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A POPULATION, ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE, AND SECURITY NEWSLETTER

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ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND SECURITY PROJECT

SPRING 2002

The Road to Johannesburg: Setting the Agenda for the World Summit on Sustainable Development

featuring **Crispian Olver**, Director-General,
Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Government of South Africa;
John F. Turner, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Oceans and
International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, U.S. Department of State;
Judith Ayres, Assistant Administrator for International Activities,
Office of International Activities, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency;
Alan Hecht, Director of International Environmental Affairs,
National Security Council and Council on Environmental Quality

Cosponsored by the Environmental Change and Security Project, the Africa Project,
IUCN-The World Conservation Union, and the Natural Resources Defense Council

December 4, 2001

By Robert Lalasz and Naomi Greengrass

Policy-makers need to move beyond the principles and agenda established at the 1992 Rio United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and achieve *implementation* at the Johannesburg 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, according to Crispian Olver, South Africa's Director-General for Environmental Affairs and Tourism. Speaking publicly for one of the first times on the United States' approach to Johannesburg 2002, three high-level Bush administration officials said the White House largely concurs with South Africa's Summit priorities as set forth by Olver.

The Work Still to be Done

The state of the world, said Olver, can be broken down into three components: a *global economy* with increasing inequality despite unprecedented productivity and capital accumulation; a *global society* with unprecedented consumption and mobility, but where 1.1 billion people live in severe poverty; and a *glob-*

al environment with declining environmental assets and limited environmental rights, particularly for the poor.

While global infant mortality rates and adult illiteracy have fallen and per capita incomes have risen dramatically in recent years,

Olver listed many other trends that continue to hinder universal prosperity. For example, in 2050 4.2 billion people will be living in countries unable to meet the basic requirement of 50 liters of water per capita per day. Over one billion people still live on less than \$1/day,

with Southeast Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America becoming systematically poorer. Over one billion people remain undernourished and underweight, one billion live on environmentally fragile lands, and 15.5 million will die from AIDS in the next five years in the 45 most affected countries.

The Johannesburg Summit should be "far more about implementation and delivery and far less about haggling over brackets and text."

—CRISPAN OLVER,
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

A New Global Deal

South Africa's position, said Olver, is that poverty and inequality today pose the greatest threats to sustainable global development.

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Crispian Olver

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Population Matters

Does Population Matter? New Research on Population Change and Economic Development

Featuring **Nancy Birdsall**, President, Center for Global Development, and **Steve Sinding**, Professor of Clinical Public Health, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

February 14, 2002

By *Robert Lalasz*

Does population growth matter to economic development? Emphatically yes, according to the new book *Population Matters: Demographic Change, Economic Growth, and Poverty in the Developing World*. The book attempts to resolve the three-decade-old debate among U.S. economists, demographers, and policymakers about the connections between population and development. Two of the book's editors, Nancy Birdsall and Steve Sinding, outlined its findings at an ECSP Wilson Center meeting attended by demographic NGO officials and leading U.S. policymakers.

The History of a Relationship

Steve Sinding began by taking the audience through the history of post-World War II thought on the population-development relationship. "When I entered the population field in the early 1970s," Sinding said, "there was a broad policy consensus that population growth inhibited economic development"—a relationship that impelled funding for programs to reduce population growth.

However, Sinding said, the consensus began to unravel at the end of the 70s, and the election of Ronald Reagan as U.S. president in 1980 brought into power a group of officials skeptical about any connection between population and economics. In fact, Sinding pointed out, the Reagan Administration explicitly stated at the 1984 Mexico City International Population Confer-

ence that population has a neutral effect on development.

When Sinding joined USAID in 1983, he said, he and his colleagues "found ourselves increasingly justifying population programs on grounds of human welfare rather than macroeconomic impact." This new consensus held into the

1990s: indeed, the 1994 UN Conference on Population and Development in Cairo took an exclusively individual-welfare approach to population programs.

However, interesting research in the mid-1990s on the

spectacular economic success of the "Asian tigers" found that "population and demographic policy had mattered a lot," as Sinding put it. *Population Matters*, he said, builds on this work by bringing together a group of scholarly articles that treat the relationships of population to development, poverty, and the environment. "It really is a major step forward in the debate," Sinding said.

Population Does Matter: New Findings

Nancy Birdsall cited two major messages from *Population Matters*. First, there is good evidence that slower population growth creates the potential to increase the pace of aggregate economic growth. Second, said Birdsall, rapid fertility decline at the country level helps create a path out of poverty for many families.

Birdsall said recent studies on demographic change and economic growth explain differences in regional economic development (such as Africa's slow growth versus the burst of growth in East Asia between 1960-95). Four decades of data

"We find a causal relationship across countries between changes in fertility and changes in poverty."

—NANCY BIRDSALL,
CENTER FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

on demographic and economic change in developing countries, she said, have allowed researchers to unbundle the effects of different age structures on growth.

The newer studies indicate that increases in the size of working-age populations are positively associated with economic growth, while increases in the size of a country's youth to 15

years are negatively associated with growth. "The demographic experience of East Asia is good news for regions now on a path of fertility decline such as Latin America and, much more recently, Africa," Birdsall said.

