



BRITISH  
ACADEMY



Date: XX November 2015

Dear

We have pleasure in writing to you as members of the project *Establishing and learning from comparative subnational demographic development in Latin America and the Caribbean (s-ALyC)*.

We wish to ask for your support during this month for the creation of a demographic database for the primary administrative divisions within countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. We have created files for population by age and sex and indicators of fertility and mortality, from official web pages of your country, from REDATAM and other sources. The years which we seek data for are 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010, or a year close to these.

Before sharing the database with the Latin American Population Association (ALAP) and national statistical institutes in each country, we would like to enlist the support of researchers with experience in each country to verify and improve the data which we have.

The project is committed to sharing the data and a set of analyses describing the variation, convergence, and lack of convergence of each indicator. For example, up to what point is fertility more similar for regions of similar socio-economic development, or for similar geographical-climatic environment, or for being in the same country?

The general aim is to inform assumptions for demographic projections of population, households and the labour force. We are focused on the need to have sub-national projections to support the planning of public services.

The help that we ask you for consists of completing the data that are missing in the files sent with this letter. Each file has a sheet of notes where we document the data and at times our doubts about the quality of those data. We recognise that many countries do not have long historical data series. We do not expect to fill the entire matrix.

We ask that you help us in three ways:

1. Review the doubts expressed in the notes, and respond with whatever information that could resolve the issues.
2. Review the data that we have entered, and advise us of doubts that you have about them, replacing data when it is known that ours are not the most suitable.
3. Review the years where we do not have data for your country and fill the missing years if data do exist.

Please be assured that you can contact us with whatever query you may have, and we assure you that all the products of this project will be published for the good of all countries, as support to demographic work and official statistics. We hope to promote a workshop and a regular session during the ALAP Population Congress in 2016, with the participation of those who are helping the construction of this database.

Best wishes, and thanking you in advance,



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**Establishing and learning from comparative subnational demographic  
development in Latin America and the Caribbean**

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*Notes:*

- 1. At this time we are not collecting migration data, neither internal nor international.*
- 2. If there are not sub-national data, there is no need to provide national data.*