



Population and development

Issues 2007



Numbers

20 Nov 2006

- » World 6,568,148,079*
- » Australia 20,705,666**

* US Census Bureau World Population Clock

** ABS Population Clock



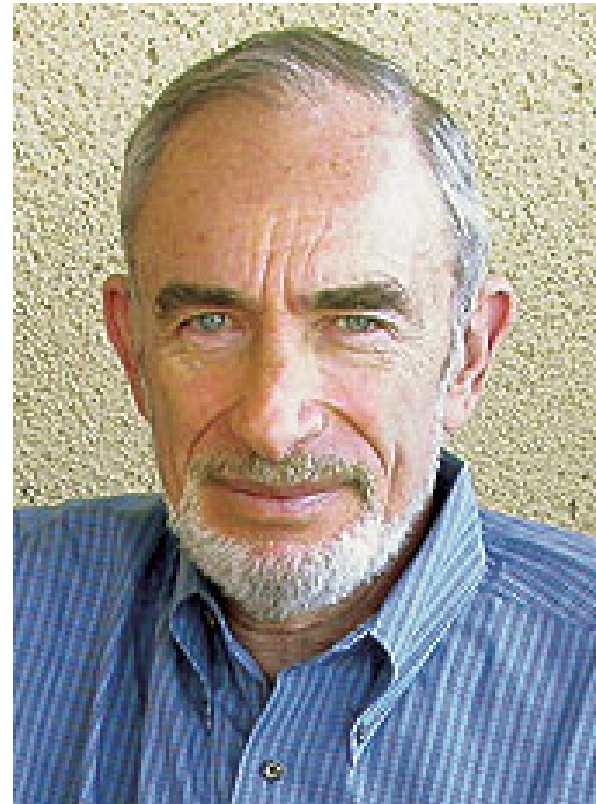
World population growth

- Reached 6 billion in 1999
- Projected:
 - » 7 billion in 2013
 - » 8 billion in 2028
 - » 9 billion in 2054
 - » 10 billion in 2200 – (stabilise)



Opinion

- “If civilisation is to persist on our finite planet, impending resource shortages and the mounting environmental costs of overpopulation make it imperative that we gradually and humanely reduce our numbers.”
 - Paul Ehrlich,
New Scientist,
30 September 2006





Opinion

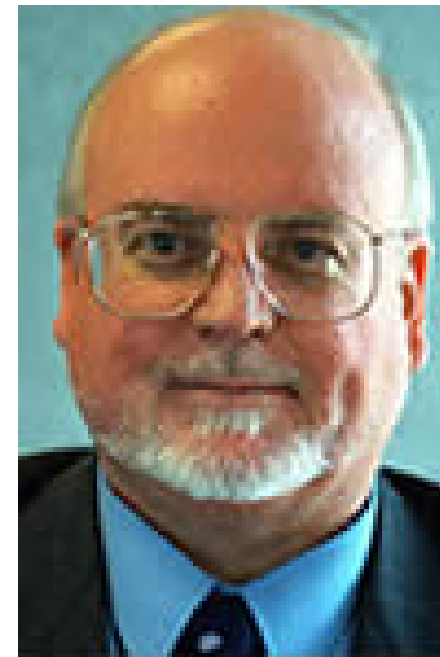
- “The human population can no longer be allowed to grow in the same old uncontrolled way. If we do not take charge of our population size, then nature will do it for us and it is the poor people of the world who will suffer most.”
 - Sir David Attenborough
naturalist, broadcaster
3 August 2003





Opinion

- “The point isn't that there are no limits but that there is no reason to believe we are anywhere near them. And there is ample evidence that the economic growth and prosperity Ehrlich rails against are the preconditions for successful environmental action”.
- Alan Wood, Economics Editor
The Australian
25 October 2006





Not over yet

- “If the average worldwide total fertility rate (2.65 in 2000-05) could be reduced by just half a child per woman (to 2.15, just above the replacement rate of 2.1), world population would still reach 7.7 billion in 2050, but there would be 1.4 billion fewer climate changers and 1.4 billion fewer to feed.”