East Asia: The Demographic Bonus

The case of East Asia is key to the overall argument of *Population Matters*, said Birdsall. In this region, the ratio of working people to their dependents grew from 1975—producing a "demographic bonus" that will last until 2025. This changing age structure, said Birdsall, is driven mostly by fertility decline.

More workers, said Birdsall, potentially produce more total output, greater wealth accumulation, and an increasing supply of human capital. Studies in *Population Matters* conclude that the increase in savings associated with East Asia's demographic bonus can be credited with one-third of the region's total six percent average annual per capita growth rate from 1965-90. In fact, Jeffrey Williamson in *Population Matters* attributes as much as one-half of the East Asia's "economic miracle" to its demographic bonus.

Policy Matters, Too

Birdsall stressed, however, that countries must have the proper policies and institutions in place to benefit from a demographic bonus. For example, East Asia was able to absorb the rising supply of labor because it had instituted fiscal discipline, open and competitive markets, and public investment in education and health care. Rule of law, property rights, and political stability are also crucial. Latin America, she said, has much less effectively exploited its demographic bonus because it has not been as

"If the book has the effect of at least getting World Bank economists not to tell ministers of finance not to invest in reproductive health programs, it will have been worthwhile."

—STEVE SINDING,
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

quick to implement such policies.

"While good policies and institutions moderate the negative effects of rapid population growth and reinforce the positive effects of the demographic bonus," said Birdsall, bad policies and institutions do precisely the opposite. Good policies, she added, are also a critical factor in forming a "virtuous circle"—a

feedback cycle in which positive factors reinforce and build on each other. For example, Birdsall said, a technological change or fix (such as oral rehydration therapy or widely-available contraceptives) in a good policy environment leads to ultimately higher economic growth, which can lead to lower fertility and increased life expectancy, driving down the age dependency ratio and feeding more economic growth.

Poverty and Population

Population Matters, said Birdsall, also extends the population-development discussion to the effects of population change on poverty rates. The association of high fertility and high poverty does not prove that one causes the other, Birdsall said. But studies in *Population Matters*, she said, confirm that high fertility at a country level does appear to increase absolute poverty levels by 1) slowing economic growth and growth-induced poverty reduction, and 2) skewing distribution of consumption against the poor.

In Brazil, for example, a decline in poverty associated with what has been a dramatic reduction in fertility is equivalent to what would have been produced by a 0.7 percent greater annual increase in per capita GDP. Another analysis of 45 developing countries found that, had the countries reduced their birth rate by 5 per 1000 throughout the 1980s, the average poverty incidence in these countries of 18.9 percent in the mid-80s would have been reduced to 12.6 percent between 1990 and 1995. "We find a causal relationship across countries between changes in fertility and changes in poverty," Birdsall said.

"It goes right back to Malthus," she added. "If you have higher fertility and more unskilled labor (continued on page 15)

Global Health

U.S. Foreign Policy and Global Health: Addressing Issues of Humanitarian Aid and Political Instability

featuring **Jordan Kassalow**, Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations;
Andrew Fisher, Director, HIV/AIDS Operations Research Project, Population Council; and
Alfred V. Bartlett, Senior Advisor for Child Survival, U.S. Agency for International Development;
and Senior U.S. Advisor, UN Special Session on Children

Cosponsored by the Population Resource Center, the Environmental Change and Security Project,
and the Conflict Prevention Project

November 16, 2001

By *Robert Lalasz*

In the wake of recent anxiety about bioterrorism, domestic and global public health have reemerged as issues both for U.S. national security planning and for its foreign policy formulation. Three public health experts made the case at a Wilson Center meeting for the United States to take global leadership on general health issues as well as the specific problems of HIV/AIDS and children's health.

A Matter of Self-Interest

Calling global health "a matter of intense self-interest" for America, **Jordan Kassalow** of the Council on Foreign Relations outlined three reasons why health should be more prominent on the U.S. foreign policy agenda: (1) Americans face a clear and present danger from infectious diseases as well as from man-made bioterror; (2) global health issues and risks undermine U.S. economic and security interests abroad; and (3) the United States has a unique opportunity to lead the world toward a healthier state.

Kassalow went on to argue that poor health internationally stunts economic growth in myriad ways, creates political instability, and decreases military preparedness and peacemaking capabilities around the globe—all factors that undermine U.S. interests. For example, Kas-

salow said, if malaria had been eradicated years ago, Africa's GDP in 2000 would have been \$100 billion larger in 2000—five times the total foreign direct assistance that the continent received that year.

Infant mortality, Kassalow noted, is also recognized as highly correlated with state failure and declining social cohesion. And while medical resources are often a primary target of modern warfare, he said that military and peacekeeping readiness has also been affected (particularly in sub-Saharan Africa) by rising HIV infection rates in military personnel.

A "Unique Leadership Opportunity"

Kassalow called health a "unique leadership opportunity" for the United States, and he detailed five key areas for expanded activity: (1) approaching health as a *global public good* and linking it with health and poverty reduction; (2) linking health to human rights; (3) funding and facilitating *accelerated research and development on orphan drugs and vaccines* as well as *universal access* to these products; (4) *tying debt relief to health* through measurable objectives in health system development; and (5) replicating and expanding on those *public/private health partnerships* already in place.

