

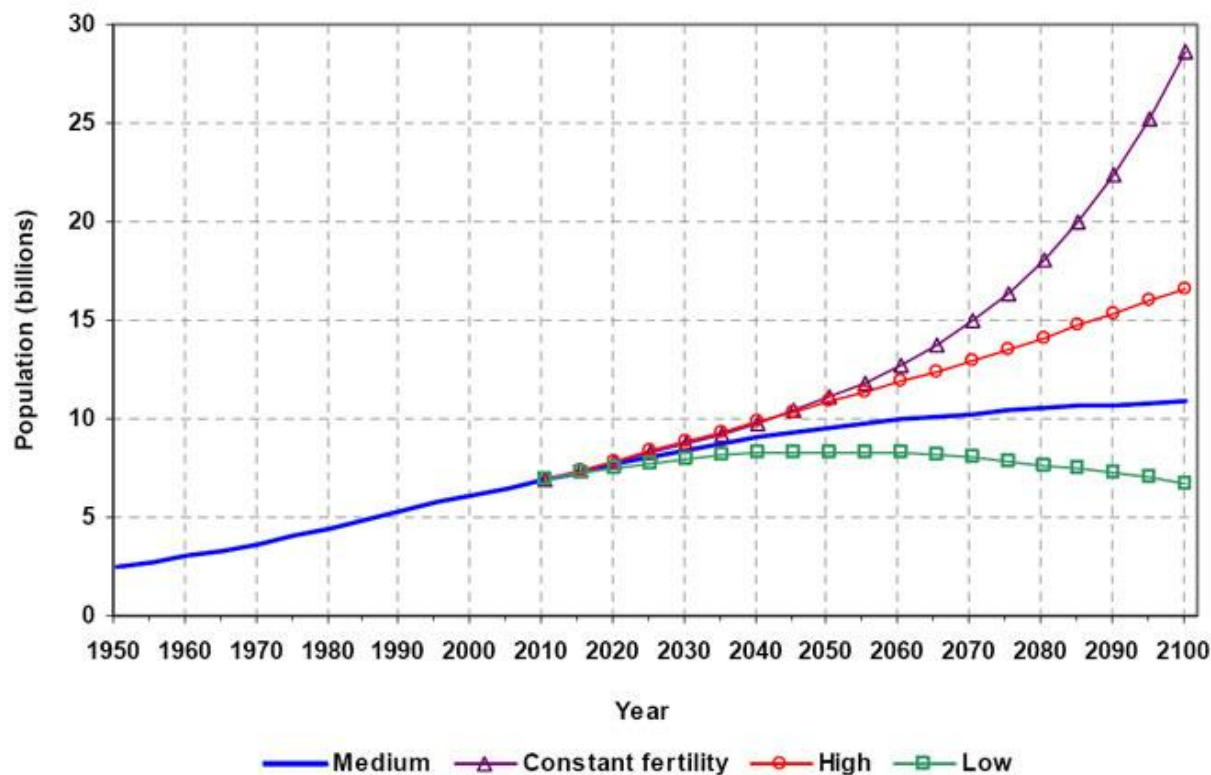
Population and Food Security: Key Trends and Changing Dynamics

Population trends and dynamics

Low-variant projection:
9.6 billion people by 2050
or 10.9 billion by 2100

High-variant projection:
10.9 billion people by
2050 or 16.6 million in
2100

Figure 1. Population of the world, 1950-2100, according to different projections and variants



Source: Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (2013). *World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision*. New York: United Nations.

Projections of population growth



Developing Countries

- 2013: 5.9 billion
- 2050: 8.2 billion
- 2100: 9.6 billion



Least Developed Countries

- 2013: 898 million
- 2050: 1.8 billion
- 2100: 2.9 billion



Youth vis-à-vis Ageing population

- 1.6 billion = 15-59 years
- 1.99 billion = 60+
- Children under 15 = movement negligent

Changing dynamics



Youth and children population **now in less developed countries** are at an all-time high: 1.7 billion children and 1.1 billion young people.



Globally, population aged 60 or over is the fastest growing cohort: **developed regions'** increasing at 1.0 per cent annually (before 2050) while in **less developed regions**, 60 or over-60 cohort are increasing at the fastest pace ever.

