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Princeton University and many other international institutions, exchanging faculty, staff, and student email addresses to facilitate communication about upcoming institutional events, such as webinars, seminars, panel discussions, calls for papers, and conferences. The PRC's goal in building these relationships is to keep participants informed while also fostering opportunities for future engagement and collaboration.



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FOR DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH



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