"American foreign policy works best when it combines high moral ideals with real-world interests," said

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—JORDAN KASSALOW,
COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Kassalow. "Like the Marshall Plan, a foreign policy that seriously invests in global health would be a high point in the ethical life of this country and a wonderful example of service to mankind as an investment in our future."

The Devastation and Continuing Threat of HIV/AIDS

Andrew Fisher of the Population Council next focused on the monumental consequences of HIV/AIDS for global public health and well-being. "My take-home message," said Fisher, "is that this is an epidemic that continues to rage on, and it's not stopping. . . Even if we had a vaccine tomorrow, the consequences of AIDS would go on for generations."

Fisher detailed a list of staggering statistics about the epidemic: 22 million dead through 1999; 36 million living with HIV/AIDS; 5.4 million newly infected each year; and an estimated 44 million to be orphaned by 2020, most of them living in Africa. HIV/AIDS has devastating effects on both individuals and society, said Fisher: patients' suffering and stigmatization; the burden of those newly orphaned; and shocking declines in national agricultural, industrial productivity, and life expectancy. The epidemic has also stressed to the breaking point health care and educational systems in the hardest-hit countries.

Fisher said effective solutions to the epidemic require multiple perspectives. Consideration of human rights is critical, he argued, because AIDS glaringly exposes the tears in society's fabric—every-

thing from intolerance of racial, religious, and sexual minorities to the vulnerability of young and impoverished women. Prevention, care, support, and treatment are obviously also crucial and provide opportunities at each step for the message of prevention.

But perhaps the most important factor in fighting AIDS, said Fisher, is to mobilize a series of very different communities in the battle. The Population Council has worked with groups as disparate as Thai business executives (towards non-discriminatory work environments) as well as commercial sex workers in Brazil and Calcutta (to build their sense of community and solidarity in the support of widespread condom use). Fisher also stressed the need to scale up programs, to strengthen health care systems, to support new initiatives in other sectors being impacted by the epidemic, and to accelerate the drive for an HIV microbicide and vaccine.

Global Children's Health and Poverty

Andrew Bartlett of USAID then reviewed the state of children's health globally and the links between that improving but still unsatisfactory condition and global security. The major causes of mortality for children under five (such as respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, malaria, and vaccine-preventable diseases) are far more easily dealt with by the U.S. health care system than they are in developing countries. But the United States, Bartlett argued, has an enlightened self-interest in (continued on page 15)

ECSP-FORUM

The Environmental Change & Security Project's E-Mail Forum for Environment, Population, and Security Issues

The Environmental Change and Security Project (ECSP) is pleased to host an e-mail forum for environment, population, and security issues. This forum serves as a means for practitioners, scholars, and policymakers to participate in a dialogue with others in the community. ECSP-FORUM provides a place for (a) discussing relevant issues and research; (b) posting current policy questions; and (c) listing relevant policy, scholarly, and teaching resources. It is a convenient and resourceful tool for all interested in the topics of environment, population, and security.

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For more information, please visit our Web site at <http://ecsp.si.edu/listserv>.

From the Field

Supporting Livelihood and Food Security in Coastal Philippine Communities through Population-Environment Programming

Robert Layng is a Michigan International Development Associate working in the Philippine field office of Save the Children. He has a masters degree in geography, environmental assessment, and evaluation from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He has worked on environmental management projects in the United States, Zambia, England, and the Philippines.

By Robert Layng

Save the Children/US (SC) is a nongovernmental children's development and relief organization working in nearly 50 developing countries, the United States, and areas of crisis. SC has worked in the Philippines since 1982, with programs in health, education, economic development, and, most recently, sustainable agriculture and coastal resource management.

In 1999, the SC Philippines Field Office received a grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation to work with artisan fisherfolk communities of the West Visayas region, where population pressures are rising and fish stocks are declining. The project strives to create a balance between local populations and the environment by working with communities to define and address issues at the intersection of these fields. Through this integrated, participatory approach, SC seeks to cultivate local acceptance and adoption of both reproductive health practices and sustainable coastal resource management practices. The project focuses on family planning, quality of care, sustainable-resource management practices, and coastal rehabilitation in order to improve the health not only of people, but also of the marine and coastal ecosystems on which they depend.

I serve as the team's environment resource person, contributing to the design and imple-

mentation of various research activities and developing interventions for marine and coastal environmental protection and rehabilitation. I also devise strategies and techniques (a) for the project's monitoring and evaluation system, and (b) for incorporating adolescent reproductive and sexual health as well as population and environment issues into project activities. For example, we are helping a youth theater group to develop and present plays on the relationship between these issues to barangay (the smallest unit of government in the Philippines), municipal, and provincial audiences.

"With roughly half the population of the Philippines below the age of 20, both fishing and population pressures will continue to rise, increasing the strain on sustainable livelihoods and food security."

