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**All Party Parliamentary Group
on Population, Development
and Reproductive Health**

Wednesday 12th September 2007
Woodrow Wilson Centre



Return of the Population Growth Factor

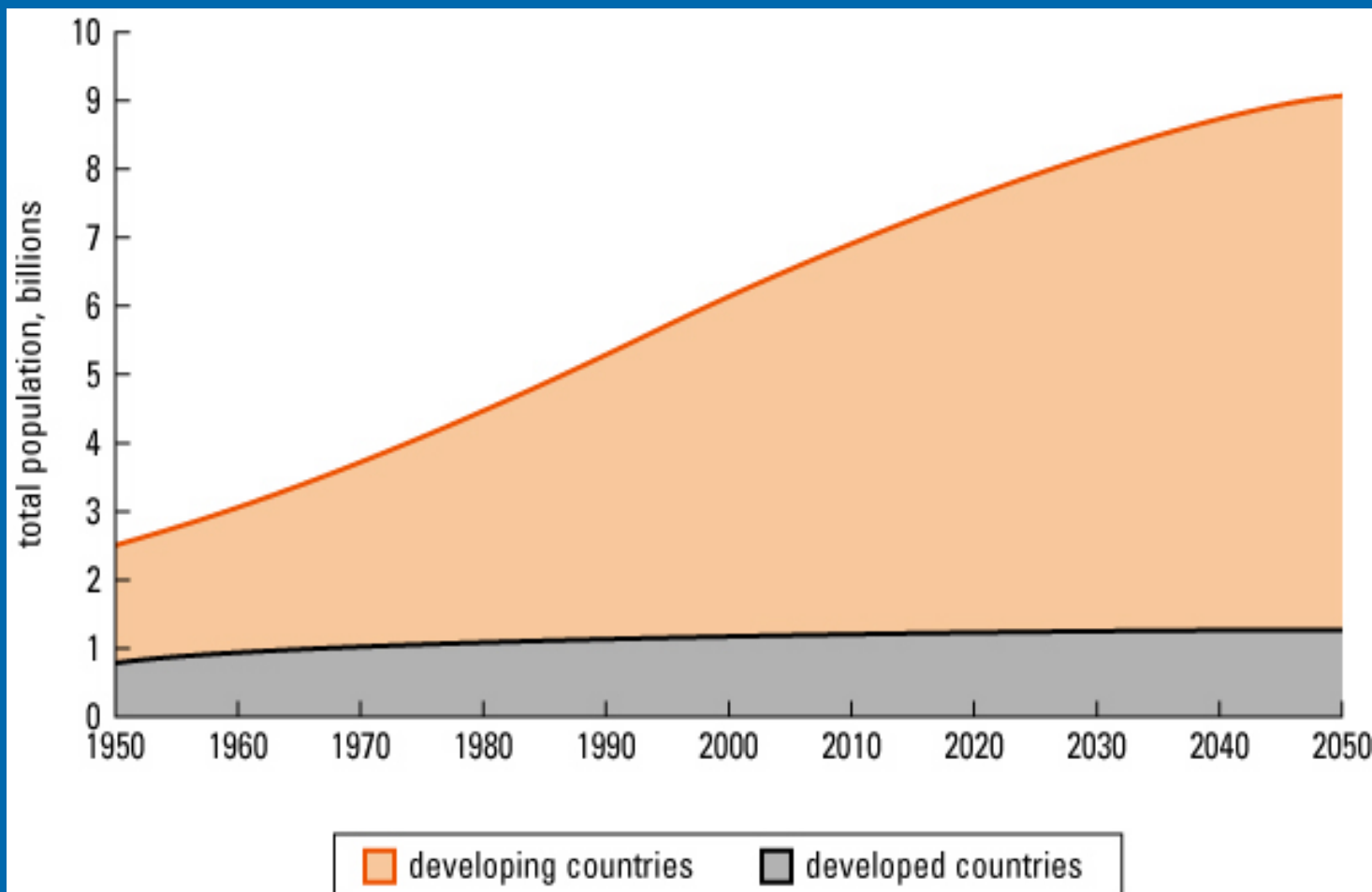
Impact upon the Millennium
Development Goals

United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

To be achieved by 2015:

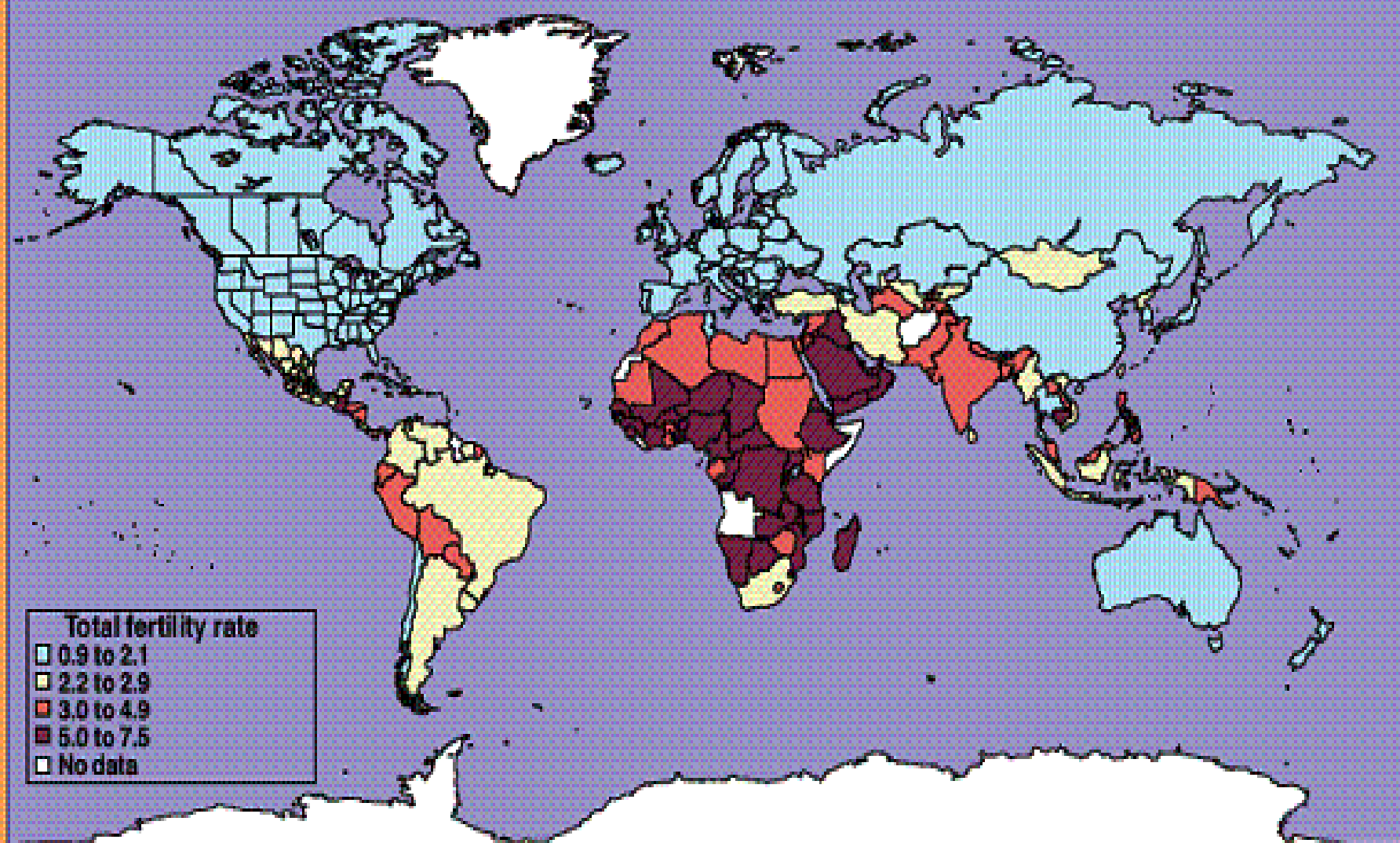
- Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger
- Achieve Universal Primary Education
- Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
- Reduce Child Mortality
- Improve Maternal Health
- Combat HIV / AIDs, Malaria and Other Diseases
- Ensure Environmental Sustainability
- Develop a Global Partnership for Development

