

2024 Year in Review

Communications

Earned Media



- media placements
 - Earth.org op-ed for World Population Day
 - Ms. op-ed for World Contraception Day
 - 2 NYT letters to the editor (LTE)
 - January 2024
 - October 2024
 - Guardian LTE
 - Washington Post LTE
 - Daily Kos article referenced Population Connection
- podcasts
 - Birdhugger
 - Overpopulation Podcast
- unpublished submissions
 - 11 letters to the editor on blog, begin with Re:
 - several op-eds repurposed as blog posts
- members' media hits
 - let us know when you get published!
 - use our media guide if you need starting talking points
 - selected facts and figures to considering incorporating

Blog

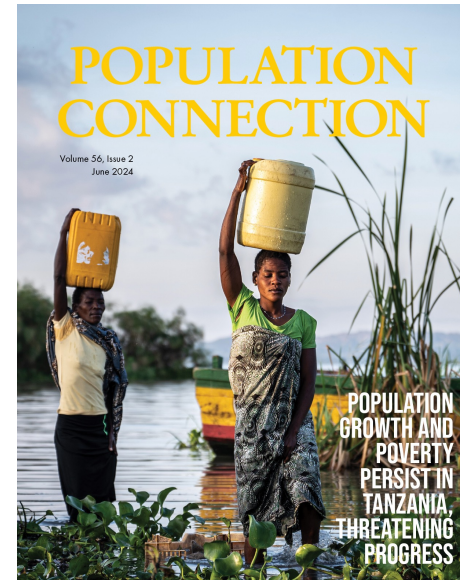


- 22 blog posts in 2024
- example topics covered:
 - "baby bust"
 - migratory species
 - international family planning funding
 - our food footprint
 - biodiversity loss
 - desertification
 - new UN population projections
 - COP29 climate conference

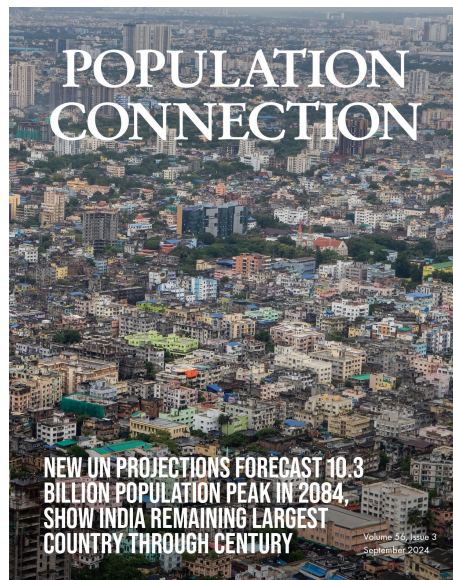
Quarterly Magazine



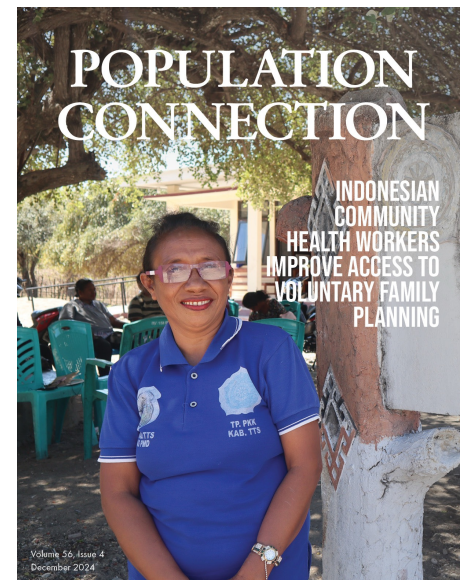
March 2024



June 2024



September 2024



December 2024

Updated Info Brief



Human Impacts on the Environment: A Focus on Climate Change

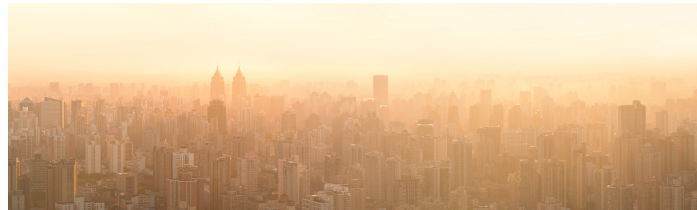


Earth's complex natural systems sustain all life. Biodiverse terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems also support human livelihoods and well-being.