The project serves as a testing ground for integrated population and environment analysis and activities in coastal areas of the Philippines. To this end, the team has been developing and implementing innovative qualitative and quantitative research studies to further understand the linkage between population and coastal resource management. The trends and relationships between population dynamics and resource-use practices that have become apparent in the past two years of research have led us to focus increasingly on dwindling livelihoods and decreasing food security. These issues were identified through participatory research with community members and represent



Squid is one of the most common harvests of the fisherfolk in Bagongon Barangay on Tagubanhan Island in Concepcion Municipality. SC-Philippines is working with fisherfolk here toward squid processing for value-adding and marketing of the processed products.

their understanding of how population and environment can best be addressed together.

Fishery Decline: The Factors

All research indicates that marine fisheries are in decline in the Philippines due to population growth, unsustainable fisheries development, destructive fishing practices, and increased fishing pressure from both artisan and commercial fisherfolk. With roughly half the population of the Philippines below the age of 20, both fishing and population pressures will continue to rise, increasing the strain on sustainable livelihoods and food security. SC activities are consistently aimed at raising the awareness of these trends in relation to both population and environment remedies we support.

Destructive practices and unsustainable trends are also increasing environmental degradation and decreasing availability of the resources upon which artisan fishermen depend. Fish catch in the West Visayas over the past two generations has declined precipitously despite the employment of increasingly efficient fishing practices. The scarcity of fish resources encourages all groups to use more efficient and illegal equipment, many of which destroy the marine resources essential to a healthy fishery. (Some gear which are considered destructive include dynamite, cyanide, and many forms of “active” gear, where nets are dragged along the bottom of the sea.) Our participatory resource assessment



These children are on a “working coast” that used to be an extensive mangrove in Lawi Barangay on Guimaras Island in Jordan Municipality. Average family size in this community is more than five children per couple.

shows fish catch decreasing in project areas from 9 kilograms (kg)/fisherman/day in the 1950s to 2kg/fisherman/day today. National statistics reflect a similar though less significant decline by nearly 35 percent between 1987 and 1996.

Due to their high dependency on marine fisheries for both food and income, coastal communities in the Philippines disproportionately bear the burden of this decline. Although well-designed national environmental laws exist to protect the quality and regulate the use of marine resources, the fisheries’ open access makes these laws especially hard to enforce. Operators of commercial fishing boats, pressured by declines in fish catch elsewhere, make up their catch deficits by fishing in areas reserved for artisan fisherfolk. To address these issues, SC supports (a) preemptive environmental management efforts, (b) reactive environmental restoration activities, and (c) institution-strength-

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Ida, the health service provider (HSP), is posing in her Bagongon Barnagay clinic in front of some IEC materials on family planning.

PECS Research

Coming This Fall from Woodrow Wilson Center Press and Johns Hopkins University Press

ENVIRONMENTAL PEACEMAKING

Ken Conca and Geoffrey D. Dabelko, Editors

How can environmental cooperation be utilized as a strategy to bolster regional peace? A large body of scholarly research suggests that environmental degradation may catalyze various forms of intergroup violent conflict. But there is almost no systematic research on an important corollary: that environmental cooperation may also be a useful catalyst for broader processes of regional *peacemaking*. Yet there is a strong basis in theory to think that environmental problems can be exploited to make peace through several channels: enhancing trust, establishing habits of cooperation, lengthening the time horizons of decision-makers, forging cooperative trans-societal linkages, and creating shared regional norms and identities.

This volume examines the case for environmental peacemaking by comparing progress, prospects, and problems related to environmental peacemaking initiatives in six regions. Although

the regions vary dramatically in terms of scale, interdependencies, history, and the essence of insecurities, each is marked by a highly fluid, changing security order—creating potential space for environmental cooperation to have a catalytic effect on peacemaking. Among the volume's key findings are the following: that substantial potential for environmental peacemaking exists in most regions; that there can be substantial tensions between (a) narrower efforts to improve the strategic climate among mistrustful governments, and (b) broader trans-societal efforts to build environmental peace; and that the effects of environmental peacemaking initiatives are highly sensitive to the institutional form of cooperative activities.

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We know that international environmental cooperation can yield welfare gains. But can it also yield benefits in the form of reduced international tensions or a lesser likelihood of violent conflict? Such benefits could be a potentially powerful stimulus to environmental cooperation, at a time when such a stimulus is badly needed.

—KEN CONCA, "THE CASE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PEACEMAKING"

Exploring Linkages between Environment, Development and Sustainable Peace

By Ariel Méndez

In December 2001, ECSP joined the Costa Rican NGO FUNPADEM (The Foreign Service Foundation for Peace and Democracy) and Adelphi Research of Berlin to form the Environment, Development and Sustainable Peace (EDSP) Initiative. EDSP is a new effort towards overcoming the divide that splits Northern and Southern intellectuals and policymakers on environmental security issues. The partnership is designed to help develop a global agenda—formulated by and acceptable to both North and the South—that is truly capable of addressing current environmental conflicts.

The Need for Southern Input

According to both FUNPADEM Director Alexander Lopez and Alexander Carius, director of Adelphi Research, scholars in the North have dominated the environmental security thinking that links environmental and resource issues to violent conflict. But Carius and Lopez say that these scholars developed such conceptual linkages without sufficient foundation in Southern realities.