Population growth 1950 - 2050

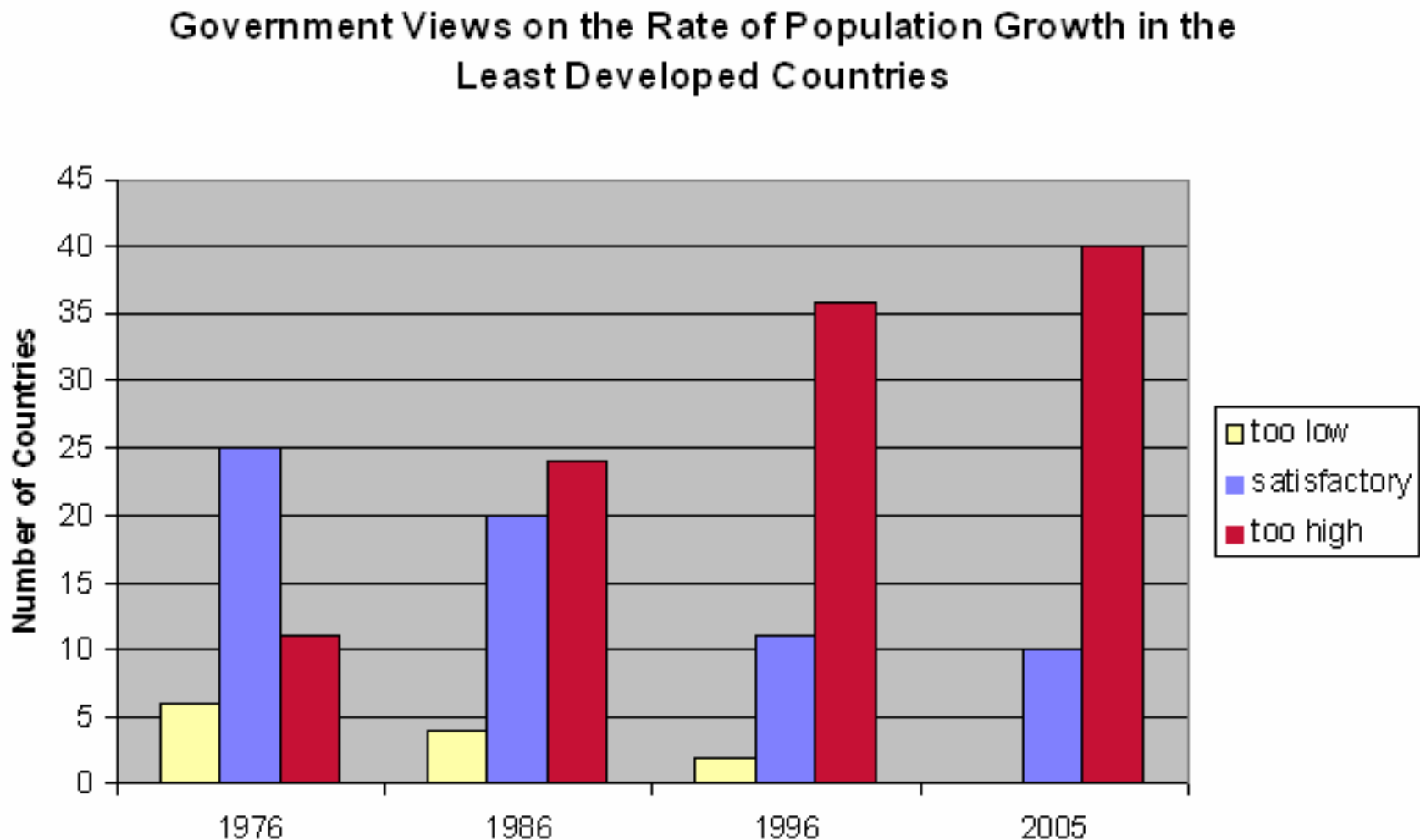


Source: United Nations, *World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision* (medium scenario), 2003.

Total fertility rate



➤80% of the World's Least Developed Countries think their population growth is too high

