

DECISIONS ON THE LINE 'SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN A GLOBAL WORLD' IN THE HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 2010-2013 STRATEGIC PLAN

Critical Analysis of Research Lines

- **Status:** Consolidated

- **Justification:**

This research line groups together a large number of researchers who all engaged in different aspects of the study of demographic and social transformations, with special emphasis on their economic, political and cultural consequences. This type of research has a long-standing tradition within the CSIC, traditionally having accounted for a significant part of the institution's research into the social sciences. Now these researchers come together under a single line as a result of a considerable effort to unify goals. These, which are specifically detailed in the document Annex II, are very well described and include a range of subjects in which it is possible to perceive great potential for cross-disciplinary research: they range from the study of aging processes or changes in the patterns of fecundity, to the social and political changes brought about by people care and unpaid work analysis, through the conditions and quality of life or changes in family structures. Another aspect worthy of note is the inclusion of anthropologists, which we believe could open the door to future studies that combine a rigorous analysis of issues such as the changes produced in society or population trends, and the cultural impact generated by these changes. All these factors lead us to consider this line as a point of reference within the field, both nationally and internationally.

Lastly, one of the line's most evident strengths is its knowledge transfer and dissemination work, which we believe should be supported and reinforced in the future.

Strategy on Research Lines. Global actions

- **Action to execute:** maintain **Priority:** 1.

- **Justification:**

The CCHS believes that this is a line to be reinforced. Its indicators are good, despite showing a certain lack of internationalisation. There are little international co-authorship, few international projects, and many of them of an exiguous dimension. Likewise, within its academic production, we consider that the ISI production has considerable room for improvement. We also believe that support should be provided to the new experimental and methodological approaches proposed, in as much as we feel that the direction they are going towards is decidedly innovative. In addition, we must note the enormous amount of resources that this line manages to attract: a good part of this funding comes from contracts, which should be on a par with competitive research funding. We believe that, given its characteristics and significant levels of funding, the Older Persons' Portal (Portal Mayores) could become an enterprise (spin-off) managed by its current supervisors. In addition, within the activities carried out at the CCHS, we propose that this line should tend to a greater degree of coordination with the line Citizens, institutions and policies from a comparative perspective. Finally, the research group specialising in the study of Dimensions of Human Mobility, which form part of the line Agricultural Economy and Rural Development and develops production regarding migration, closer to the line Socio-demographic Changes in a Global World, should define more consistently its research domain.