As a consequence, they argue, environmental security researchers have not been able to provide more than limited policy recommendations that do not encompass the full scope of the problem. Furthermore, because these researchers have not sufficiently consulted and integrated developing country perspectives, many government officials and NGOs in developing countries have rejected environmental security initiatives altogether. Developing countries, for example, have repeatedly stymied efforts in the UN to constitute a “green helmets” force to respond to environmental disasters.

Lopez says that environmental security is doomed to marginalization if its debates and principles fail to include Southern input. Many of the Northern discussions of environmental security, he says, have focused on how to incorporate environmental factors into existing traditional security institutions such as NATO. Lopez argues that this stress will not work in the South, where the traditional security regimes themselves are sometimes repressive and are involved in activities such as illegal logging.

“You cannot [incorporate environmental factors into existing institutions] in the same way in

the South,” he says, “because those traditional institutions that are formally responsible for providing security have been the ones providing *in*security instead.”

Carius adds that the problem is less one of ignorance than of misunderstanding. According to Carius, while many Northern academic and policymaking institutions are quite aware of Southern problems, they have failed to produce a working strategy to prevent conflict related to environmental stress. He, too, blames the academic community for going too far in emphasizing worst-case scenarios without incorporating a Southern perspective. Carius says the policymaking community seized on the worst-case scenarios and built policies focusing mostly on the potential for conflict while neglecting, for example, the potential for cooperation around environmental issues.

“This is [an area],” says Carius, “where the academic community worldwide failed because they have not been really aware, at least I can say this for some European countries, how influential they’ve been with their debate.”

EDSP: Inclusion, Communication, and Development

So how can Northern institutions become aware of the best methods to deal with Southern environmental insecurity? The solution, Carius and Lopez say, is to move away from a theoretical examination of the role the environment plays in violent conflict and towards developing a global agenda that is driven by a Southern perspective. Such an agenda must incorporate the knowledge of people who deal with issues of environmental insecurity on a regular—in some cases even daily—basis. “Most of the [environmental security] debate,” says Carius, “is focusing on government-[to]-government initiatives, neglecting...the role of NGOs in the local communities.”

Originating from discussions held at the Bellagio Forum on Sustainable Development, the EDSP Initiative will tackle the development of this agenda head-on. “Communication is a very strong aspect of our project,” says Carius. “We created a group of concerned people from the South and we expect them to send out a very clear message to the world-

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Book Review

The Environmental Implications of Population Dynamics

By Lori Hunter

RAND, 2000. 98 pages.

Reviewed by Jennifer Wisniewski Kaczor

Policy analysts studying interdisciplinary topics (such as population-environment issues) must synthesize research from various sources and fields into a policy-friendly and -relevant format. RAND's Population Matters project has undertaken this challenging task for policymakers on population issues. *The Environmental Implications of Population Dynamics* is Population Matters' first look at macro-level population and environment trends—and the implications these trends pose for policy at the local, national, and global levels.

The report is straightforward and well-organized. It first describes the conceptual framework for analyzing how human demographics change the environment, and then explains the individual environmental impacts of (a) population size and growth, (b) population distribution, and (c) population composition. Each of these three chapters is accompanied by useful charts and graphs illuminating the text's data. Later, Hunter looks at mediating factors (or intervening variables) for the population-environment connection—factors such as science and technology, institutions and policy, and culture. Using case studies, Hunter provides readers with examples of how these variables work at different levels (global, national, and local) to affect the interaction between people and their environment.

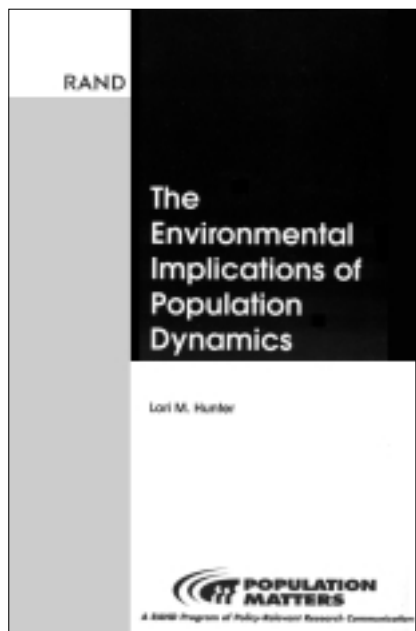
Several case studies in *Environmental Implications* demonstrate how policy can be a mediating factor that causes environment to affect demographics. For instance, the Aral Sea Basin is a dramatic example of the adverse environmental effects of national-level water-management and

irrigation policies. The Aral Sea has shrunk 40 percent since 1960—primarily, research has shown, because of irrigation policies implemented by the Soviet Union. The policies have altered the Aral Sea coastline, changed the local precipitation cycle, and drastically reduced the local fish population—with 20 of 24 native species disappearing altogether. For the people living on the Aral Sea coast—mostly long-time fishers and their dependents—these changes in environment have meant increasing poverty rates, increasing infant-mortality rates, and curtailment of livelihoods.

