The Demographic Dividend and Sustainable Development

The U.S. Agency for International Development,
The Aspen Institute’s Global Leaders Council for Reproductive Health, and
The Center for Environment and Population (CEP)

Invite you to a side event of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at the U.S. Center
Athletes’ Park, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Thursday, June 21, 3:30 – 5:00 pm (GMT-3)

This event will be webcast live at http://ustream.tv/conx

Featuring:

Donald Steinberg, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development
Eliya Msiyaphazi Zulu, Executive Director, African Institute for Development Policy
Cassio M. Turra, Associate Professor of Demography, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais
Carmen Barroso, Regional Director, International Planned Parenthood Federation/Western Hemisphere Region
Peggy Clark (moderator), Vice President of Policy Programs and Executive Director of Aspen Global Health and Development, Aspen Institute

The demographic dividend is an opportunity that arises when a country transitions from high to low rates of fertility and child and infant mortality. This transition creates a generation that is significantly larger than the generations immediately preceding and following it. As this cohort enters working age, they have the ability to enter into productive economic activities and invest savings at relatively high rates, thus spurrying heightened economic growth.

However, in order to reap a potential demographic dividend, countries must accelerate reductions in child mortality, increase access to family planning, ensure strong education, especially of girls and women, and institute sound fiscal and labor policies to create the conditions in which working-age citizens can enter a productive workforce. Lessons from the experiences in East Asia and Latin America should inform the decisions of policy-makers in sub-Saharan Africa. This panel will highlight such lessons.

Be part of the conversation on sustainable development! U.S. Center programs will be accessible worldwide by CO.NX, the digital diplomacy team within the Bureau of International Information Programs (IIP) at the U.S. Department of State. Global audiences can watch U.S. Center events by going to http://ustream.tv/conx. Sign into the social stream with your Facebook or Twitter account to submit your questions and comments. For live updates during the panel, follow @USAIDGH on Twitter and use the hashtag #RioPlus20 and #WomenRio.