

# Pro-family Policies in the OIC

*Putting the Progeny Back in the Bottle*



*A pressing need to ... move from traditional family planning approaches to comprehensive family promotion frameworks.*

# Overview

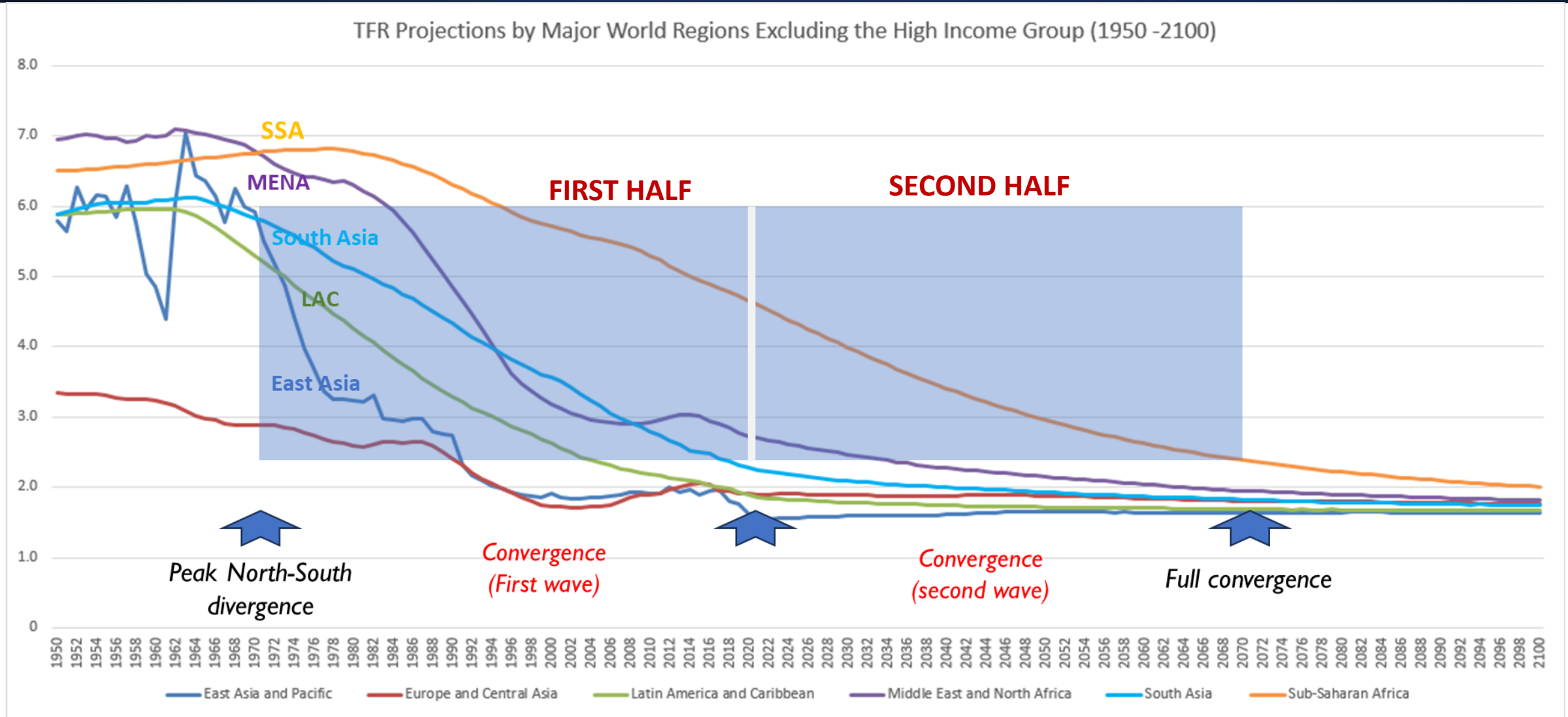
- 1. Why the need ?**  
[A new demographic world]
- 2. Why the Need?**  
Inadequacy of past fertility theories
- 3. New theories :**  
From Family-Planning to Promoting Families



