

# BROAD DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS IN LDCs



**DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES**  
are **CHALLENGES** and **OPPORTUNITIES** for  
**DEVELOPMENT.**



**DEMOGRAPHIC  
CHALLENGES**  
are  
**DEVELOPMENT  
CHALLENGES.**



This year,  
world population will reach  
**7 BILLION,**  
with **855 MILLION** people  
living in LDCs.



**BY 2050,**  
world population will surpass  
**9 BILLION,**  
with **1.67 BILLION** living in LDCs.



Over the next 40 years,  
population will grow by  
less than 30% worldwide, but  
will nearly double in LDCs -

FROM **855 MILLION**

TO **1.67 BILLION.**



The LDCs have  
**THE HIGHEST INFANT,  
CHILD & MATERNAL  
DEATH RATES**

in the world, but they also have  
**THE HIGHEST  
FERTILITY RATES**  
in the world.

# DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

**AFFECTS** the economic, social &  
environmental **DEVELOPMENT**  
of all countries.



# MDGs

Over the last decade, many LDCs made only **SLOW PROGRESS** towards internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs.

# SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE



# OPPORTUNITIES & CHOICES

made by individuals  
compound to larger-scale

# DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES.



# DISPARITIES

Comparisons of

**SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH**

indicators of LDCs and other developing nations  
show significant disparities.



# INFANT DEATH RATES, 2008

(PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)

79

LDCs

49

DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

5

INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(UNICEF, 2010)



# UNDER-5 DEATH RATES, 2008

(PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)

123

LDCs

68

DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

6

INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(UNICEF, 2010)

# MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES, 2008

(PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS)

590

LDCs

290

DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

17

INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and World Bank, 2010)



# MATERNAL & INFANT DEATHS

Women need access to  
voluntary family planning services &  
appropriate care during pregnancy & childbirth.

# ARE PREVENTABLE





# ADOLESCENT BIRTH RATES, 2007

(PER 1,000 GIRLS)

121  
LDCs

52  
DEVELOPING  
REGIONS

23  
INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(UNFPA, 2011)



# PURSUE

Decisive development policies must help women, especially young women, to pursue and balance their productive & reproductive objectives.

# BALANCE



# PREVALENCE OF CONTRACEPTIVE USE, 2007

31%

LDCs

62%

DEVELOPING  
REGIONS

69%

INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(UNFPA, 2011)



# UNMET NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING, 2007

24%

LDCs

11%

DEVELOPING  
REGIONS

(UNFPA, 2011)



# TOTAL FERTILITY, 2005 - 2010

(CHILDREN PER WOMAN)

4.4  
LDCs

2.4  
LESS DEVELOPED  
COUNTRIES

1.7  
MORE DEVELOPED  
COUNTRIES

(Population Division, 2011)



# FAMILY

Family planning enables individuals  
and families to decide on the  
number, timing & spacing of children.

# PLANNING



# POPULATION GROWTH RATES (2005 - 2010)

2.1%

LDCs

1.2%

LESS DEVELOPED  
COUNTRIES

0.4%

MORE DEVELOPED  
COUNTRIES

(Population Division, 2011)



# HIV/AIDS PREVALENCE IN 15 - 49 YEAR OLDS, 2008

1.8%

LDCs

0.8%

DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

0.4%

INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(MDG Report, 2010)





# PROPER

Proper access to  
**SEXUAL HEALTH CARE** & products helps to  
arrest the spread of diseases like HIV/AIDS.

# ACCESS



# LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH, 2010

57

LDCs

68

LESS DEVELOPED  
COUNTRIES

77

MORE DEVELOPED  
COUNTRIES

(Population Division, 2011)

# POVERTY IN THE LDCs



53%

of the people in the LDCs were living on

less than **\$1.25** per day in 2005

(MDG Report, 2010)



# POVERTY

The percentage of people who live in extreme poverty in the LDCs has fallen, but their **NUMBER HAS CONTINUED TO GROW**, owing to high population growth.

While some people have **LIFTED**  
themselves above the **\$1.25** poverty line,

---

many more **ARE STUCK** below the **\$2** poverty line.

**RAPID POPULATION  
GROWTH  
AND  
LARGE YOUTHFUL  
POPULATIONS**



# YOUTH

LDCs have the  
**LARGEST & MOST RAPIDLY GROWING**  
youth population worldwide.

# POPULATION





# YOUTH IN 2010

Today, about

**60%** of the population in

**LDCs** is

**UNDER THE AGE OF 25,**

versus **46%** in other developing countries.

(Population Division, 2011)



# INVEST IN

The promise of the demographic dividend requires investments in youth and their employment.

# YOUTH



# PRIMARY EDUCATION ENROLMENT RATES, 2008

79%

LDCs

89%

DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

96%

INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(MDG Report, 2010)



# LITERACY RATES OF 15 - 24 YEAR OLDS, 2005 - 2008

70%

LDCs

87%

DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES

99%

INDUSTRIALIZED  
COUNTRIES

(MDG Report, 2010)



## POVERTY REDUCTION

is only achievable with productive & remunerative

# EMPLOYMENT

of the labour force, especially the  
younger generations.

