

Global Agenda Council on Population Growth 2012-2014



Understanding/Context

The world's population surpassed 7 billion in 2011 and is expected to reach 9.3 billion by 2050. Rapid population growth can amplify the number of challenges facing a country, such as in health, employment, education, economic growth and access to vital resources. Key actors need to understand the nature of the current and upcoming demographic transformations, as well as the potential risks and opportunities that come with these changes. While raising awareness on potential risks linked to population growth, however, it is necessary to keep in mind that countries face a variety of challenges and have their own traditions and beliefs. Addressing population growth requires tailored solutions.

Shaping the Agenda

The Global Agenda Council on Population Growth is working on several initiatives to raise awareness and spark action. Firstly, the Council is developing tailored policy briefs for the governments of three countries – Nigeria, Rwanda and Pakistan – that are undergoing important demographic transformations and may be able to realize a positive “population dividend” in the coming decades. Secondly, the Council has been instrumental in the global consultations for the post-2015 Development Agenda. The objective is to ensure that population dynamics and related challenges are included in the final set of goals and will be a priority on the development agenda for the coming years. Thirdly, the Council is driving high-level discussions on population growth at various World Economic Forum meetings, including the Annual Meeting 2014 in Davos-Klosters and the 2014 World Economic Forum on Africa in Abuja. The discussions have been organized in collaboration with key partners, such as the

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

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In the coming year, the Council will continue to support various countries as they undergo demographic transformations, and will develop case studies and policy proposals for decision-makers in key countries undergoing demographic shifts.

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