

ON THE RECORD @ THE WILSON CENTER



Green is hot now. This is the teachable moment. When we talk about nature this time around—now that the public is paying attention—we should get beyond charismatic megafauna and talk about the value of ecosystems to human survival.

Jonathan Lash, World Resources Institute, May 7, 2007



Natural resource-based institutions...are critical for conflict mitigation, especially in areas where there is a high dependence by the local or the rural dwellers on natural resources. **Masego Madzwamuse, World Conservation Union—IUCN, February 28, 2008**

It is not wonky to say that demographics is fundamental to development—it's right.

Amy Coen, Population Action International, October 2, 2007



People...need to cut trees for charcoal, and once they sell charcoal they get school fees, or they buy their food or they buy their medicines. Now, if you tell them, 'Don't cut trees,' then what next? It's like telling Americans 'don't drive.' **Emmanuel Mtiti, Jane Goodall Institute, May 8, 2008**

The fight against poverty is not just one that we care greatly about for moral reasons...It is also one that we care a great deal about because of the intimate linkages between poverty and the drivers of poverty, and fundamental insecurity that in some cases can metastasize into conflict.

Lael Brainard, Brookings Institution, October 5, 2007



We must never forget that international family planning is a huge success story. The trouble is, we've forgotten about it. **John Cleland, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, September 12, 2007**

Where do terrorists go? They go to weak places where governance is weak and society is weak. If the stress of climate change on these weak societies causes some of them to collapse, it opens a window for terrorists. **General Paul J. Kern, U.S. Army (Ret.), May 14, 2007**



Population-related policies are not going to produce any immediately discernable effect on emissions... [But] climate change is a big problem, and this would appear to be an opportunity. **Brian O'Neill, National Center for Atmospheric Research, February 20, 2008**



“When women are better able to manage their childbearing, they may be able to better manage natural resources. Empowerment of women should have environmental gains.

Lori Hunter, University of Colorado—Boulder, March 13, 2008



If we recognize environmental issues as a factor in regional stability, we can use them to build confidence and communication between countries that may already be struggling over territory. Or we can leave these issues untended until they become issues in elements of conflict such as we have seen in Kenya.

Kent Butts, U.S. Army War College, March 4, 2008



“We integrate wildlife conservation and public health, which is interdependent in and around protected areas in Africa. We feel that this is more of a cost-effective way to prevent uncontrolled disease transmission between people, wildlife, and livestock. **Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka, Conservation Through Public Health, May 8, 2008**



Environment is neither necessary nor sufficient to trigger conflict. The environment matters, but only under certain conditions, and therefore we should study those conditions. **Colin Kahl, Georgetown University, October 5, 2007**



We always say that we don't fund problems, we fund solutions to problems, and what makes family planning...unique, I think, is that it's the solution to a whole array of problems. **Scott Radloff, U.S. Agency for International Development, December 5, 2007**

Our bottom line is that climate change is a threat to national security and now is the time to take sensible action, to integrate it into national security frameworks, and to build the necessary capacity and resilience to address it responsibly in the future.

Sherri Goodman, Center for Naval Analysis Corporation, May 14, 2007



We at the Center will continue to place a high priority on searching for ways to make our environment part of the solution, not simply a problem to be managed.

Lee H. Hamilton, Woodrow Wilson Center, April 3, 2007