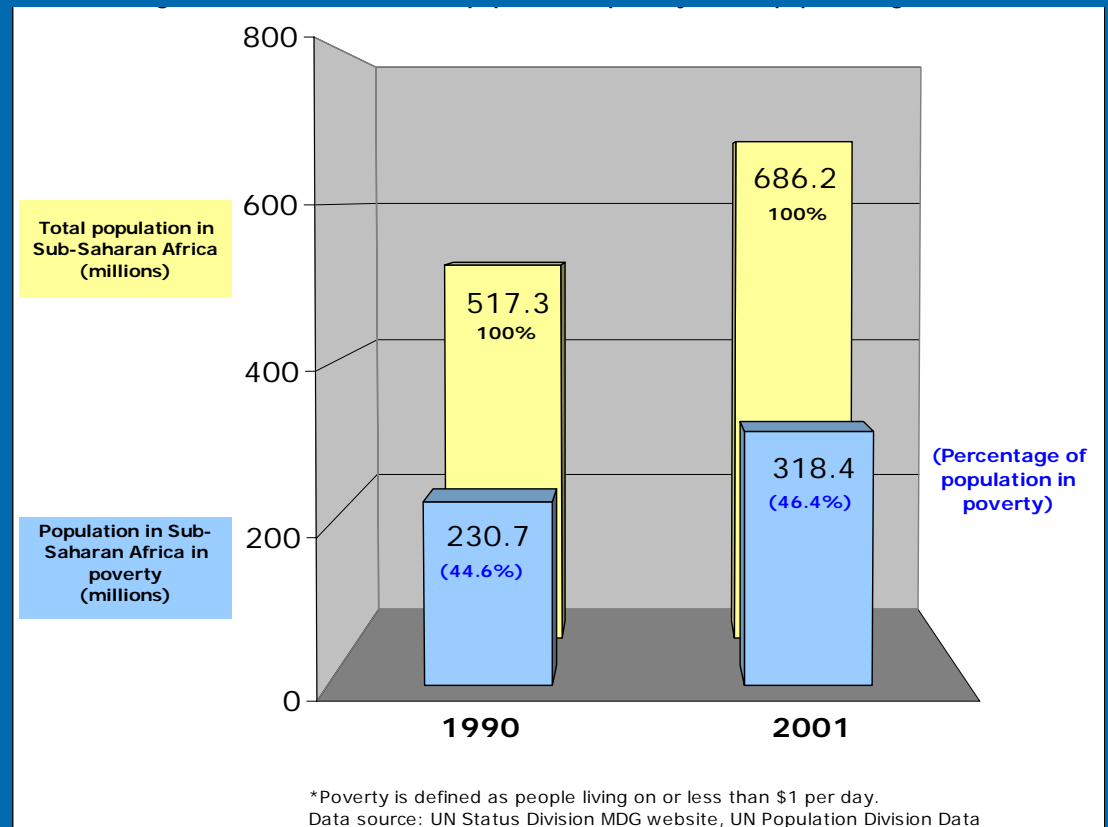


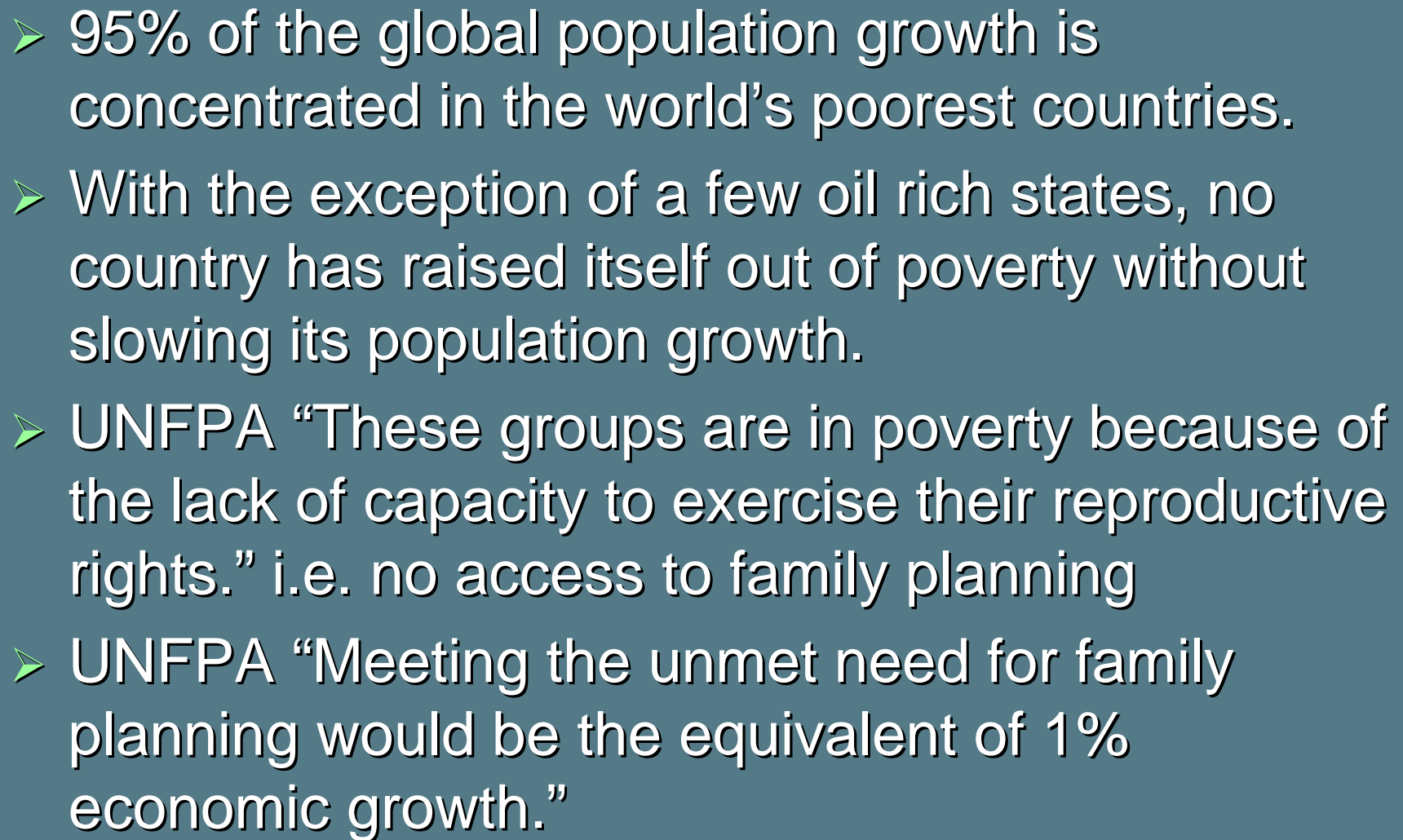
Source: United Nations, Dept of Economic and Social Affairs.
Written Evidence to APPG on Pop, Dev & RH 21st February 2006

MDG 1 - Poverty and Hunger

Target : Reduce the number living in extreme poverty (under \$1 a day) by half by 2015

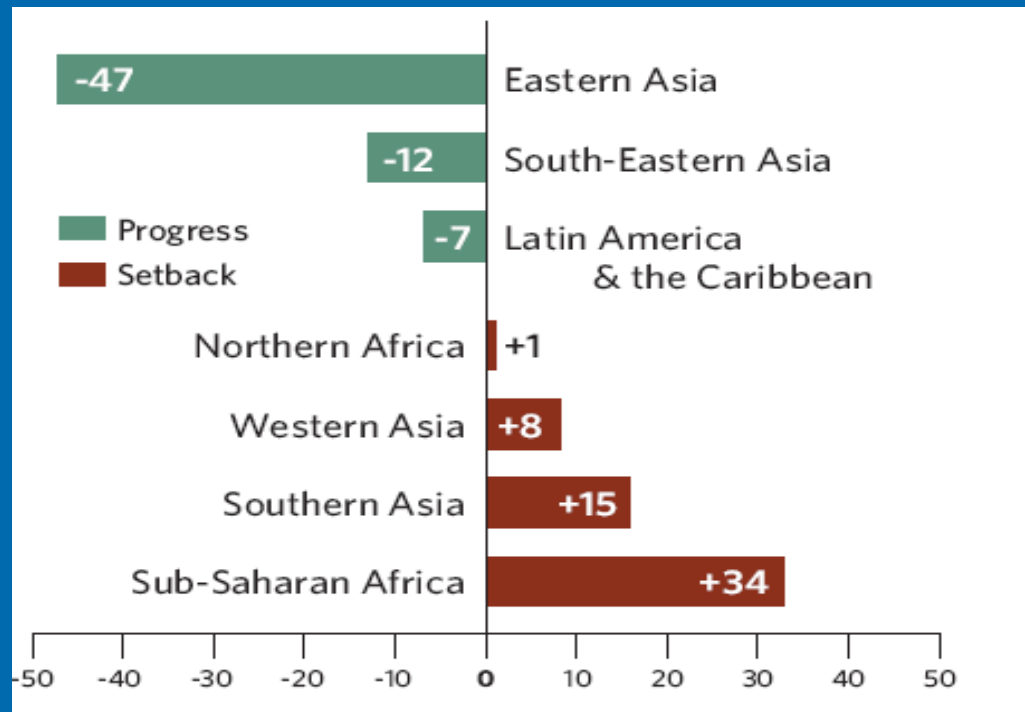
Reality:
Sub-Saharan Africa
-
Numbers living in
Poverty 1990 and
2001



- 
- The background image shows a slum area with a semi-transparent text box overlaid. The text box contains four bullet points. The background image is a photograph of a slum area, showing a dirt path, some buildings, and people. The text box is a dark blue color with white text. The bullet points are green arrows pointing to the right.
- 95% of the global population growth is concentrated in the world's poorest countries.
 - With the exception of a few oil rich states, no country has raised itself out of poverty without slowing its population growth.
 - UNFPA "These groups are in poverty because of the lack of capacity to exercise their reproductive rights." i.e. no access to family planning
 - UNFPA "Meeting the unmet need for family planning would be the equivalent of 1% economic growth."