When human numbers were small, our impact on the environment was local. However, as the global population has expanded and technologies have evolved, pressure on nature has increased. Growing populations have converted forests and wetlands into farms and settlements. Human activities are driving large scale changes in terrestrial and aquatic environments through pollution, water withdrawals, the hunting and harvesting of organisms, and the movement of invasive species around the globe [1]. The sustained overuse of natural resources has caused unprecedented levels of environmental destruction, including the loss of ecosystems and biodiversity [2].

One overarching result of human overreach is climate change. Greenhouse gases emitted from land use, industry, and the escalating use of fossil fuels are elevating Earth's temperature faster than at any point since the dawn of civilization [3]. This warming is altering Earth's capacity to supply food and fresh water and to sustain human health and well-being [4]. Climate impacts such as weather extremes and wildfires are hitting harder and sooner than scientists anticipated even 10 years ago [4].

While the global population is projected to grow substantially over coming decades, ecosystem degradation and climate change threaten human prospects. Limiting the impacts requires shrinking humanity's environmental footprint with a global shift toward renewable energy sources, sustainable land use practices, and responsible consumption patterns. Underlying this shift is the need to account for human populations responsibly by ensuring that family planning information and services are available to all who desire them.



In Shanghai, a city of over 27 million people, pollution and haze cover the cityscape at sunset. Adobe Photos

HUMANITY'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

While it is impossible to put a price tag on a healthy planet, economists calculate that the value of the services provided each year by well-functioning terrestrial ecosystems is at least equivalent to the annual global gross domestic product (GDP) [5]. Thriving ecosystems produce oxygen, purify water, protect from storms, provide food, and regulate the climate.

Yet humanity has an extensive history of using Earth's life-sustaining natural resources unsustainably. The aggregate

human demands on resources have exceeded the Earth's regenerative capacity since the 1970s. The Global Footprint Network notes that "more than 80% of the world's population lives in countries that are running ecological deficits, using more resources than what their ecosystems can regenerate," by "overfishing, over-harvesting forests, and emitting more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere than forests can sequester" [6]. The organization tallies that it takes a year for Earth to rebuild the resources people use in just seven months [7].

[View full info brief](#)
[More in the series here](#)

College Presentations



124 presentations to college and university classes in 2024!

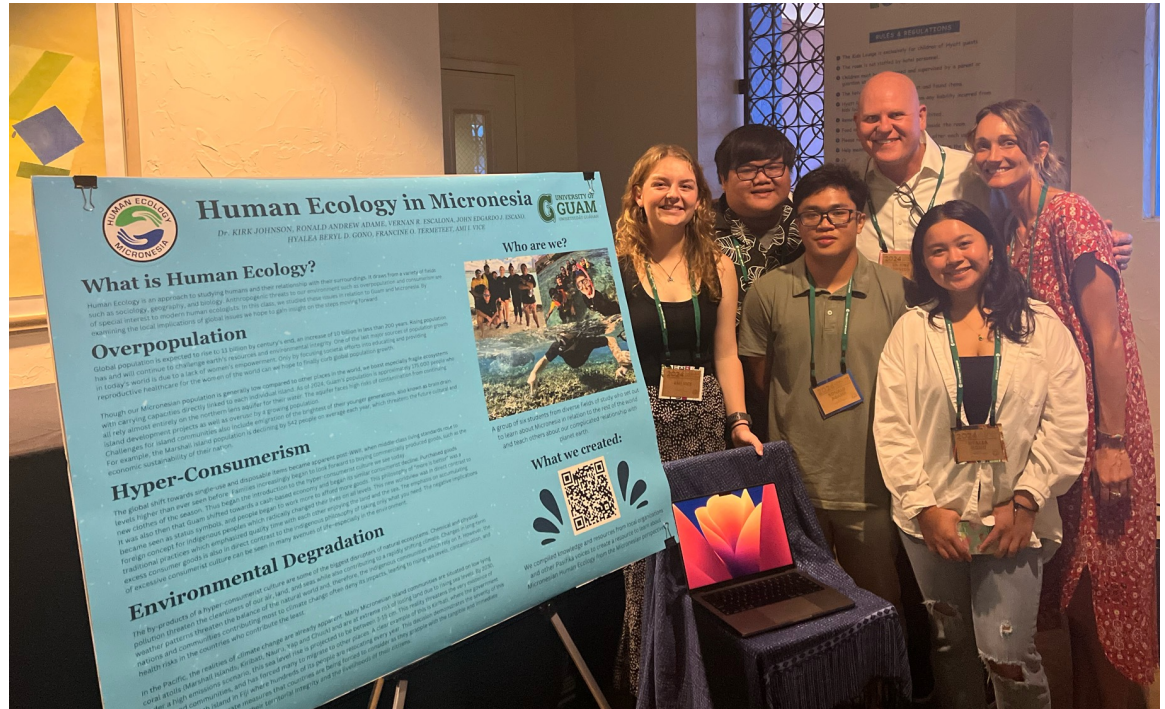
“She is clearly extremely knowledgeable about the topic and was very comprehensive. I thought it was easy to follow along with the presentation and she included a lot of helpful graphics and statistics.”