Changing dynamics



2050 population projections has FAO suggesting a global doubling of demand for food



Increased number of people, increased pressure on resources



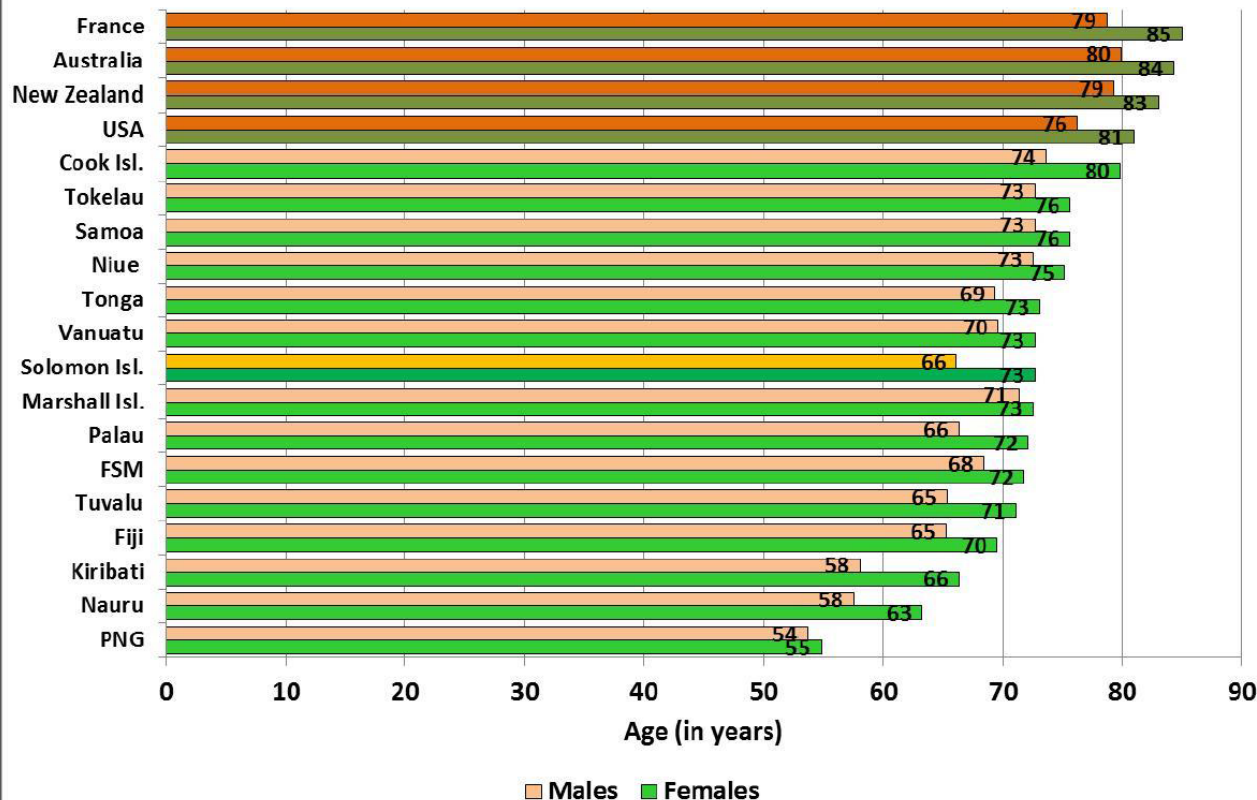
16% of the population in developing countries remain undernourished



The impact of Climate Change on staple crops cannot be emphasized enough

Pacific-specific Contextualization

Life expectancy at birth, PIC and Metropolitan countries



- Two extremes: Very high adolescent fertility rate & depopulation
- In all Pacific island countries, women outlive men
- Contraception prevalence in the Pacific: 20-50% (Australia: 71%, USA: 79%)

The Human Rights Discourse

The relationship of population to development is so intertwined with issue of poverty, patterns of production and consumption, and inequality, that none can be fruitfully addressed in isolation.

[ICPD Programme of Action 1994]

Cairo marks fundamental shift in approach to population and development dynamics

Centralizes humanity in the population & development discourse and action

ICPD Principles & its Programme of Action underlines inextricable links

Any response has to be integrated

Population-related goals and policies are integral parts of cultural, economic and social development, the principal aim of which is to improve the quality of life of all people.

[*Principle 5, ICPD PoA*]

ICPD Review

Increasing social, economic and political equality, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, is the basis for individual wellbeing, lower population growth, and sustainable development.

[1994 ICPD Consensus]

Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights – (youth) SRHR choice today = influence population size and food needs tomorrow

Gender Dimension - requires multi-sector investment (access to Land, FP, Capital)

There is enough food for everyone – social equity prerequisite to distribution and access issues

Governance & Accountability – enabling environment to achieve food security

Innovation, Partnerships & Human Development

1. Comprehensive
Sexuality Education

2. Data for Development
(GBV Studies)

3. SRHR Programming

4. Commodity Security

5. Integrated Household
Resources Management

Innovation, Partnerships & Human Development

- Invest in gender equality initiatives for therein lies the beginnings of social equity that can address food security in terms of access and distribution;
- Centralize humanity, invest in sexual and reproductive health and rights issues to address the well-being of the fundamental unit of society, the family in whatever form;
- There is no harm in the specificity of direct investment in women's agricultural capacity for once women have access to credit, land and other basic tenets of food production, they can do incredible things in terms of securing food security for themselves and their families;
- Population must not always be seen as a threat, it is about managing it.



United Nations Population Fund
Pacific Sub-Regional Office

Thank you