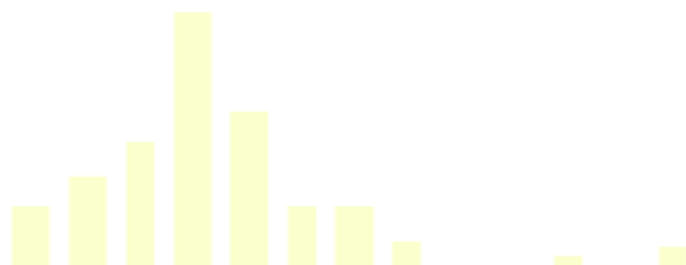


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The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: i! it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which States members of the United Nations draw to review common problems and take stock of policy options\$ ii! it facilitates the negotiations of member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint courses of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges\$and iii! it advises interested governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs provides the international community with timely and accessible population data and analysis of population trends and development outcomes for all countries and areas of the world. To this end, the Division undertakes regular studies of population size and

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