MDG 1- Poverty and Hunger

Target 2: Reduce the by half the proportion of people suffering from hunger by 2015



Change in Numbers with insufficient food 1990 – 2001
(millions)

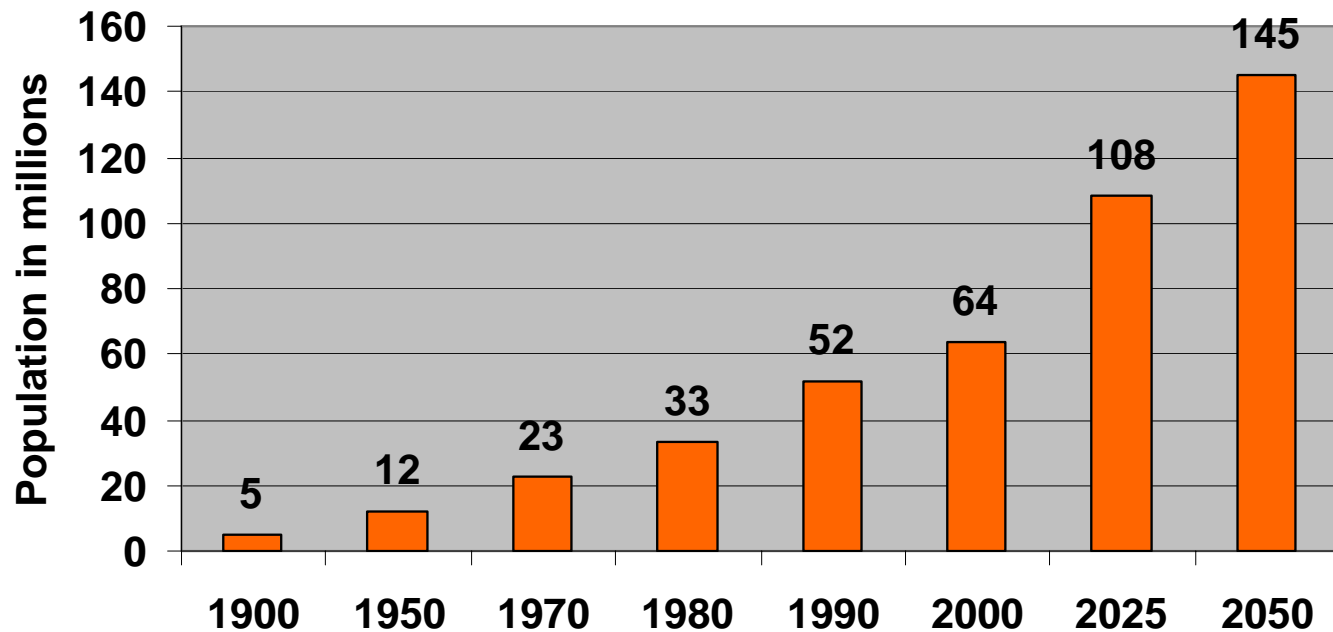
Ethiopian population

1984 - 42 million

2006 – 75 million

2006 - 8 million reliant upon permanent food aid

Ethiopia population 1900-2050

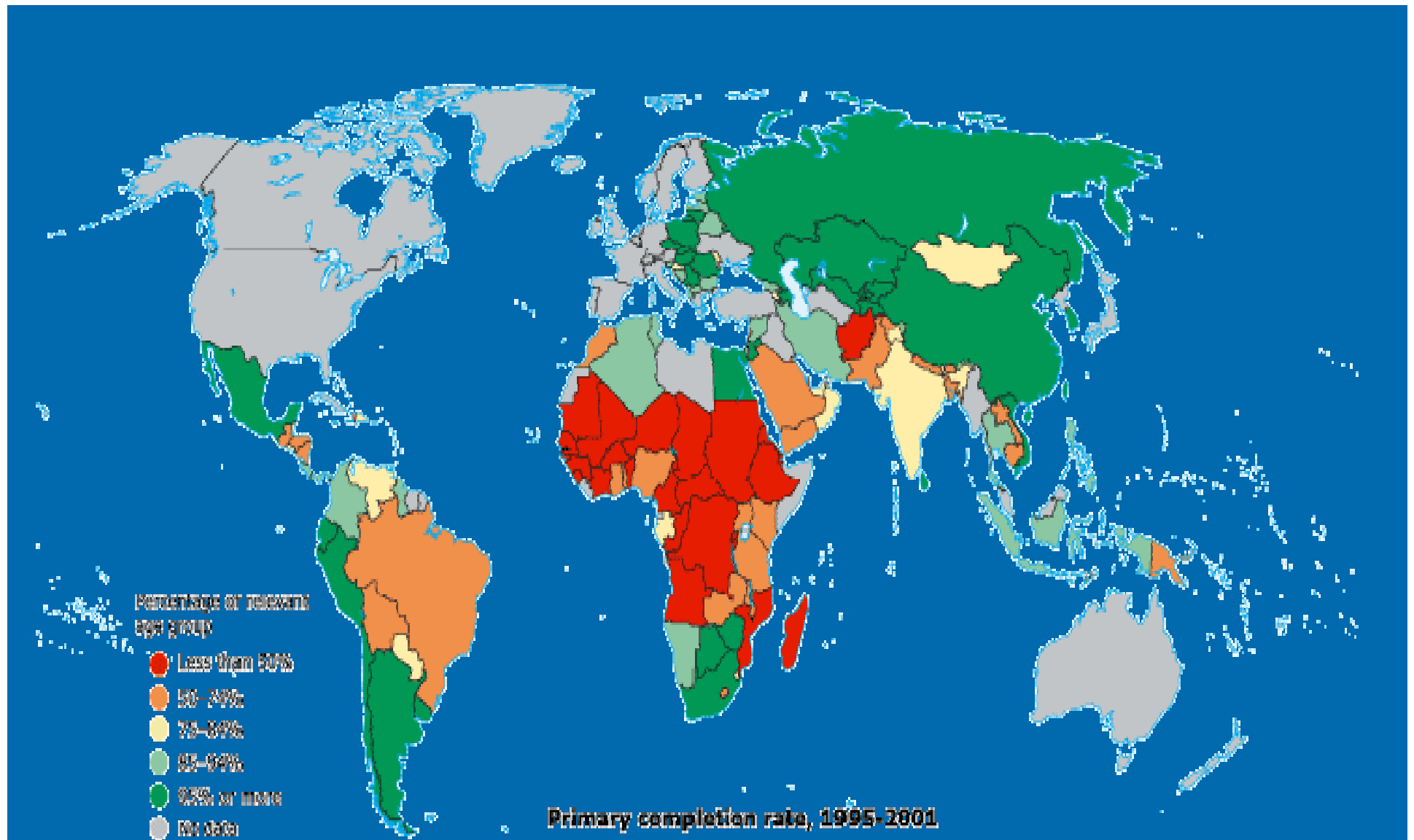




MDG 2 – Access to Education

Target:

Universal access to primary education by
2015



Assuming class sizes of 40, an extra 2 million teachers are required each year, just to stand still.

