

Theme: Future Trends of Households and Living Arrangements in Asia

Rationale

Household is important for sustainable development, because housing, energy-use (water, electricity and gas), food, furniture, vehicles, elderly care, children's education, and other home-based services are typically consumed/purchased by families and households, rather than individuals. Forecasting future trends in households and living arrangements is of great importance in research, policy making and market analyse.

It has been twenty years since the ProFamy extended cohort-component method (thereafter the ProFamy method) was developed as a powerful tool in family households projections. So far, ProFamy has been applied in multiple countries for various purposes, from understanding future changes of household structure, elderly living arrangements, and trends of population aging and human capital, to forecasting consumptions of energy, housing, furniture, automobiles as well as their environmental implications.

Now has never been a better time for us to push the application of this important methods in Asia, in order to better understand future trends of household and living arrangement in Asian societies. We thus apply for Asian Population Association to establish a scientific group of projection of households and living arrangements in Asia, in order to form an official platform for academic exchange and collaboration in this field.

Team

We propose to the following core members in this scientific group. All group member have been closely working with Professor Zeng Yi as the chief developer of ProFamy for years, and have published extensively in the field.

Title	Name	Affiliation	Country
Associate Professor and Deputy Director of CFPR	Feng Qiushi (Chair)	Centre for Family and Population Research (CFPR), National University of Singapore (NUS)	Singapore
Dr.	Gu Danan	United Nations Population Division	USA
Dr.	Wang Zhenglian	Senior Research Fellow, China Population and Development Research Centre	China
Professor and Director of CFPR	Jean W Yeung	Centre for Family and Population Research (CFPR), National University of Singapore (NUS)	Singapore

Activity Plan

The group has organized an International Conference on Family Households Projections and Applications in Sustainable Development & Training Workshop on ProFamy Online New Version, to be held in May 2019 in Beijing, China. At this forthcoming conference, the group plans to form a consortium for the ProFamy application in Asia, which is expected to attract numerous interested scholars in this field including those from India, China, Thailand, Taiwan, and so forth.

Building on the Beijing meeting in 2019, the group is planning to organize a follow-up conference in Singapore, hosted by the NUS Centre for Family and Population Research (CFPR) in May of 2020, with a specific focus on ProFamy applications in Asia. The conference is planned to host about 20 international scholars including many of the scholars trained in the 2019 conference in Beijing who will present papers applying ProFamy to project trend of a relevant theme. We will seek financial support from multiple sources.

Regarding research plans, we expect to push forward research of applications of ProFamy methods on the following themes: (1) Past, present and future trends of population, families, and households in Asian countries as well as the subnational levels; (2) Socio-economic planning and policy analyses upon children's education, marriage, labor force, elderly care needs/costs; (3) Market analyses of housing, home-based energy-use such as water, electricity and gas, and 4), food, furniture, and vehicles, etc.

Expected output

We expect the scientific group will become a major platform of academic cooperation for household projections in Asian. We expect the two meetings in Beijing and Singapore will effectively enhance the formation of a solid research network in this field. We foresee to publish a series of papers or a special volume on projection of households and living arrangements in Asian with the use of the ProFamy method. Funding provided, training workshop on projection methods can be expected to repeat in subsequent years.