# Why the Need?

**A New Demographic World**

# Staggered Fertility Transitions

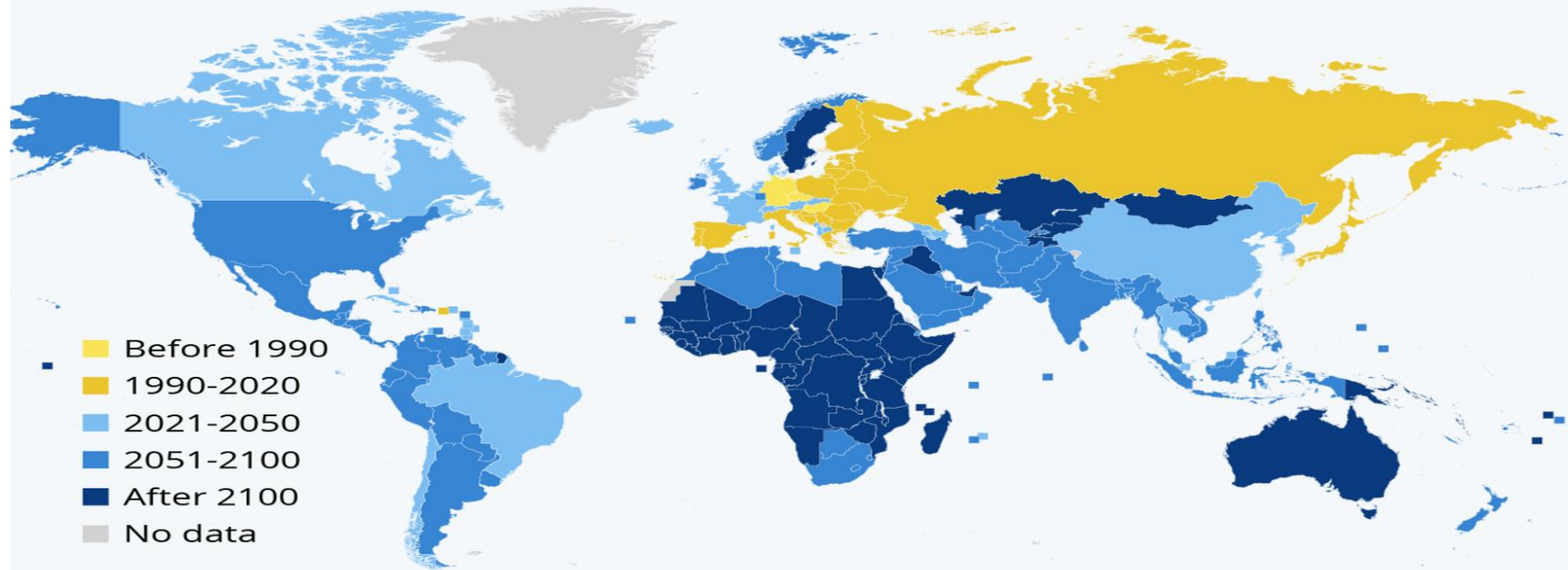


# The End of Population Growth

- Been very effective and perhaps overshoot. Now it may be time to put some of the genie back in the bottle
- The rates at which populations are declining suggest a very slow decline that should not yet be cause for alarm
- But it may also be useful to think pro-actively and consider options if these trends accelerate