Hunter then provides two longer case studies summarizing research on the relationships between (a) demographic change and climate change, and (b) demographic change and land-use. She notes, for instance, that human-induced global climate change may very well have negative impacts as temperatures and sea-levels rise, creating the potential for land-loss in already very crowded coastal areas. Hunter also cites research predicting that global climate change could cause a five-percent loss in world cereal output, and that human health could be adversely affected

as climate-induced geographic changes shift vector-borne diseases (such as malaria) into areas where people have little had exposure.

In the concluding chapter, Hunter makes four recommendations. First, environmental policies should stress both demographic concerns and mediating factors. Second, since ecosystems do not neatly fall within national boundaries, international cooperation on environmental issues is absolutely necessary to achieve sustainable solutions to development and conservation problems.



Third, the role of international markets in environmental degradation must be recognized. For example, cash crops farmed for export to international markets (such as Madagascar) have played an important factor in historical rates of deforestation. Fi-

nally, relevant policies should be implemented at local, national, and international levels. Because local and national factors such as culture and consumption act as intervening variables, national- or local-level policies may be equally or even more important than policies implemented at the international level. In addition to these recommendations, Hunter provides a list of research needs for the population-environment field.

The Environmental Implications of Population

“Hunter’s use of case studies and examples coupled with research and data provides analysts and policymakers all the tools they need for informed decisions.”

they need for informed decisions. In addition, Hunter includes a useful list of references for those wanting to read more about population and environment linkages. The report is targeted specifically toward those doing policy work, but this would also be a useful tool for students wanting an introduction to the topic from a policy perspective. ■

Jennifer Wisnewski Kaczor is a project associate with the Environmental Change and Security Project.

WOODROW WILSON CENTER 2003-2004 FELLOWSHIPS

*The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
is accepting applications for
its 2003-2004 Fellowship competition.*

The Center awards academic-year residential fellowships to individuals from any country with outstanding project proposals on national and/or international issues. Projects should have relevance to the world of public policy or should provide the historical and/or cultural framework to illumine policy issues of contemporary importance. Fellows are provided stipends which include round-trip travel, private offices, access to the Library of Congress, Windows-based personal computers, and research assistants.

The application deadline is October 1, 2002. For more information call (202) 691-4170 or email fellowships@wwic.si.edu. The application can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.wilsoncenter.org>

SUMMIT

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“Any program that we talk about at Johannesburg has got to involve a discussion about developed-developing country relationships in terms of governance, trade, investment, debt relief and others,” Olver said. He added that governments must also seek out sustainability partnerships with industry and with the broader civil society.

The thrust of the Johannesburg Summit, Olver said, should be towards a “new global deal” that focuses on the three pillars of sustainable development: economic development, social development, and the environment. Elements of the proposed deal, which South Africa will push at the Summit, include: (a) renewing the commitment to implement Agenda 21; (b) planning for sustainable global consumption and production patterns; (c) managing the environment as a global public good; (d) implementing the Millennium Summit’s global commitment to combat poverty; (e) addressing trade, finance, and investment issues that marginalize the developing world; (f) agreeing to reform and replenish global financing mechanisms for sustainable development; (g) mobilizing resources and investment finances behind the sustainable development agenda; (h) discussing how peace, stability, and security promote sustainable development; and (i) agreeing on instruments to address gaps in the international governance framework as well as inequities in national governance.

Olver stressed that the “global deal” has got to be “far more about implementation and delivery and far less about haggling over brackets and text.” The Summit, he said, must emphasize clear targets as well as clear commitments to those targets and the strategies, delivery and monetary mechanisms, and resources being used to achieve them.

The U.S. Reaction

Assistant U.S. Secretary of State **John F. Turner** said he was delighted by Olver’s overview of the issues. “His scope and his themes and his processes are going to work well with what this administration is thinking of,” said Turner.

According to Turner, the Johannesburg Summit is getting “a lot of high-level focus” in the Bush administration, and U.S. officials are identifying “some exciting themes” with which to build achievable results at the Summit. Turner then outlined a

number of specific areas in which he said the United States hopes to make progress at Johannesburg: (a) governance and local capacity building; (b) leveraging the private sector’s ingenuity and resources for sustainable development, particularly in conjunction with development assistance; and (c) other priority areas such as: infectious diseases; water; climate; energy; fisheries and marine resources (especially declining fish stocks); forestry (including implementation of the Tropical Forestry Act); land degradation; and biodiversity.

“This has to be a collective effort between government, the private sector, corporations, and the NGOs,” said Turner. “But to me it’s an exciting opportunity for the United States and the world to build a new way of doing business and make a significant and lasting commitment to sustainability around the world.”

Judith Ayres of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cited several recurring themes that will be priorities for the United States at Johannesburg: poverty reduction; the necessity of recognizing that healthy economies go hand in hand with healthy environments; and redoubling efforts to engage

industry and the private sector in the pursuit of sustainable development worldwide.

Seeking Concrete Results

Alan Hecht of the National Security Council and the White House Council on Environmental Quality said that, although the Bush administration is still refining its approach to Johannesburg, he is “beginning to see a story emerge” from his conversations with those at other agencies along the lines of Olver’s three pillars of sustainable development.

