The International Index of National Population Studies and Research

Form n°. 1 (04/99)

The Community of Population Centres Affiliated with CICRED **Structure and Evolution**

Silvia Huix-Adamets¹, Yacine Merghoub² and Benoît Riandey³

1. Definition of a Centre affiliated with CICRED

A « centre » as defined by CICRED is a national population research or studies unit, the existence of which is confirmed through its name as a centre and by the fact that it has an appointed director and at least 2 people employed full-time (or the equivalent in personnel employed part-time), carrying out principally population research or studies.

A centre may be a public or a private institution, it may be independent or part of a larger organisation. A population research unit inside a ministry, a statistical research centre, a social sciences study centre, a university, etc. is therefore also considered as a centre, provided it fulfils the conditions stipulated in the preceding paragraph.

2. How Many Centres are Affiliated with CICRED

There were 224 centres listed in the 1985 CICRED Directory, and updating in 1994, brought the number to 260. The effort to enumerate and recruit centres that has been carried out since then has brought the number of affiliated centres to more than 670, representing growth by a factor of 2.5 (fig 1). The number of centres in Africa and Eastern Europe has increased nine-fold.

European centres constitute the largest component in this community (31%), followed by Asian centres (23%) (fig 2).

3. Administrative Status of Centres Affiliated with CICRED

Centres come under the following four categories:

 Government institutions: national statistical institutes, national population councils, ministries, ...

¹ In charge of the Directory of Population Study and Research Centres (ACERD) ² In charge of the IT unit

³ In charge of the International Index of National Population Studies and Research

- Quasi-Autonomous Non-Governmental Organisations (QUANGO's). These are research institutions benefiting from governmental status while having an autonomous scientific council, ...
- Academic institutions: research teams, faculties, university, research institutes, ...
- International or non-governmental institutions: institutions involved in research and recruitment at an international level, including in particular non-governmental associations, private institutions, ...

More than half the affiliated centres come from universities. Their activities involve both research and training.

This basic classification reveals the essentially academic (university) nature of the network of CICRED centres (fig 3). The processing of data from the Index will permit a more detailed analysis of the centres.

4. The Size of the Centres Affiliated with CICRED

The majority of CICRED centres are small (between 2 and 10 researchers).

These small centres are common in the case of university, research units, ministries and statistical institutes in developing countries (fig 4).

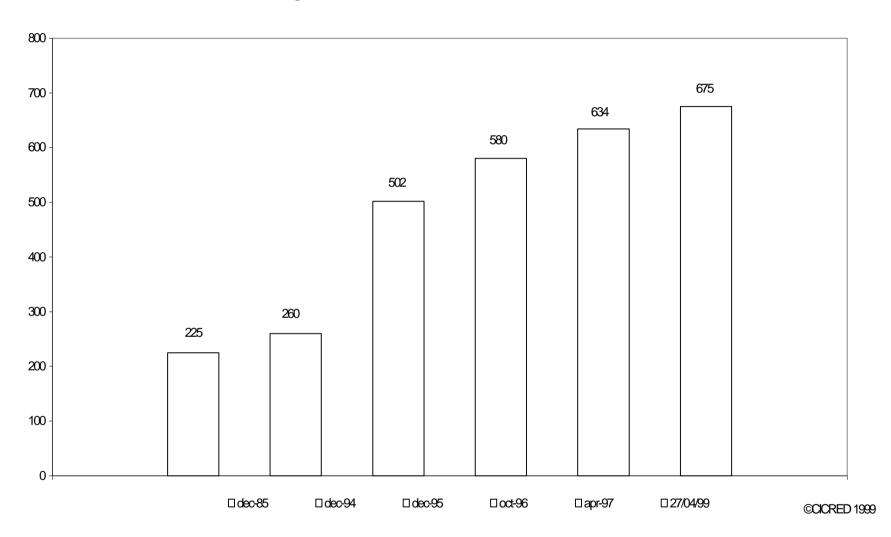
Information, presently available about the centres makes it impossible to be more precise.

