A Pivotal Moment: Population, Justice and the Environmental Challenge

www.popjustice.org
A pivotal moment
Population and the environment: a complex connection

- Environmental impact is determined by population and resource use
- Some of us have much greater impact than others
Carbon emissions: Tanzania vs. U.S.A.
Deforestation in Ghana
Awudu’s story

Evicted from their land, Awudu Mohammed’s family now lives in a squatter camp near a gold mine.
A population problem?
An environmental problem.
An inequality problem.
Inequality fuels environmental problems.
Does population matter for the environment?

Yes.
Eight vs. 11 billion
The “population wedge”
The best way to slow population growth:

Make sure all people have the *means* and the *power* to make their own decisions about childbearing.
The *means*:

Ensure universal access to family planning and reproductive health services.
The power:

Confront gender inequality
- Educate girls
- End child marriage
- Support women’s rights

Fight economic inequality
- Debt relief
- Reform IFI’s
- Sustainable, equitable development: MDGs

Invest in the largest generation!
Cairo and climate adaptation
What does it cost?

- The developed countries' share of the cost to provide reproductive health services for every woman on earth is $20 billion.
- The US share is about $1 billion.
Crisis and opportunity