— Optimum Population
Trust (UK)
2 November 2006





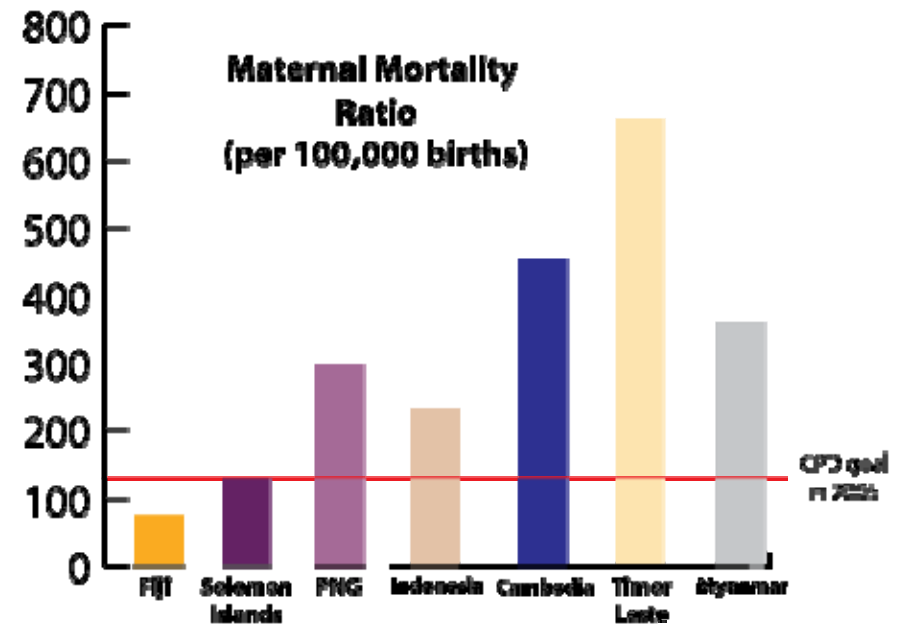
Disease and disability rates

- Starvation – 25,000 per day, 9 million per year
- Inequity - life expectancy, expenditure
- Malfunctioning health systems
- Infectious diseases
- Child and maternal death
- HIV/AIDS and other emerging health problems



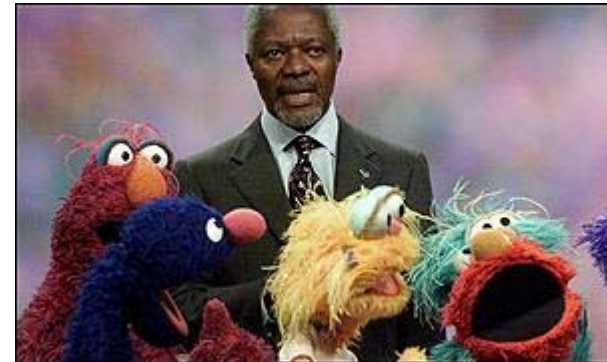
Maternal mortality in the region

- In Timor-Leste, where only 24% of births are attended by a skilled birth attendant, the maternal mortality ratio (MMR) is now the highest in the Asia Pacific region, at an alarming 660 deaths per 100,000 live births.
- The Solomon Islands and PNG have both made progress, with the MMR decreasing from 549 and 800 in 1994 to 130 and 300 respectively.
- In Indonesia the Ministry of Health developed the National Strategic Plan on Making Pregnancy Safer, 2001-2010 in order to combat the high MMR.





Making Poverty History – Millennium Development Goals



1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development



UN Millennium Development Goals

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Meeting the goals



World Vision

HOW ARE THE NEIGHBOURS?

The Millennium Development Goals & our Region – 2006

It is now almost six years since Australia and one hundred and ninety other nations committed to a global plan to halve extreme poverty by 2015. This plan has eight goals known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This paper looks at whether Australia's developing country neighbours are on track to achieve the Goals and whether they are receiving sufficient support from the developed countries.

The paper finds that while there is progress throughout the region, most of our neighbours are struggling and at least eight of our 22 neighbouring countries are significantly off track. The goals to reduce child and maternal mortality are particularly at risk. Analysis of levels of aid support suggests that aid could be better targeted at those countries most at risk, and that there appears to be a significant shortfall in aid for the key areas of basic education, health care, water and sanitation. The paper concludes with recommendations aimed at improving Australia's role in achieving the plan in our neighbourhood.



Australia's foreign aid program

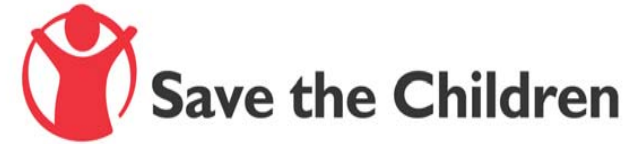
- Budget increased
- Below OECD average
- Below UN target
- Reproductive health



The Harradine guidelines

- Reviewed, but still in effect
- A “dead hand” on NGOs and AusAID in the family planning area
- WHO guidelines sufficient for most countries





Laos

Sayaboury
Province



Millennium Development Goals 4 & 5: Reducing Infant and Maternal Mortality













Australian issues

- Pregnancy counselling
- RU-486, microbicides
- HIV/AIDS and STIs
- Indigenous communities
- Population growth – climate change



Fertility

- Male role in infertile couples
- Australia a world leader
- Preconditions for starting a family
- The Fertility Society



The Lancet and WHO

- Major series of articles
- SRH critical to all other health areas
- Taboo in many governments
- WHO 12-month campaign





Thank you