MDG 3 – Gender equality

Target:

Eliminate Gender disparity in primary and secondary education, *preferably by 2005*, and at all levels of education by 2015

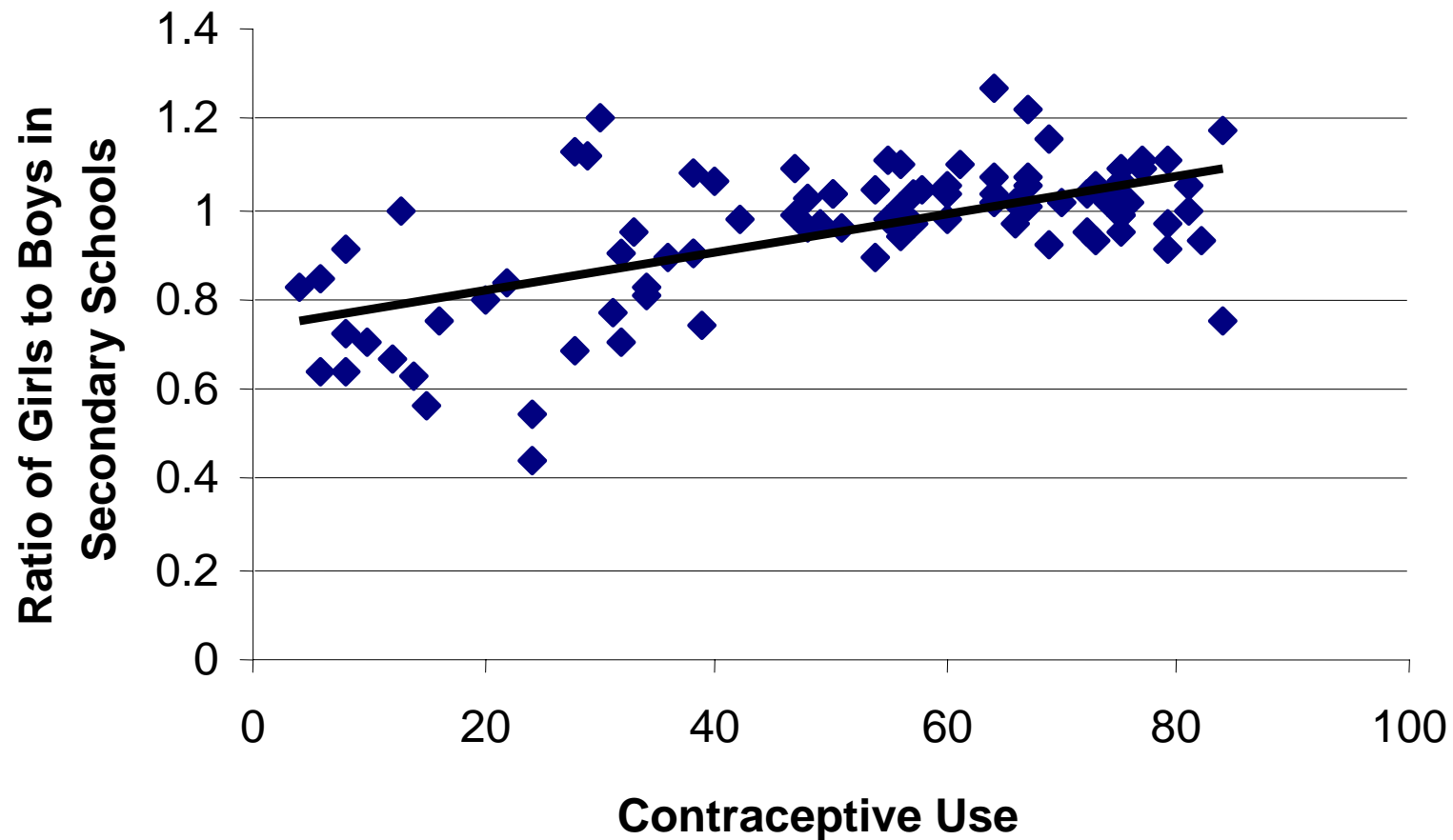
Reality:

In Sub-Saharan Africa only 26% of students entering secondary school in 2005 were girls.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION:

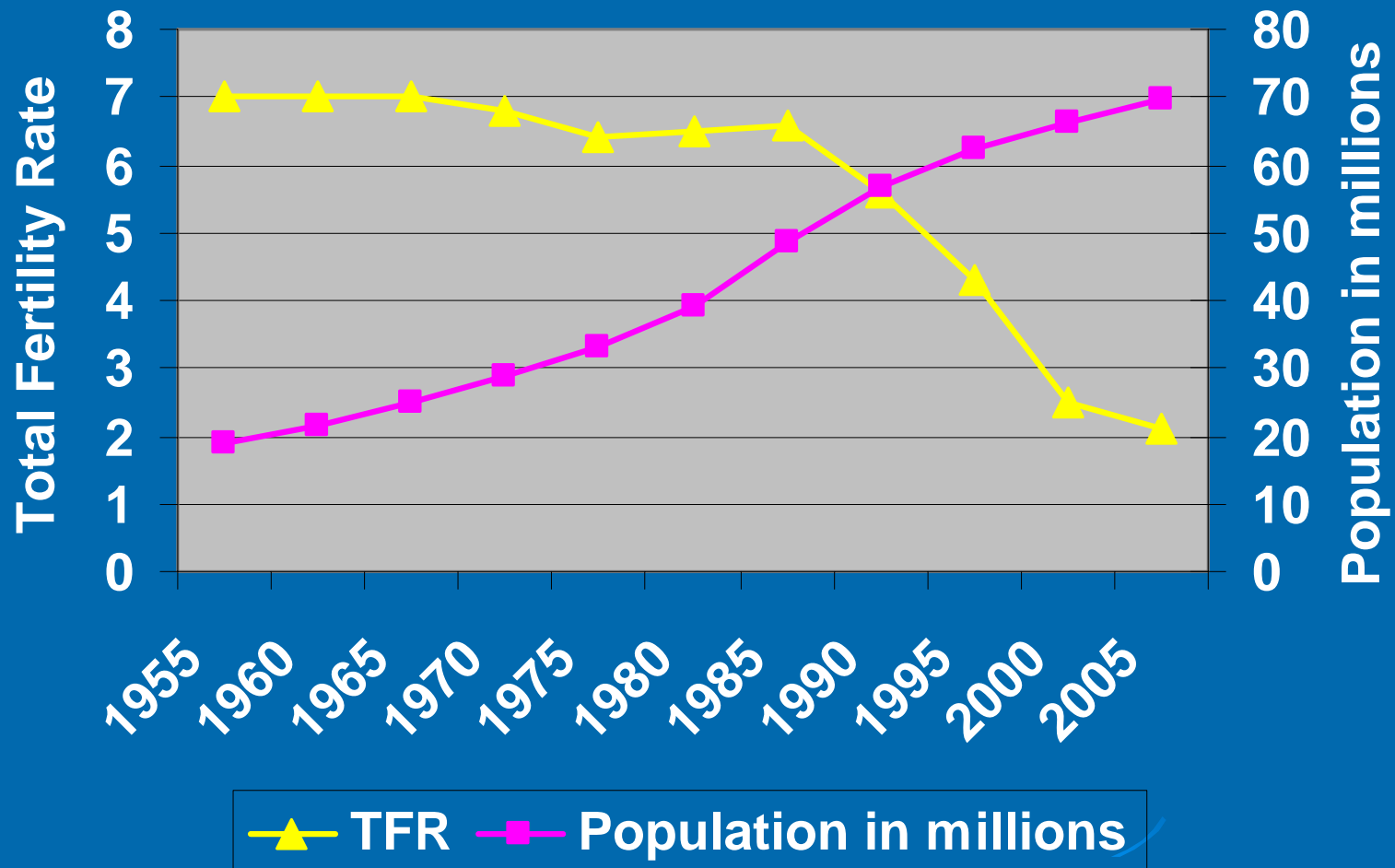
“Women’s ability to control their fertility is the first and most important step to full empowerment and gender equality.”