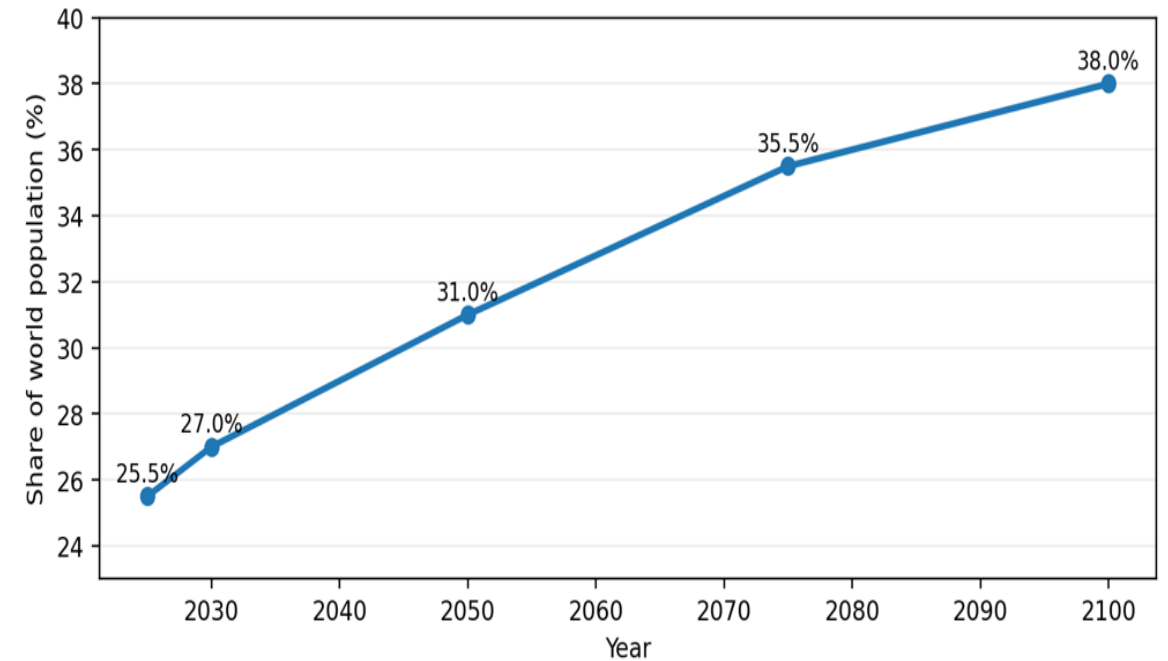
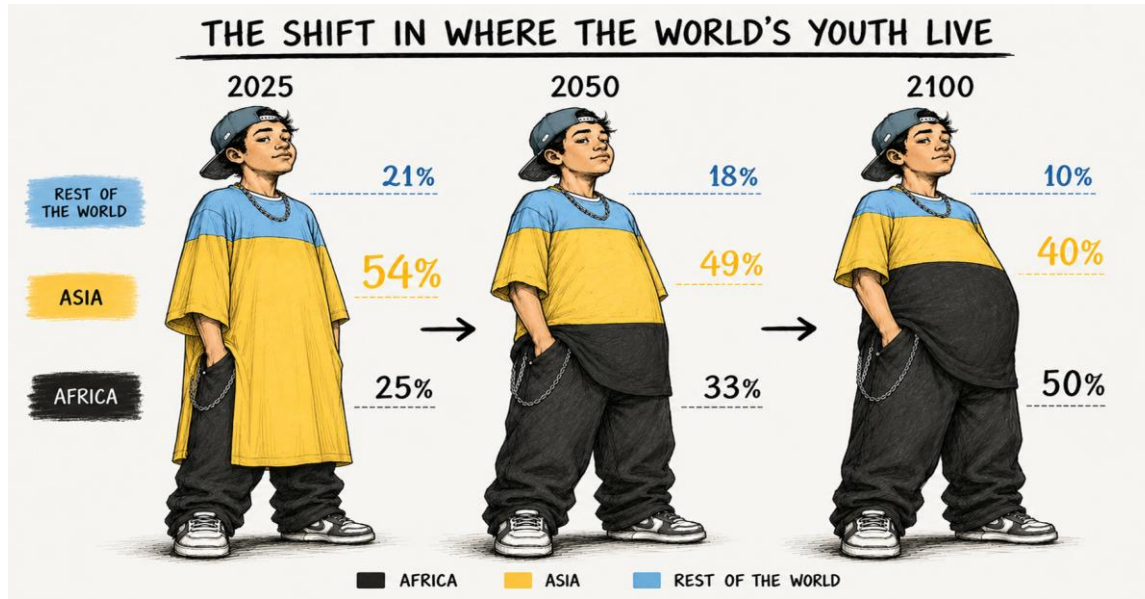
## The End of Natural Population Growth?

