



Wittgenstein Centre
FOR DEMOGRAPHY AND
GLOBAL HUMAN CAPITAL



Workshop on the likely future developments of fertility in low-fertility countries

Vienna, Austria

December 2, 2011

Venue: Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU)

Address: Nordbergstraße 15, seminar room: SR A619/A620

List of Participants

1. Alicia Adsera, Princeton University (USA)
2. Margareth Arilha, University of Campinas in Sao Paulo (Brazil)
3. Bilal Barakat, IIASA, Vienna Institute of Demography (Austria)
4. Jan van Bavel, University of Leuven (Belgium)
5. Francesco C Billari, Bocconi University Milan (Italy)
6. William Butz, IIASA, Vienna Institute of Demography (Austria)
7. Minja Kim Choe, East West Center, Hawaii (USA)
8. Joshua R Goldstein, MPIDR, Rostock (Germany)
9. James Sebastian Kuriath, Institute for Social and Economic Change (India)
10. Leiwen Jiang, National Center for Atmospheric Research (USA)
11. Samir KC, IIASA (Austria)
12. Tomáš Kučera, Charles University, Prague (Czech Republic)
13. Wolfgang Lutz, IIASA, Vienna Institute of Demography, Vienna University of Economics and Business (Austria)
14. Mikko Myrskylä, MPIDR, Rostock (Germany)
15. Elsie Pamuk, IIASA (Austria)
16. Dimiter Philipov, Vienna Institute of Demography (Austria)
17. Anna Rotkirch, Population Research Institute, Helsinki (Finland)
18. Warren C Sanderson, SUNY Stony Brook (USA)
19. Vegard Skirbekk, IIASA (Austria)
20. Olivier Thévenon, INED and OECD Paris (France)
21. Kryštof Zeman, Vienna Institute of Demography (Austria)

Academic organisers

22. Tomáš Sobotka, Vienna Institute of Demography (Austria)
23. Stuart Basten, Oxford University (UK)

Administrative organiser

24. Suchitra Subramanian, IIASA (Austria)

Program

8:45 Coffee

9:00 welcome, introduction of experts

9:15 IIASA-Oxford science-based projections: Introduction of the project and main objectives of workshop (Wolfgang Lutz)

Low fertility module: Presentation of key results (Tomas Sobotka and Stuart Basten)

10:30 Coffee Break

10:45 Experts' presentations: Responses to the pre-circulated questions or views on the future of fertility (**5 minutes per expert – see below**)

12:00 Discussion on alternative scenarios of future fertility trends: storylines for larger regions (4 break-out groups)

12:45 Lunch

13:30 Outcomes of break-out group discussions: storylines by main regions

14:00 Discussion of main outcomes by country (major low-fertility countries will be covered)

Factors relating to the future of fertility

Numerical projections of fertility in 2030 and 2050

Pathways to projected fertility: linear or otherwise; tempo effect, economic recession

Future relationship between education and fertility

(Coffee break at 15:30)

17:15 Long-term future until 2100: Sub-replacement fertility? Convergence? Major factors and suggested TFR ranges.

(Chaired by Warren Sanderson)

18:15 closing discussion: Agreements & unresolved issues.

18:30 *Finish*

19:30 Dinner (Restaurant: Die Serviette, Servitengasse 4)

Pre-prepared questions

The experts will be asked to prepare answers to the following questions to present in the morning session (each presentation should be **very brief**, maximum 5 minutes long). These may either be addressed in turn or as part of a general presentation (The experts will also be asked to provide a brief written summary of their answers).

Core questions:

1. What is the most important factor that will determine fertility in the next four decades in your region? Are there any other key region-specific factors you would like to emphasize?
2. Will the negative education gradient in fertility among women diminish or reverse in the future?
3. What is the most common future family size globally: two? One? Zero? Three?

Experts' choice: Complementary questions that may be addressed

4. What is a likely long-term future through 2100? Below-replacement fertility? Global convergence?
5. Is there a particular theory or framework pertaining to the likely future of fertility that should receive more prominence?
6. Should we explicitly consider tempo effects in fertility projections?

Alternatively, the experts can prepare a short (5 min.) presentation on one key issue of their choice that will, in their view, determine the future of fertility in low fertility countries or that is of paramount importance for fertility projection-making.

Countries and country divisions used in the analyses

Countries to be discussed during the afternoon program of the seminar

- China
- United States (with added info on Canada)
- Japan
- Brazil (with added info on Mexico)
- Iran (with added info on Turkey)
- Italy (with added info on Spain)
- Germany
- Russia (with added info on Ukraine)
- United Kingdom
- Sweden

Regional groupings used in the analyses (smaller regions)

North America

Latin America (including Central America)

East Asia (China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan)

West Asia (Iran + Turkey; also titled “Middle east”)

Western Europe

Nordic countries

Southern Europe

“German-speaking countries” (Austria, Germany, Switzerland)

Central Europe (Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Baltic countries)

Eastern Europe (including Russia and South-eastern Europe)

Large regions discussed in the break-out groups during the morning program of the seminar (4 regions, with some low-fertility regions including Latin America not represented)

- North America (US + Canada) + Australia + New Zealand
- East Asia, broadly defined (China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Thailand)
- North-western Europe, including Nordic countries and Germany (regions 5, 6, and 8)
- Southern and Central-Eastern Europe (regions 7, 9, and 10)

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