Hecht said that poverty alleviation and development are crucial to President Bush’s overall global strategy, and that the United States would be examining many vehicles toward these goals. But Hecht stressed the role of the private sector because “it simply dwarfs the amount of other money available.” The challenge for Johannesburg, said Hecht, is to “find ways to stimulate that hidden capital” as well as to make capital more available to the world’s marginalized by making developing countries more attractive for private-sector investment.

The social pillar of sustainable development is also crucial to the mission of Johannesburg, said

“The White House wants concrete results. We’re not afraid of a deal, a compact. But it’s important to see what’s in it.”

—ALAN HECHT,
U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Hecht. "What could be more unsustainable," he said, "than people who have no sense of hope, no education or who are stricken with AIDS and other diseases?" While the United States will continue to offer government assistance, Hecht added that Johannesburg should underscore the responsibility developing-country governments have to their own people. "We care about many people in the world," said Hecht, "but their own governments have to care more."

Finally, Hecht said the environmental challenge for Johannesburg will be to focus on a narrower set of issues "for which there is really high risk and for which action will really help people, and to give it

political focus and momentum." Such issues, Hecht said, include: clean water; energy for the two billion who do not have it; forestry; soil; coral reefs and fisheries; health; and proper response to emergency conditions and disasters and improving capabilities for dealing with them.

Overall, Hecht echoed Olver's calls for an emphasis on practical implementation at Johannesburg. "The White House wants concrete results," he said. "We're not afraid of a deal, a compact. But it's important to see what's in it." ■

For a full summary with links of this meeting, visit our Web site at <http://ecsp.si.edu/news.htm>

PHILLIPPINES

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ening activities aimed at both family planning and environmental stewardship.

Rehabilitation and Diversification

To address the issues surrounding environmental quality and sustainable resource harvesting, SC works with communities to strengthen institutions focused on coastal resource stewardship, law enforcement, and environmental rehabilitation. SC has conducted training activities on these topics for government officials and community leaders and supplements this training with actual practice in environmental rehabilitation. For example, we supported mangrove reforestation in seven communities and the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in two others. To stem soil erosion, SC also supports reforestation of freshwater riparian areas near the coast. The environmental rehabilitation activities target both the long-term health of the ecosystem and the future livelihood and food security of coastal communities.

But however aware coastal residents are of resource degradation, conservation activities aimed at long-term solutions alone do not sufficiently address their current needs. Therefore, SC also advocates short-term solutions—including the introduction of supplemental livelihood and food production activities. We have introduced tiered farming, backyard gardening, fish processing, and fruit-tree orchards in order to provide alternatives to fishing for both household income and sustenance. SC collaborated in these activities with local experts from government, academia, and the private sector in an attempt to promote only locally-acceptable and -supported solutions. These short-term solutions have diversified and redirected both the livelihood and food se-

curity options of the coastal fisherfolk and their families, which may further alleviate the pressure on the fish stocks and coastal resources.

Addressing Population Growth

Finally, communities recognize the need to address the environmental issues precisely because of their own overuse of the resource base. Unsustainable harvesting has increased over the past two generations due to the increase in demand brought on by growing populations. The majority of coastal fisherfolk acknowledges this connection, but is often unwilling or unable to use quality family planning (FP) goods and services due to cultural and logistical barriers. SC works to help community members to: (a) identify these constraints; and (b) define solutions that address the issues of supply (e.g. quality and access) and demand (e.g. knowledge and social norms) for family planning and reproductive-health goods and services.

In two communities, these goals have meant working with local government to open new barangay health stations. In others, SC has furnished service providers with advice and materials for quality-of-care improvements, skills training for FP counseling, and assistance in identifying persons with an unmet FP need. In all communities, SC has prioritized working both with couples not currently practicing family planning as well as with adolescents to introduce the skills needed to make more-informed reproductive decisions. But with one of the highest fertility rates and lowest contraceptive prevalence rates in Southeast Asia, population growth will remain a significant contributory factor to increasing resource use in the Philippines for quite some time. ■

Project News

UPDATE

ECSP cosponsored an April 30th book launch for USAID Administrator **Andrew Natsios**. Natsios' new book, *The Great North Korean Famine: Famine, Politics, and Foreign Policy*, analyzes the famine that killed three million people in North Korea between 1994 and 1999. *Publishers' Weekly* says that Natsios culls "information from the testimonies of refugees, from his experiences with North Korean and Western officials, and from his considerable grasp of the interplay between the realms of international relief and foreign policy." For more information on the meeting, visit <http://ecsp.si.edu/events.htm>.

"The Linkages Between Population and Water," a three-article occasional paper commissioned by ECSP and the University of Michigan Population Fellows Programs, will be available in May. The three articles, each written jointly by a different Northern-Southern author team, draw on regional case-study material in examining population-water dynamics in Southern and East Africa, India, and the Philippines. An 8 May Wilson Center meeting will also feature the authors discussing their findings. For more information on the occasional paper or the meeting, please email ecspwwic@wwic.si.edu.