– Hannah Y.



Recent presentation at Palomar College near San Diego

2024 Conference on Island Sustainability



Students at the University of Guam, Hannah at right

UNCG Summer Course



- “World Population Problems”
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro
 - open to students at all UNC schools
- five-week virtual summer course for 15 students, plus a professor sitting in
- student testimonial:
 - “I really enjoyed the way the class was conducted. There was an underlying sense of openness, optimism, and support which made the class very productive and inspiring for me. Professor Evans was amazing and is truly one of the best professors I've ever had. I feel so honored to have met so many amazing professionals in the field through guest lectures which have given me a lot to think about when it comes to potential careers in the future.”

– Olivia K.

Global Partners



Organization	Country
<u>African Education Program</u>	Zambia
<u>Awakening Horn for Inclusive Rural Development</u>	Tanzania
<u>Conservation Through Public Health</u>	Uganda
<u>Girl Up Initiative Uganda</u>	Uganda
<u>Hope for Kenya Slum Adolescents Initiative</u>	Kenya
<u>Ipas Indonesia</u>	Indonesia
<u>Kakenya's Dream</u>	Kenya
<u>Lemur Love</u>	Madagascar
<u>Maasai Harmonial</u>	Kenya
<u>Manos Abiertas</u>	Guatemala
<u>Maya Health Alliance</u>	Guatemala
<u>Nasaruni Academy for Maasai Girls</u>	Kenya
<u>Nashipai</u>	Kenya
<u>Rural Women's Development and Unity Center</u>	Nepal
<u>Stretchers Youth Organization</u>	Kenya
<u>Seeds for a Future</u>	Guatemala
<u>Tareto Africa</u>	Kenya
<u>Turimiquire Foundation</u>	Venezuela
<u>WINGS</u>	Guatemala
<u>Women for Conservation</u>	Colombia

World Population Day Presentation



- World Population Day (July 11) Presentation:
 - discussed new UN World Population Prospects
 - slides and recording of presentation available here
 - Population Connection outreach activities mentioned on UN Population Division webpage

Fertility Desires and Outcomes Research



- Lake Research Partners
- five focus groups
 - Gen X, Millennial, and Gen Z
 - separate groups for men and women
- survey of 1,400+ adults
 - all ages
 - questions about desired number of children, actual number of children, reasons numbers might be different
- pitching to journalists who have written about low birth rates in the U.S.

United Nations

Participation in conferences and publications



ECOSOC Special Consultative Status



- Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- NGOs can apply for consultative status to join UN deliberations
- Population Connection status approved in 2016; must renew every four years

2024 Commission on Population and Development (CPD57)



- virtual side event
 - Population, Health, and Environment: The importance of drawing PHE links to close funding gaps
 - speakers: Dr. Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka and Dr. Karen Hardee
 - co-hosted with Population Matters (PM) and Population Media Center (PMC)
 - flyer and description included in official conference program
 - 150 attendees
- oral statement
 - written by three organizations and delivered in person by PM board member

2025 Commission on Population and Development (CPD58)



- joint written statement with PM and PMC submitted in late November
- planning to attend in person in NYC in April 2025

Summit of the Future & Pact for the Future



- joint oral statements with PM and PMC
 - virtual consultation re Summit in May
 - response to second revision of Pact in July
- fact sheet
 - distributed joint fact sheet at Summit in September
- final Pact for the Future includes:
 - *Commitment 20: Strengthen cooperation among States in their response to demographic trends and realities, such as rapid population growth, declining birth rates, and ageing populations, as well as in addressing the interlinkages between population issues and development across all regions, taking into account the needs and interests of present and future generations, including children and youth, and the substantial contributions of older persons to sustainable development efforts.*

2025 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69)



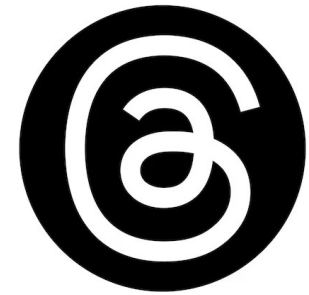
- submitted joint written statement in October, with PM and PMC
- for 69th session in March 2025

IPBES Assessment



- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- Second Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
 - submitted comments to the scoping report in June
 - report scheduled for release in 2028
 - first assessment published in 2019

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