

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



POPULATION RESEARCH CENTRE SESS, IBA



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PRC CONFERENCE 2023

EMERGING DEMOGRAPHIC CHALLENGES



March 20th, 2023



Main Campus IBA

On March 20th, 2023, the Population Research Centre (PRC), hosted its first research conference, in collaboration with UNICEF in Karachi. The conference brought together researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to a common platform to discuss Pakistan's population problems and consider their solutions in the light of emerging contexts.

Key Success Factors

- The conference provided a platform for the PRC to be recognized as a prominent and active unit working on population issues.
- The conference boasted a lineup of distinguished speakers. The inaugural speeches were given by DR. Khadija Bari (PRC) and Ms. Sadaf Zulfiqar (UNICEF). The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Sameen Siddiqui from Aga Khan University. Additionally, the First Lady of Pakistan, Begum Arif Alvi, graced the occasion as the guest of honor, emphasizing the significance and recognition accorded to the conference. Dr. G. M. Arif gave the concluding remarks, summarizing the key takeaways from the event.
- The event also exemplified the PRC's commitment to forging active collaborations by partnering with esteemed entities like UNICEF and Green Star Marketing, who sponsored parts of the event.





WORKSHOPS



In April 2023, PRC organized a one day workshop on DHS Data Analysis. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Lubna Naz and facilitated by Dr. Khadija Bari and Dr. Junaid Alam. The workshop focused on utilizing DHS data to address research questions related to demographic transitions and reproductive and sexual health issues in Pakistan.

DHS WORKSHOP April 2023

The workshop aimed to familiarize the participants, including faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students, with the structure and content of DHS datasets and provide hands-on training to participants in using statistical software to analyze DHS data.

DHS WORKSHOP August 2023

On August 17, 2023, the PRC organized a workshop "Reproductive Health Analysis Using DHS Data and Spatial Tools." The workshop delved into a diverse range of topics, with a primary focus on enhancing participants' understanding of spatial and vector data analysis.

Attendees were introduced to working with spatial data, the use of QGIS and Geoda. The workshop also provided participants with specific methodologies for conducting in-depth analyses of reproductive health variables using DHS data. The exercises included guidance on downloading and effectively mapping spatial data, conducting time trend analyses, and applying hypothesis tests to inform research in the field of reproductive health.



Both the workshops received positive feedback from the participants, who appreciated the opportunity to enhance their data analysis skills and gain practical knowledge of working with DHS data. The workshop's interactive format allowed participants to actively engage with the material and clarify their questions.

The impact of these workshop extends beyond the immediate learning experience. The acquired skills and knowledge are expected to benefit participants in their future research endeavors, particularly in population-related studies.

PRC ROUNDTABLE

Women's Autonomy and Unintended Pregnancy Among Reproductive Age Women in Pakistan

Lubna Naz

Khadija Malik Bari

Junaid Alam Khan

ICF



On August 18th, 2023, PRC hosted a roundtable talk focused on the policy implications of the research project titled "Women's Autonomy and Unintended Pregnancy in Pakistan".

The event featured a presentation by the Director of PRC, Dr. Khadija Bari, who started by highlighting the mission, objectives and achievements of the Centre.

The research findings highlighted the link between women's autonomy and unintended pregnancies in Pakistan, emphasizing the significance of this issue for reproductive health and women's empowerment. The dialogue centered on refining policy approaches based on the research insights. Participants discussed actionable strategies, including education initiatives, enhanced access to reproductive health services, economic empowerment, and legal reforms.

The Centre is grateful to the representatives from the Sindh government, Ms. Shireen Mustafa (Secretary, Social Welfare Department), Mr. MB Dharejo (Deputy Commissioner Sindh) and Mr. Shehzer Amir Shaikh (SDGs Support Unit, Sindh) along with representatives from AKUH, DUHS and IOBM for their participation, highlighting cross-sector engagement in shaping effective policies.



POPULATION RESEARCH CENTRE

A ROUNDTABLE ON

WOMEN'S AUTONOMY AND UNINTENDED PREGNANCY IN PAKISTAN

PROJECT TEAM

Thank you for an engaging research presentation and insightful discussion as part of the DHS Fellowship 2023 project.



DR. KHADIJA BAIG
Presenter



DR. LUBNA

18 AUGUST 2023
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
CAMPUS IBA, KARACHI



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Fellowship

Dr. Lubna Naz, Dr. Khadija Bari, Director, Population Research Centre; and Dr. Junaid Alam Khan, secured the distinguished Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Fellowship awarded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The DHS Fellowship is highly competitive and granted to those whose research proposals meet the strict criteria of novelty, clarity, and alignment with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals relating to maternal and child health.

The topic of their research was "WOMEN'S AUTONOMY AND UNINTENDED PREGNANCY AMONG REPRODUCTIVE AGE WOMEN IN PAKISTAN".