The 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development will be a focus of this summer's *ECSP Report*. Twenty-five commentators from around the world argue in the *Report* for the one or two issues they feel the Summit must treat in order to be a meaningful step towards global sustainability. Available in August, the *Report* will also feature peer-reviewed articles on a new human vulnerability index, the future of environmental security, and the connections between conflict and threatened livelihoods. For a copy, please email lalaszrl@wwic.si.edu.

Bilingual conference proceedings are now available for the April 2001 **"Green NGO and Environmental Journalist Forum,"** held in Hong Kong and co-sponsored by ECSP. This two-day workshop brought together for the first time environmental NGO activists and journalists from Mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. The workshop promoted information exchanges and provided opportunities for 65 participants from

Mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong to discuss improving NGO capacity and the quality of environmental reporting in the region as well as opportunities for cooperation. For a copy of the proceedings, email chinaenv@erols.com.

Urging the United States to more actively address climate change and other environmental issues, **Margaret Beckett**, the United Kingdom's Secretary of State for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, outlined the UK's agenda for implementing the Kyoto Protocol, global sustainable development, and free and fair trade in a December 2001 Wilson Center meeting. "We live in a world," said Secretary Beckett, "where stability and prosperity at home depend crucially on the ability of the international community to act together in pursuit of interests that transcend both national borders and traditional notions of sovereignty." The event marked Secretary Beckett's first speech in the United States since becoming the head of this new UK governmental department in June 2001. To read a summary of the Wilson Center meeting with links and speech text, visit <http://ecsp.si.edu/beckett.htm>.

In January, ECSP hosted a delegation of British, Canadian, and German **Members of Parliament** during their visit to Washington to meet with fellow legislators on Capitol Hill. A brief presentation by ECSP Director Geoff Dabelko and subsequent discussion focused on U.S. and international preparations for the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Tim Hildebrandt has joined ECSP as a project assistant for the China Environment Forum. Tim has a B.A. in political science and Asian studies from St. Olaf College; he has worked as an English language instructor in Shanghai. He will serve as the managing editor for *China Environment Series* as well as providing research and assistance for ECSP's meetings and conferences on U.S.-China energy and environmental relations. ECSP also bids farewell to project associate **Nicole Nolan**, who has moved with her husband to Ankara, Turkey, where he works with UNHCR. We wish Nicole the best of luck in her new endeavors. ■

GLOBAL

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helping to address these problems internationally.

A substantial part of the existing global disease burden falls on children under five, and there are proven links between widespread childhood diseases and: (a) increased poverty, as well as (b) a demographic transition to a low mortality/low fertility pattern, which can retard a society's economic growth. While inexpensive interventions (such as immunization and micronutrients) have vastly improved children's health, Bartlett said, there is still a tremendous unmet need. Twenty-five percent of children worldwide are still not immunized, and over 40 percent go untreated for pneumonia.

Although the United States is a leading financial and technical donor for children's health programs, Bartlett argued that this leadership needs to be taken up and expanded. Disseminating new vaccines against the major childhood diseases, he said, is one step that could immediately save over half of the 10.5 million children who die each year. ■

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EDSP INITIATIVE

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wide community." The EDSP Initiative plans to hold regional policy-briefing sessions in the capitals of its host countries as well as in Johannesburg, South Africa during the upcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Carius and Lopez say that the EDSP Initiative differs from other initiatives in its focus on not just conflict but development issues as well—what Lopez calls the "positive side of the environmental conflict equation."

"That means creating the opportunity to avoid conflict in a constructive way," says Lopez. Carius adds that EDSP's inclusion of development is also necessary to alleviate Southern fears of a "militarization of the environmental debate or of a dominance of environmental issues against development issues."

The EDSP Initiative hopes to succeed where the environmental security debate has failed in the past. "We will succeed," says Lopez, "if in fact we are able to facilitate the dialogue between Northern and Southern communities. Not only between the scholars that has been traditional, but also between policymakers and journalists and people from the civil society." ■

Ariel Méndez is a project assistant with the Environmental Change and Security Project.

POPULATION

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entering the workforce, you keep the wage-rate of unskilled workers relatively low compared to what it would have been if the unskilled had been more scarce."

Policy Implications

Birdsall suggested five steps for capitalizing on demographic bonuses: (1) undo existing policy-induced market distortions (such as restrictions on contraceptives); (2) ensure economic policies that strengthen land, labor, and financial markets; (3) invest heavily in education and health programs; (4) improve the status of women; and (5) subsize voluntary family planning and information services. She added that the events of September 11 show the risk associated with an unexploited demographic window of opportunity.

Sinding noted that, while John F. Kennedy talked about sponsoring a foreign aid program that "got at the root causes of radicalism" in 1961, today such aid founders because of a lack of policymaker support. Developing countries, he said, have agreed since the mid-70s that demographic policies are an important part of development. "If the book has the effect of at least getting World Bank economists *not* to tell ministers of finance *not* to invest in reproductive health programs," Sinding said, "it will have been worthwhile." ■

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PEACEMAKING

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The volume is a product of a series of meetings sponsored by the Environmental Change and Security Project of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Harrison Program on the Future Global Agenda of the University of Maryland. ■

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