

Springer Book Project (working title):

## **Africa's Population: Demographic Dividend or Social Time Bomb?**

Editors: Hans Groth & John F. May

### **Identified Literature Gap:**

The topic of the demographic dividend in sub-Saharan Africa (all of Africa except for Northern Africa) has become prominent in the last ten years as exemplified by the interest and efforts of several multilateral and bilateral agencies in this area. However, there is no recent and comprehensive volume on the issue of the demographic dividend in sub-Saharan Africa.

### **Project Overview:**

The question of the demographic dividend is at the heart of all discussions pertaining to the development of sub-Saharan Africa. Will the continent benefit from a demographic dividend or will it face a social time bomb? Ongoing changes in the age structure – a larger labor force with fewer dependents – do offer economic opportunities but present also dangers should governments be unable to fulfill the aspirations of the youth. In fact, the demographic dividend is not a given but must be earned through adequate and timely population as well as socioeconomic policies.

This volume analyzes the possibility for sub-Saharan Africa to reap the benefits of a demographic dividend and reviews and defines the various conditions that must be met. It is an edited volume containing completely new material and is expected to become a reference work.

First and foremost, the region will need to accelerate its demographic transition, in particular its fertility decline. Then the continent will need to foster human capital formation, through renewed efforts in the areas of education and health. This will entail a true vision and determination on the part of African leaders and their development partners. Socioeconomic development alone will not bring the needed demographic change. One will need also to intervene on the demographic evolutions. This can be achieved with some degree of efficiency, while abiding by the framework of the reproductive rights, which was designed at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo in September 1994.

### **Primary Targeted Audience:**

Population specialists, demographers, public health and international development professionals, development economists, policymakers, political leaders, think-tanks, research institutes, academic and national libraries, and philanthropists

## Secondary Targeted Audience:

Professors and students in these abovementioned fields, journalists, media professionals, and the general public

## Unique Selling Points

- Comprehensive volume on demographic dividend in sub-Saharan Africa
- Detailed review of demographic patterns and trends of all SSA countries
- Demographic patterns and trends and socioeconomic policies analyses
- Proposition of a strategic management tool to guide policymakers
- Unique blend of international and African authors with leading expertise and solid track record of publications

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- Foreword
- Introduction: Hans Groth & John F. May
- Africa's Population: Country & Regional Case Studies
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  - o The Biggest Country: Nigeria
  - o A Big Country on the Brink of Change: Ethiopia
  - o The Third Biggest Country: Democratic Republic of Congo
  - o A Case of Successful Demographic Transition: South Africa
  - o Countries with Fertility Transition Close to Completion (e.g., Cape Verde, Botswana, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, and Swaziland)
  - o Countries with Fertility Transition in Progress (e.g., Benin, Central African Republic, Djibouti, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Sierra Leone, Togo, and Zimbabwe)
  - o Countries with Slow and Irregular Fertility Transition (e.g., Angola, Cameroon, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, South Sudan (?), Sudan, and Tanzania)
  - o Countries with Very Slow or Incipient Fertility Transition (e.g., Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Mali, Niger, Somalia, Uganda, and Zambia)
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  - o What is the "Demographic Dividend"?
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  - o Education, Skills & Jobs

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  - The Role of Natural Resources
  - Food and Water Security & Climate Change
- Assembling Africa's Jigsaw
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  - The Need for a Demographic Risk Indicator
  - The Roles of Governments & International Community
  - Violence, Conflicts & Manmade Disasters
- Africa's Population: Demographic Dividend or Social Time Bomb?
- Statistical Appendices