Higher Contraceptive Use: Higher Proportion of Girls in Secondary Schools



Iran – Population and TFR

Iran - Population and TFR since 1955

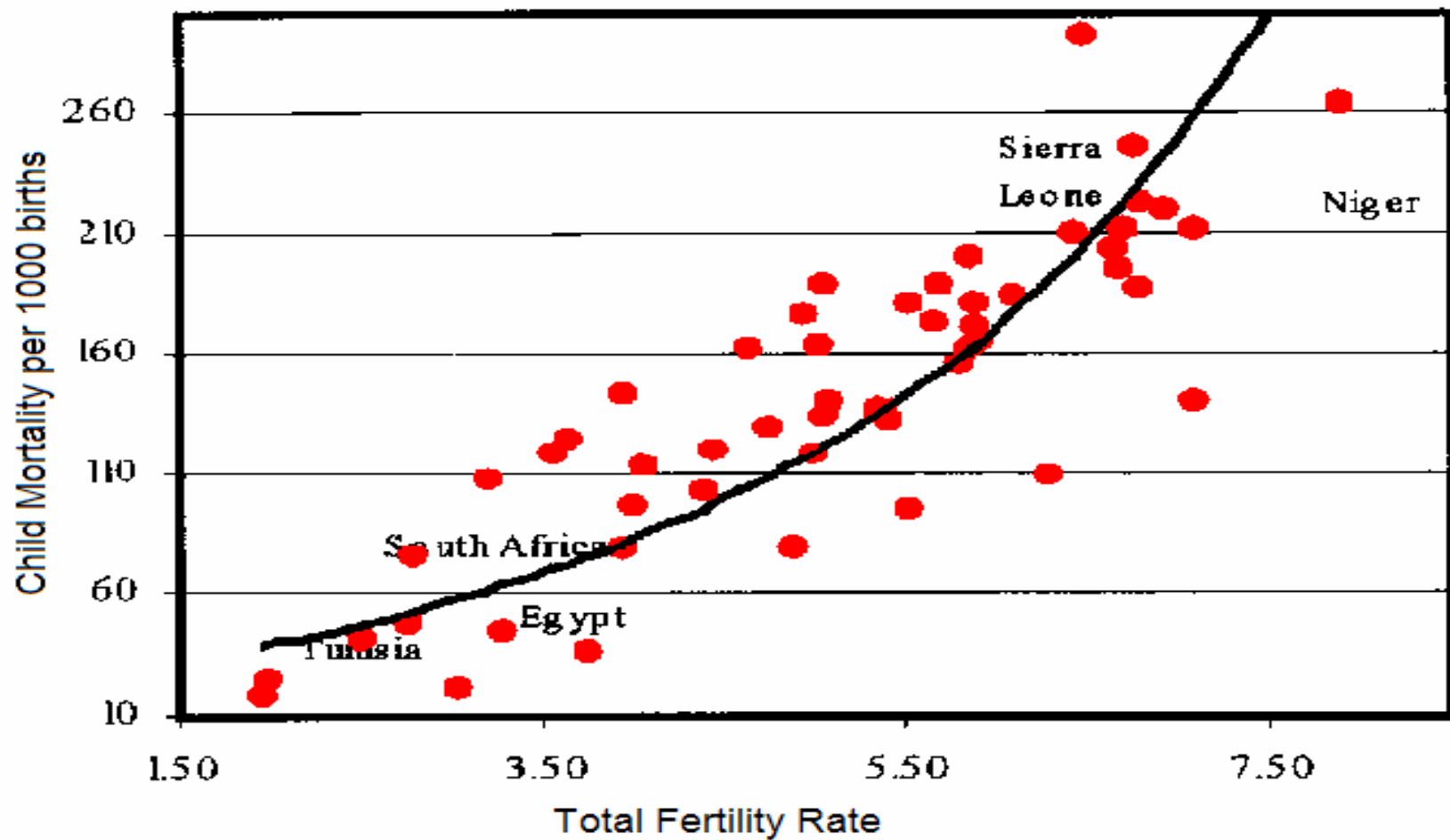




MDG 4 – Child Mortality

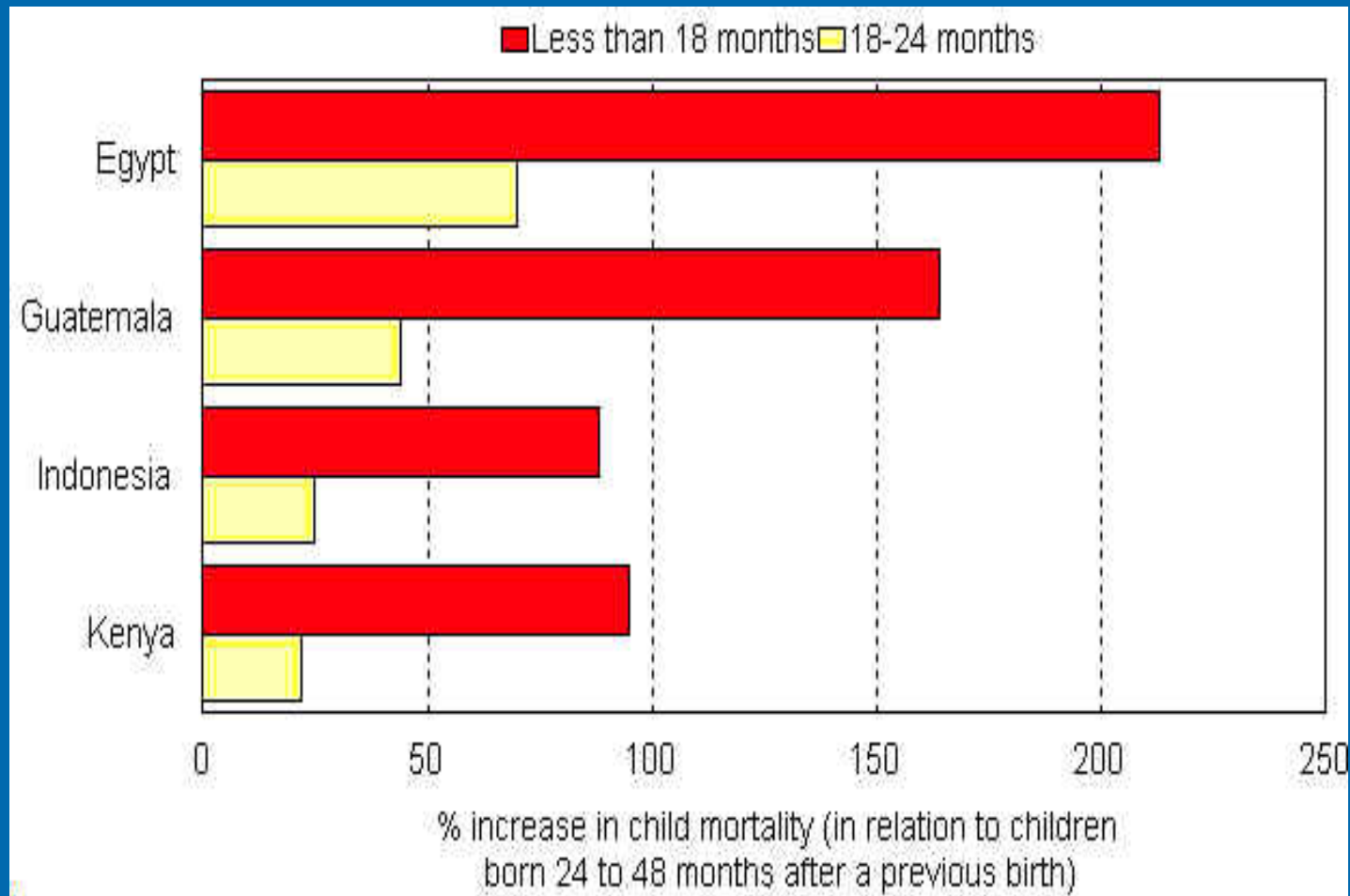
Target:
Reduce by two
thirds the
mortality rate
among children
under five by
2015