# ESTIMATED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN LDCs, 2010

10%

YOUTH

4%

ADULTS

(ILO, 2011)

# UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment estimates are best complemented by estimates of **UNDEREMPLOYMENT** and **VULNERABLE EMPLOYMENT**.

# ESTIMATES



The vast majority of the labour  
force in LDCs suffers from

**UNEMPLOYMENT,  
UNDEREMPLOYMENT or  
VULNERABLE EMPLOYMENT.**





Over

80%

of people in LDCs suffer from  
**VULNERABLE EMPLOYMENT.**

(ILO, 2011)



The  
**LACK OF PRODUCTIVE**  
and remunerative  
**EMPLOYMENT**  
is closely associated with  
**WORKING POVERTY.**

# WORKING POVERTY

About **60%** of those employed in LDCs,  
**earned less than \$1.25 per day** in 2009.

(ILO, 2011)



The

# MARGINALIZATION OF YOUTH

in labour markets

**CONSTRAINS THEIR PARTICIPATION**

in political, social and cultural life.



# 15 MILLION

Between now & 2050, the  
**WORKING-AGE POPULATION**  
of the LDCs will increase by  
an average of 15 million per year.



# 33,000

Between now & 2050, the **LABOUR FORCE** of the LDCs will increase by an average of 33 thousand per day.

# POPULATION GROWTH RAISES THE STAKES

in efforts to

**REDUCE POVERTY,  
CREATE EMPLOYMENT and  
ENSURE FOOD SECURITY.**

# RAPID URBAN GROWTH AND RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION





# 71%

of the people in the **LDCs** still live **IN RURAL AREAS.**  
**BUT THE URBAN POPULATION IS EXPANDING**  
**AT A HIGHER RATE THAN ANYWHERE ELSE.**

LDCs collectively have an  
urban growth rate of almost 4%.

**THE URBAN POPULATIONS  
WILL DOUBLE IN 20 YEARS,  
surpassing rural populations by 2045.**



Rapid urban growth often puts pressure on infrastructure and services and the environment. But,

# **URBANIZATION CAN BE A POSITIVE FORCE**

for economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development **IF WE PLAN AHEAD.**



# LIVE TOGETHER

As populations continue to grow,

**IT MAKES ECONOMIC AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL SENSE**

for people **TO LIVE CLOSER TOGETHER** in urban areas.



In

# URBAN AREAS,

essential services - e.g. health and education -  
can be delivered at lower costs per capita,  
and the development of physical infrastructures  
- e.g. housing, water, sanitation, power, transport -

**BENEFIT FROM ECONOMIES OF SCALE.**

More than

70%

of **LDC GOVERNMENTS** are  
actively **ADDRESSING** their concerns  
about rapid **URBANIZATION**.



Policies to curb rural-urban migration and slow urban growth have not worked and distract from the need to plan for **URBAN GROWTH**, which **WILL INEVITABLY HAPPEN.**

Proactive

# **PLANNING FOR URBAN GROWTH -**

particularly securing the land, housing and service needs of the urban poor - can help

# **SEIZE THE BENEFITS**

of urbanization and minimize its cost.





# PLANNING FOR POPULATION DYNAMICS

- both in rural and urban areas -  
requires data analysis of current and  
future population trends.

The  
**DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN AREAS**  
and non-agricultural sectors  
must be **COMPLEMENTED** by the  
**DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS**  
and agriculture.



# EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN LDCs



Decisive policies should be adopted to  
**STRENGTHEN WOMEN'S  
CHOICES & OPPORTUNITIES**  
in LDCs



# ADULT LITERACY RATES IN LDCS, 2008

69%

MEN

51%

WOMEN

(LDC Report, 2010)



# PERCENT OF LDC POPULATION SUFFERING FROM VULNERABLE EMPLOYMENT, 2009

76%

MEN

87%

WOMEN

(ILO, 2011)



# INVESTING IN GENDER EQUALITY

has short- and long-term social & economic  
**MULTIPLIER EFFECTS.**



# ACTIVITY RATES IN LDC POPULATION, 2008

84%

MEN

63%

WOMEN

(LDC Report, 2010)





Strengthening  
**WOMEN'S**  
**PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY**  
in LDCs is key to  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**



# EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

requires better access to sexual &  
reproductive health care.



# TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR LDCs



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The harmonious balance between economic,  
social and environmental objectives -  
is strongly linked to  
**POPULATION DYNAMICS.**



# POPULATION DYNAMICS AFFECT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

such as

poverty reduction, employment creation,  
food security, environmental sustainability,  
climate change, mitigation and adaptation.

Between 2010 and 2050,  
the world population will grow

**FROM 7 TO 9 BILLION.**

Raising the living standards of the poor will  
require a large increase in economic output.