PAA 2023 - Annual Meeting

PRC official Dr. Lubna Naz's research paper titled "Determinants of catastrophic health expenditure attributable to non-communicable diseases and impoverishment in Pakistan" was selected to be presented at the Population Association of America 2023 - Annual Meeting.

The paper discusses that In Pakistan, the exorbitant out of pocket health expenses on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) is increasing financial burden and consequently impoverishing households. The study underscores the urgency of implementing Pakistan's National Health Vision 2016-2025, which prioritizes Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Integrated Health and Poverty Alleviation Program, to meet Sustainable Development Goal target 3.



WEBINAR



Population Research Centre

WEBINAR SERIES
**DUAL BURDENS OF CARE:
"SANDWICHED COUPLES" IN EAST ASIA**



Speaker:
Dr. Tan Poh Lin
National University
of Singapore

Dr. Tan Poh Lin's research highlights the challenges faced by married couples in East Asia who are caring for their elderly parents and children simultaneously. The study sheds light on the different definitions used to estimate the proportion of sandwiched couples in East Asia, the variations in three-generational co-residence across the region, and the effects of caring for both elderly parents and children on the life and marital satisfaction of sandwiched couples.



Moderator:
Aliya Iqbal Naqvi
Faculty SESS, IBA

08 September, 2023
10:30 am PKT
01:30 pm SST

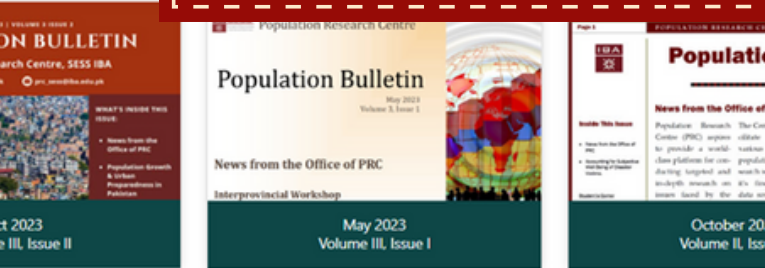
WEBINAR ID: 894 8020 6492
PASSCODE: 321490
www.prc.iba.edu.pk

On September 8th, 2023, PRC hosted a webinar featuring Dr. Tan Poh Lin, who discussed her research paper titled "Dual Burdens of Care: Sandwiched Couples in East Asia."

The webinar provided valuable insights into the challenges faced by couples in East Asia who find themselves caring for both their children and aging parents simultaneously, often referred to as "sandwiched couples."



POPULATION BULLETIN



The Population Bulletin is a biannual publication that shares news from the office of PRC. It also contains articles on various aspects of population studies, such as education, health, fertility, mortality, migration, etc.

The first issue of 2023 was published in May 2023 and the second issue was published in October 2023.

The Bulletins can be accessed at <https://prc.iba.edu.pk/populationbulletin.php>



OTHER ACTIVITIES & ENGAGEMENTS

Throughout the year, our center actively participated in a myriad of workshops and engagements. Our commitment to exploring diverse perspectives led us to participate in workshops not solely organized by us but also by various other entities within the field. These engagements not only provided us with invaluable exposure but also facilitated meaningful interactions with diverse professionals involved in population related research, each contributing their unique insights and experiences. By actively participating in these events, we not only expanded our knowledge base but also forged connections with individuals working in different capacities within the realm of population studies. This vibrant exchange of ideas and experiences has been instrumental in shaping our center's approach and reinforcing our dedication to fostering collaboration and understanding in our collective pursuit of knowledge.



DAPPS Workshop

Members of the PRC Team, including Dr. Khadija Bari and Ms. Neelma Faraz attended an insightful workshop focused on the Demographic Analysis & Population Projection System (DAPPS).

This workshop was organized by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in collaboration with the Sindh Bureau of Statistics. It was designed to provide participants with a deep understanding of DAPPS. Participants were equipped with the skills required to effectively use DAPPS tools for analyzing demographic data, making population projections, and generating valuable insights for evidence-based decision-making.

Adopting Gender-Focused Methodology in Research



Members of Team PRC including Dr. Khadija Bari, Ms. Maria Hasan and Ms. Sadia Mehboob represented the Centre at the 4 day workshop on adopting gender-focused methodology in socio-cultural research organized by the Population Council and UNFPA.



The workshop was designed to provide training to academic researchers to enable them to produce more robust gender-focused research in a manner that is gender-sensitive, which can be used more effectively to advocate for policy change.

WWF Workshop

PRC research fellow, Ms. Neelma Faraz represented PRC at the The Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness Workshop in Karachi organized by WWF-Pakistan and Ministry of Climate Change.

Participants from diverse backgrounds delved into practical approaches and innovative solutions, focusing on enlightening communities about the impacts of climate change and the immediate necessity for conscious actions to mitigate its effects.

