Do political and institutional factors matter?: the oscillations of Population Policies in Peru, 1980-1998 by Rosa Carolina Sandoval

Abstract

Explicit population policies in Peru were initiated in 1980 with the creation of the National Population Council (Conapo). In 1985 The National Population Policy Act was promulgated and in October 1998 for a second time a National Population Program was launched.

Although this process can be interpreted as a political commitment to population policies, ‘backwards and forwards’ have characterized the Peruvian population experience since 1980.

This paper addresses how weak institutional arrangements and a volatile political environment have affected the effectiveness of population policies in Peru. This is done through a theoretical discussion of the impact political and institutional factors have on population conditions, as well as through a comparison of the Peruvian experience with the Indonesian case, which represents an example of more solid institutional arrangements.