# FOOD PRODUCTION

will need to **INCREASE BY** about

# 70%

to feed a population of

# 9 BILLION.

(LDC Report, 2010)



To

# RAISE LIVING STANDARDS

and reduce poverty amidst a growing population  
requires **SUSTAINABLE** patterns of  
**PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION.**





**SUSTAINABLE** patterns of  
**CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION**

- the hallmark of the green economy -  
are crucial but **INSUFFICIENT FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**



In addition to more sustainable consumption and production,  
**THE RIO DECLARATION** (principle 8) and  
**ICPD PROGRAMME OF ACTION** (principle 6) call for

**POPULATION-RELATED  
POLICIES.**



# GREEN ECONOMY



# THE GREEN ECONOMY

includes not only low-carbon industries but also

**SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES,**

**AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY,** and even

**SUSTAINABLE SERVICES,** such as tourism.



Because of their low level of economic development, the LDCs have very low levels of greenhouse gas emissions.

**STILL, LDCs SUFFER FROM MORE SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION THAN MOST OTHERS.**

# CLIMATE CHANGE, POVERTY AND UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

in the LDCs lead to an unsustainable use of water resources, the degradation of soils and high rates of deforestation. This **UNDERMINES** a sustainable increase in **AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT AND FOOD PRODUCTION.**

Between 2000 and 2008, the average annual rate of **REAL ECONOMIC GROWTH** of the **LDCs** was almost as high as in other developing countries (6.5%), but adjusted for population growth and environmental depletion, it was **ONLY HALF (2.5%) OF OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.**

Currently, **ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION** is more significant in LDCs than in other countries.

**THE TRANSITION TO THE GREEN ECONOMY SHOULD THEREFORE BE A KEY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE.**

This transition does not need to be at the expense of economic growth or contradict employment creation and poverty reduction.



More

**SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE,  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT** and  
**URBANIZATION** are influenced by

**POPULATION DYNAMICS,**

which in turn, are influenced by

**SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE,**

family planning and women empowerment,  
amongst others.



# GREEN

The transition to the green economy must  
**TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE MOST  
VULNERABLE POPULATIONS,**  
both in rural and urban areas.

# ECONOMY



# UNDERSTANDING THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE

is essential for the  
**TRANSITION TO THE GREEN ECONOMY.**



# CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY & ADAPTION IN LDCs



# CLIMATE

The **LDCs** are the most vulnerable, yet  
**LEAST CAPABLE OF ADAPTING**  
to climate change.

# CHANGE

# VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE

differs among & within populations -

**POVERTY WORSENS THE GAP.**



**UNDERSTANDING WHO IS MOST  
VULNERABLE TO CLIMATE CHANGE**  
is key to knowing how best to adapt.



# INCORPORATING POPULATION DYNAMICS INTO ADAPTATION

planning allows for

# MORE APPROPRIATE RESPONSES TO CLIMATE CHANGE.



The  
**IMPACTS OF  
CLIMATE CHANGE**

will **AFFECT** the  
ability of LDCs to achieve broader  
**DEVELOPMENT GOALS.**



**REDUCING RISKS FROM  
NATURAL DISASTERS IN LDCs**  
requires better collection & use of  
**POPULATION DATA.**

# FERTILITY CHOICES

influence the **RESILIENCE** of  
individual families to

**CLIMATE RELATED SHOCKS.**

**REINVIGORATE  
POLITICAL SUPPORT  
FOR ADDRESSING  
POPULATION DYNAMICS**



The  
LDCs have the  
**HIGHEST RATES OF  
POPULATION GROWTH**  
worldwide – yet they are the  
**LEAST ABLE TO MEET THE NEEDS**  
of growing populations.



**RAPID POPULATION GROWTH**  
is a major **CHALLENGE** to achieving  
**POVERTY REDUCTION &**  
**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**



# POPULATION POLICIES

must strengthen fundamental

**HUMAN RIGHTS,  
FREEDOMS & OPPORTUNITIES,**  
not restrict them.



Stabilizing population through individuals'  
**FREE EXERCISE OF A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT**

begins with access to

**SEXUAL AND  
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.**





**ADULTS WITH HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND INCOME HAVE FEWER CHILDREN.**

and on average,

**FAMILIES WITH FEWER CHILDREN  
INVEST MORE IN EACH CHILD.**



# POPULATION STABILIZATION THROUGH RIGHTS



# POPULATION DYNAMICS ARE NOT DESTINY -

they depend on policy choices made today

**BUT THEY DO HAVE LONG TERM IMPACTS.**

# PLANNING FOR POPULATION DYNAMICS

- both in rural and urban areas -  
requires data analysis of current and  
future population trends.

UNDERSTANDING AND PLANNING for  
**POPULATION DYNAMICS**

contributes to an

**INCREASED EFFECTIVENESS**

of development cooperation.

