

Asian MetaCentre
for Population and Sustainable
Development Analysis,
Asia Research Institute,
National University of Singapore

**The Changing Family
in Asia,**
Asia Research Institute,
National University of Singapore

Cordially invite you to a Public Seminar on

Demographic Instability and Development

By Professor Ian Pool
University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand

Date : **Tuesday, 4 July 2006**

Time : **4.00 pm to 5.30 pm**

Venue : **ARI Seminar Room**
Asia Research Institute,
National University of Singapore
5 Arts Link, AS7,
Shaw Foundation Building, 04-09,
Singapore 117570

Chairperson : **Prof Gavin Jones**
Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore

Synopsis

In the period following the publication of the UN Population Division's first projections, the international community focused on issues of rapid national population growth. But from the 1970s the world started to become demographically more turbulent: fertility and growth levels dropped, producing major mutations in age-structures, population waves as they are called (disordered cohort flows if several waves, and their attendant troughs, follow in irregular

succession); levels of cross-border migration seem to have increased dramatically as has urbanisation, causing distortions in the distribution of populations; and there is the spectre of HIV/AIDS, with severe consequences for the age-distribution at working and childhood ages, hanging over many parts of the world. The Cairo Population Conference confounded the issues by concentrating on reproductive choice and the empowerment of women (both of them important issues in their own right), and by paying disproportionate attention to ageing, at the expense of other aspects of age-structural transitions that are far more pressing.

This paper takes up only one aspect of demographic instability coming from redistribution: age structural transitions (ASTs), of which structural ageing is merely the end-product. Drawing on work of an IUSSP Committee, a RAND-Corporation study, and the CICRED-book launched today, this paper will discuss recent research on this issue and the different paradigms that have emerged, including the seminal work of Jean-Claude Chesnais on the links between the classical demographic transition and age-structural transitions. It will then review the effects of ASTs, and examine the policy implications.

About the Speaker

Ian Pool, PhD (ANU), FRSNZ, Hon. Scientific Consultant, CICRED, formerly member of panel on Scientific Capacities, International Council of Sciences (Paris). He has published a large number of books, monographs and scientific papers particularly on Africa and New Zealand, and on general demographic issues. Recently, he has co-edited two books on age-structural transitions (Tuljapurkar, Pool and Prachuabmoh, eds, *Riding the Age-Waves: Population Resources and Development*, Springer, Dordrecht, 2005, for the IUSSP; Pool, Rodriguez Wong and Vilquin, eds, *Age-Structural transitions: Challenges for Development*, CICRED, Paris, 2006), and authored/co-authored a number of chapters in them. He has a paper in a study just published by UNFPA (edited by John Hobcraft and drawn from a plenary session at the IUSSP Conference, Tours 2005), and in other books being edited at present. He has a co-authored book forthcoming, Pool, Dharmalingam and Sceats, *The New Zealand Family 1840-2005: A Demographic History*, and is presenting papers based on this book to the European population Conference, and for the Annual Borrie Lecture, Australian Population Association.

Please note that the seminar will be followed by a book launch of the CICRED publication *Age-structural Transitions: Challenge for Development*.

Admission and Enquiries

Admission to the seminar is free of charge and is open to the public on a first come-first-serve basis. For enquiries, please contact:

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ALL ARE WELCOME