Association of TFR and Child Mortality (2005)



Source: UNECA

Birth spacing saves lives

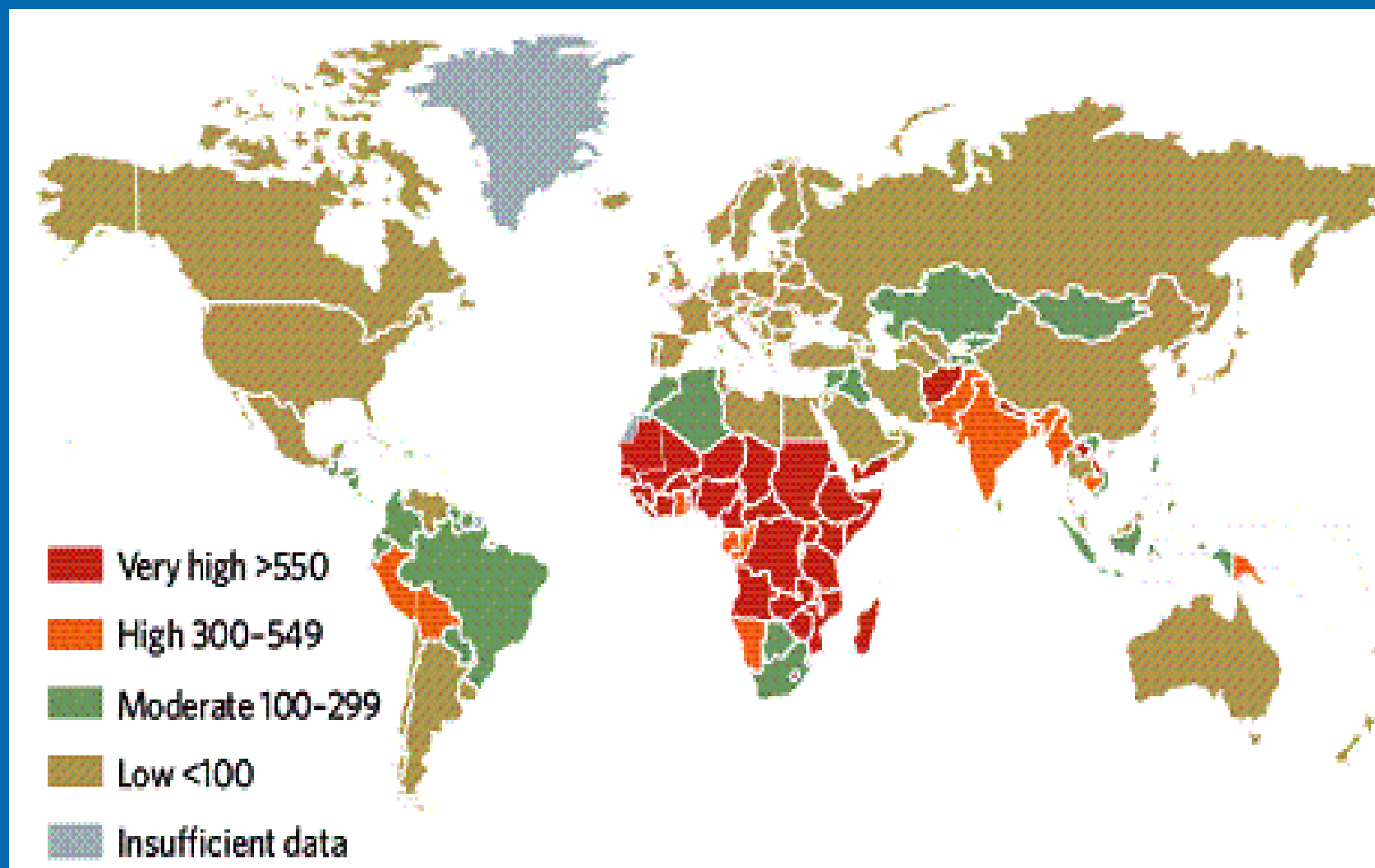


MDG 5 – Maternal Mortality

Target:

Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio by 2015

Maternal Mortality per 100,000 live births in 2000



Maternal Mortality

- 41% of pregnancies globally are unintended.
- The UK government believes accessible family planning has the potential to reduce maternal deaths by 35%.



MDG 6 – HIV/AIDS and other Diseases

Target: To have halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

Target: To have halted and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

MDG 7 – Environmental Sustainability

Target: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Does population growth have anything
to do with MDG 7 ?