Year in which deaths started to outnumber/are expected to outnumber births, by country



Source: Federal Institute for Population Research Germany





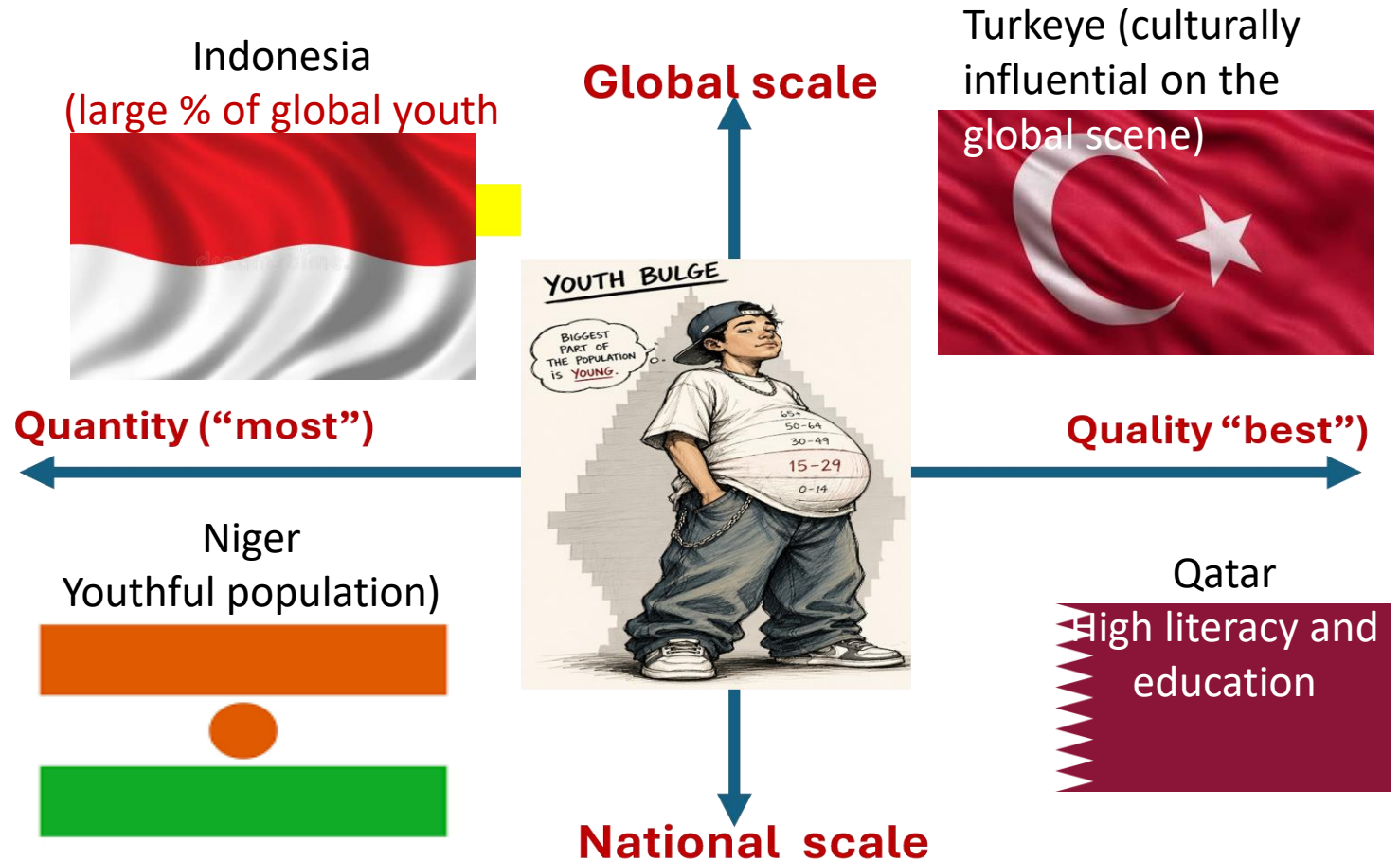
*OIC's increased share of global population*