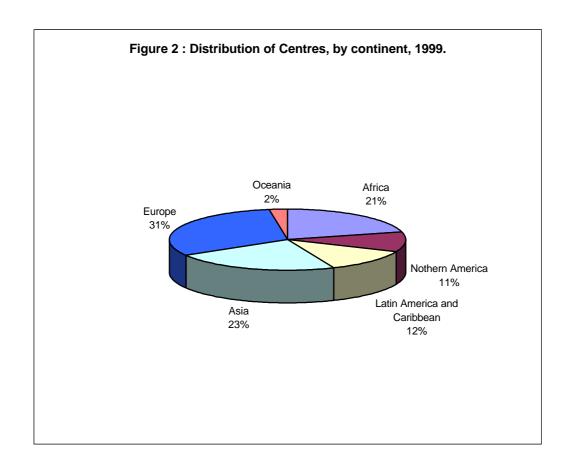
5. The Languages of CICRED Centres

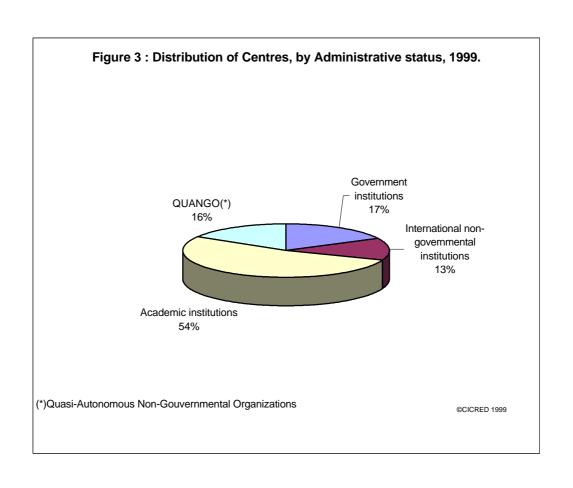
Two languages are used for the exchange of information between the Committee and member centres: English and French.

Almost 70% of the centres use English, while 30% use French (fig 5). Informally, Spanish is also used in some cases.

Figure 1: Number of the Centres Affiliated with CICRED, 1985-1999







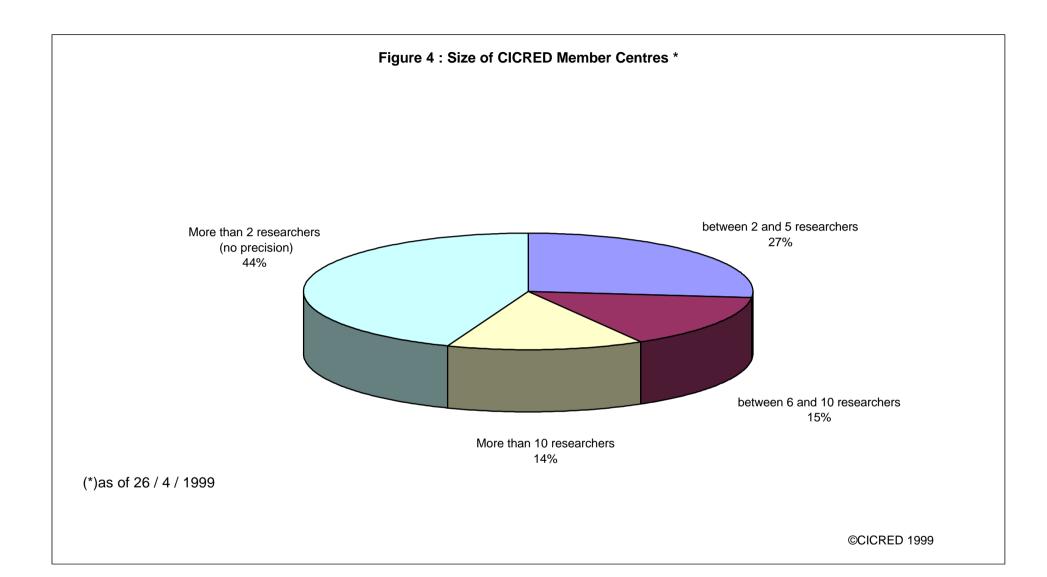
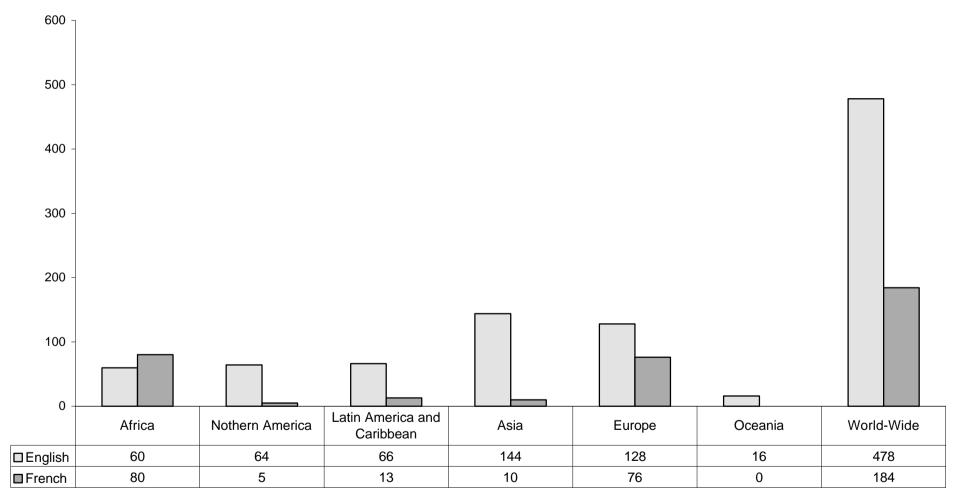


Figure 5 : Distribution of Centres by Language Used in Exchanges with CICRED, by Continent, 1999





©CICRED 1999