

Fact Sheet

Population

- > **In 30 years**, at the current rates of growth, the population of the world's poorest countries would double.
- > **One in 11 people** lacks access to clean drinking water. ¹ One in 11 lives on less than \$1.90/day—the international poverty line.²
- > **For little more than \$3** per American, per year, the U.S. could fund our fair share of international family planning programs ³
- > **Each dollar invested** in publicly funded domestic family planning saves the U.S. government \$7.⁴

Environment

- **Human activities**, including deforestation, pollution, and overfishing have caused the world to lose half its wildlife in the past 40 years.⁵
- **As population grows**, demands on freshwater increase. World population quadrupled over the last century,⁶ while global water use increased six-fold.⁷
- **More than 1 in 4 deaths** of children under 5 years of age are attributable to unhealthy environments. Every year, environmental risks – such as indoor and outdoor air pollution, second-hand smoke, unsafe water, lack of sanitation, and inadequate hygiene – take the lives of 1.7 million children under 5 years.⁸
- **The biggest cause** of declining animal numbers is the destruction of wild areas for farming and logging: The majority of the Earth's land area has now been impacted by humans, with just 15% protected for nature.
- **Agriculture accounts for** roughly 70% of all freshwater use globally, and more than 90% in most of the world's least developed countries. By 2050, farmers will need to produce 60% more food globally, and 100% more in developing countries. The world's freshwater resources cannot support this growth rate.⁹

Health and Human Rights

- ∞ **If every woman** in the United States had access to the most effective birth control possible, it could save as much as \$12 billion a year in health care costs.
- ∞ **If all 225 million women** in the developing world with an unmet need for modern contraception were to receive services, unintended pregnancies would drop, by 52 million per year (from 74 million to 22 million).
- ∞ **This reduction** in unintended pregnancies would lead to:
 - 21 million fewer unplanned births
 - 24 million fewer abortions (**unsafe** abortions would decline by 74%, from 20 million to 5.1 million);

¹ UNICEF

² World Bank

³ Population Connection

⁴ Guttmacher Institute

⁵ World Wildlife Fund

⁶ United Nations

⁷ Nature Journal

⁸ World Health Organization

⁹ United Nations

Learn more!
www.popconnect.org