- The OIC' share of world population will increase **from 25% to 38%** by the turn of the century
- In Asia and Africa, where the vast majority of OIC members are located, the share of global youth will increase **from 25% today to 50%** by the turn of the century

# Potential for OIC emergence

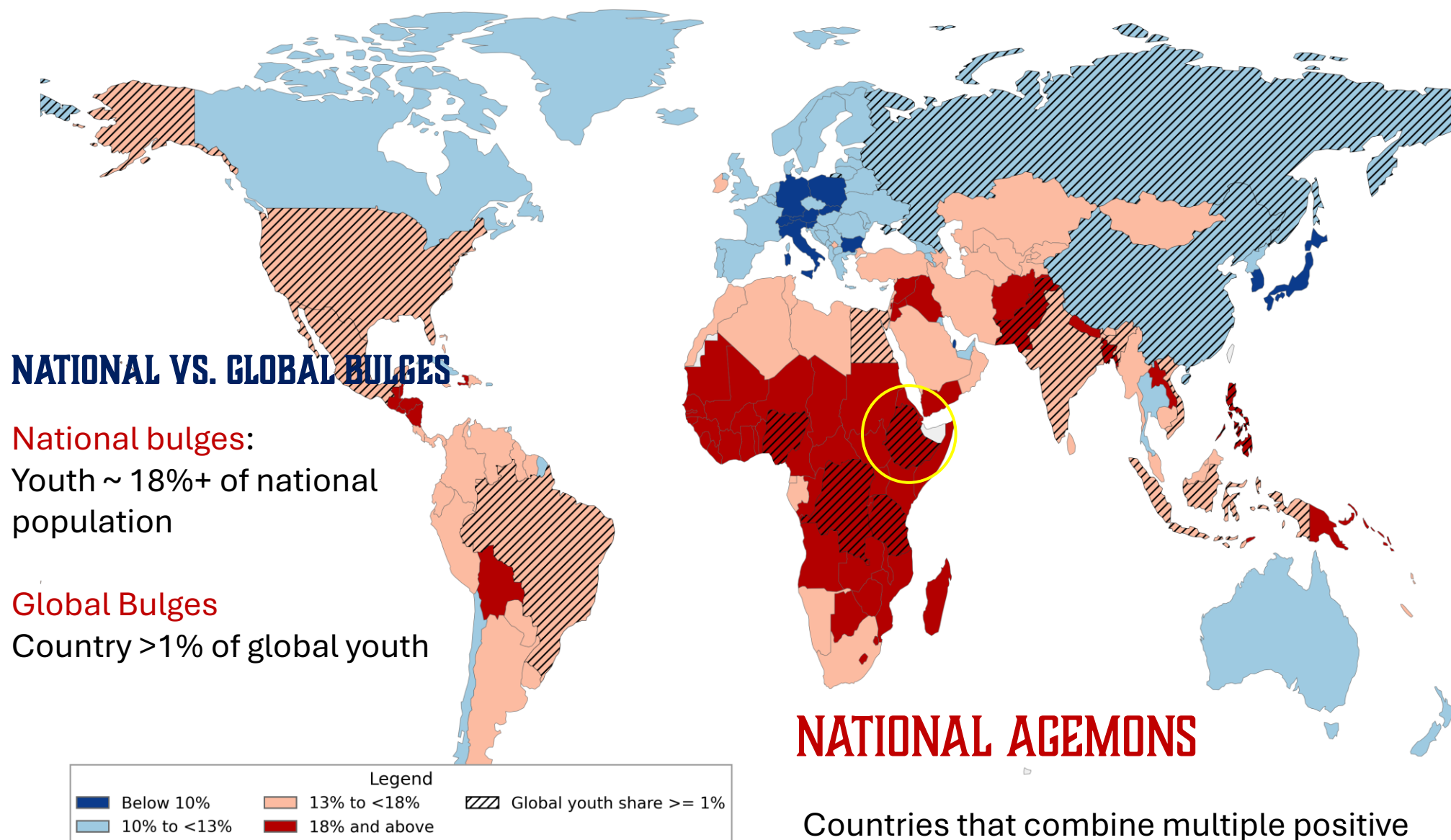
*Countries that will dominate the future are those with the “most” and “best” youth of today*