No and Yes

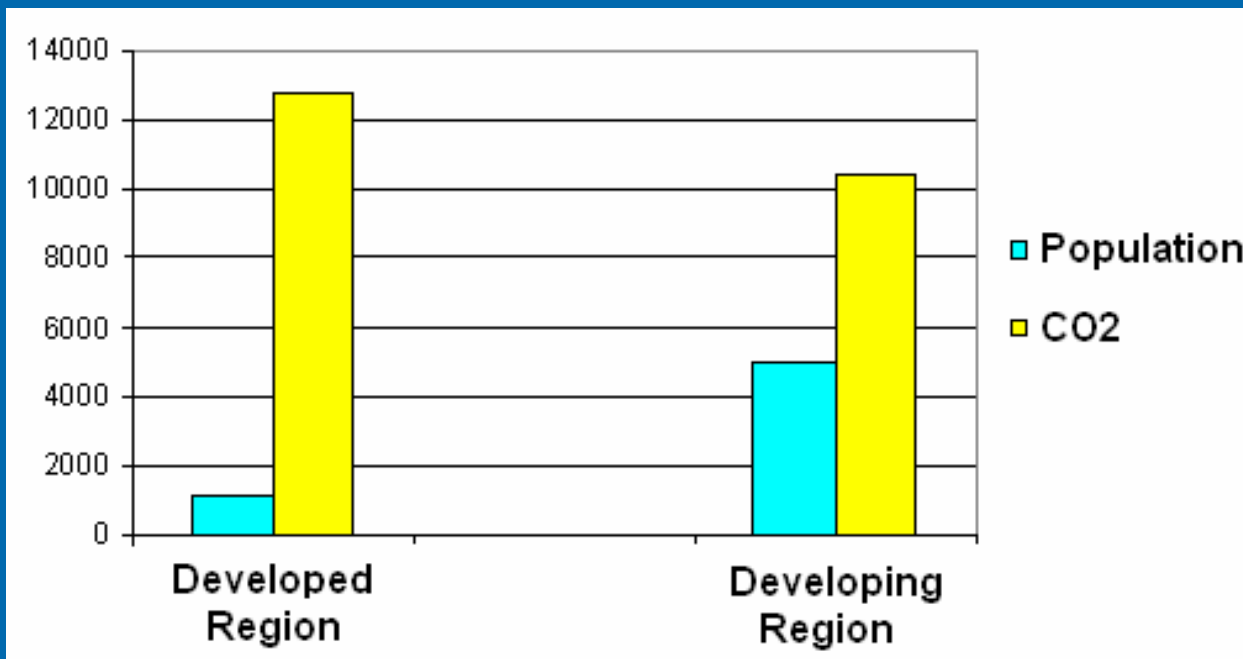


No

- Climate Change caused by CO₂ emissions is largely unaffected by population growth because 95% of population growth is in the world's poorest countries where emissions are low

Yes

- As poorer countries develop, their emissions will grow with them.
- The developed world must support and encourage the developing world in order for it to develop sustainably.



The background image shows a dense forest with tall trees. In the foreground, a logging truck is visible, carrying several large logs. The truck is parked on a dirt road. The overall scene suggests a logging operation in a forested area.

Yes

Population growth is exacerbating

- Fragile ecosystems
- Deforestation
- Land degradation
- Fragile fishing resources

Case study – Culion, Philippines

Fish stocks threatened as population grew at 2.36% pa.

Fishermen were noticing it was increasingly difficult to feed their families

Integrated Population and Coastal Resource Management Initiative provided :

- Education about the environment
- Education about the option to manage family size through voluntary family planning.

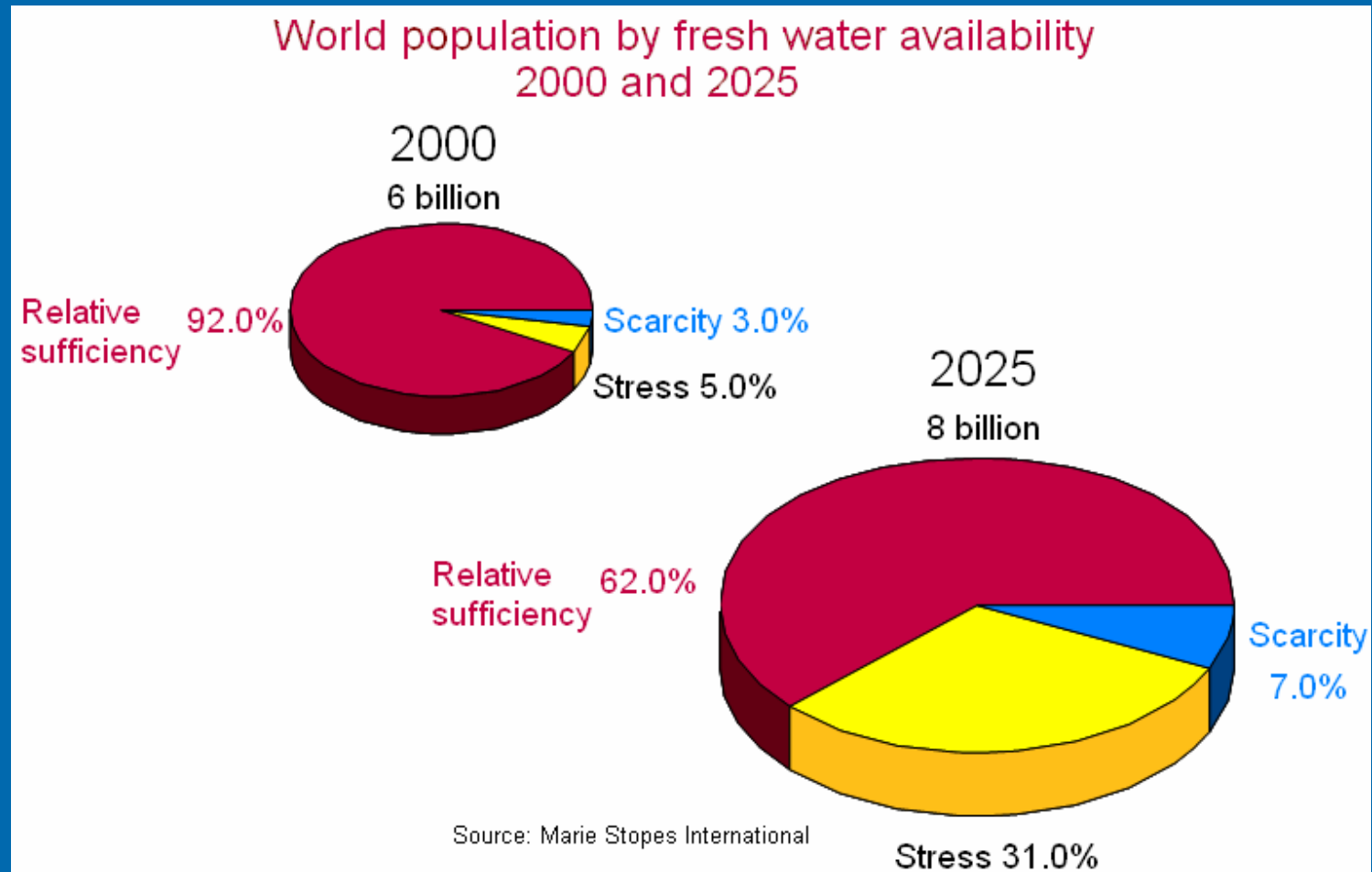
Results in Culion, Philippines

- Population growth has fallen as parents can manage their family size
- Environmental degradation is now being reversed
- Illegal fishing practices frowned upon by the community
- Destruction of the mangroves has ended.
- Locals are committed to maintaining a cleaner shoreline and improving disposal of waste.

Results are already showing

- ✓ Fish stocks are increasing in the Culion area
- ✓ % underweight children has fallen from 34% to 24% between 2001 and 2004 (well below the national average)

Water



“Per capita demand for water globally is estimated to exceed the available sources by about 2050” Sir David King, Chief Scientific Advisor to UK Gov

The Nile

Demand for water is increasing in all ten countries of the Nile basin.

- Nile already severely depleted by the time it reaches the Mediterranean
- Population of Nile basin set to *double* by 2050

Civil Conflict

- Countries in which young adults comprise more than 40% of the population are more than twice as likely to experience civil conflict.

A few of the 59 countries with 40% under 15:

Rwanda 47%

Sierra Leone 43%

Zimbabwe 41%

Sudan 44%

Nepal 41%

Somalia 45%

Nigeria 43%

Evidence is overwhelming:

The Millennium Development Goals are *difficult or impossible* to achieve with the current levels of population growth in the least developed countries and regions

Where are we now?

Lost Decade

- Since 1994 ICPD Conference Cairo, momentum has been lost – focus shifted and discussion of population became synonymous with coercion.
- HIV/AIDS became issue of the moment
- The availability of contraception in Africa has not increased in the last decade.
- The poorest are those who suffer

What can we do about it?

- Fulfil the unmet need
- Fund and provide family planning to all those who want it – the poorest countries are crying out for help