→ *Attention to managing current youth bulges and maintaining demographic reproduction*



# Youth Population Structure and Global Weight, 2024

Country shading shows the share of each country's population aged 15-24. Diagonal hatching marks countries that account for at least 1% of the world's youth population.

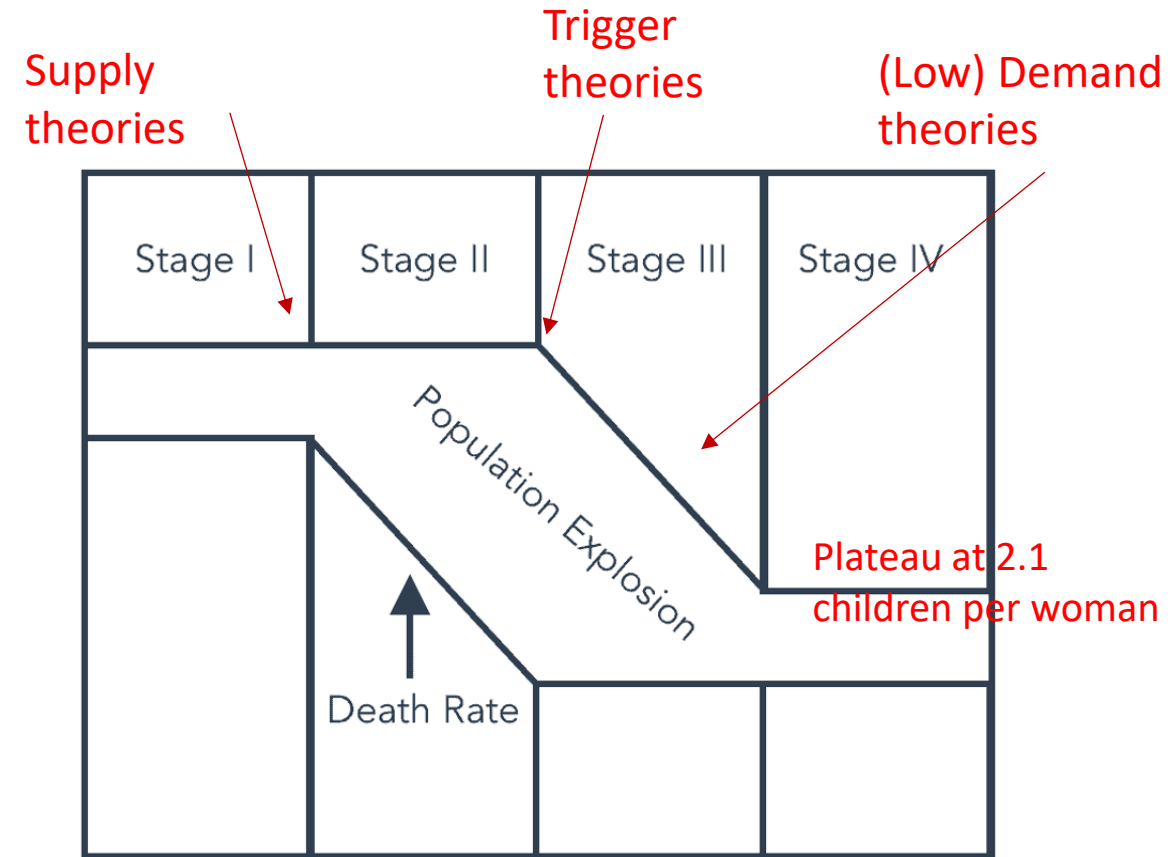


# Why the Need?

**Inadequacy of Past Theories**

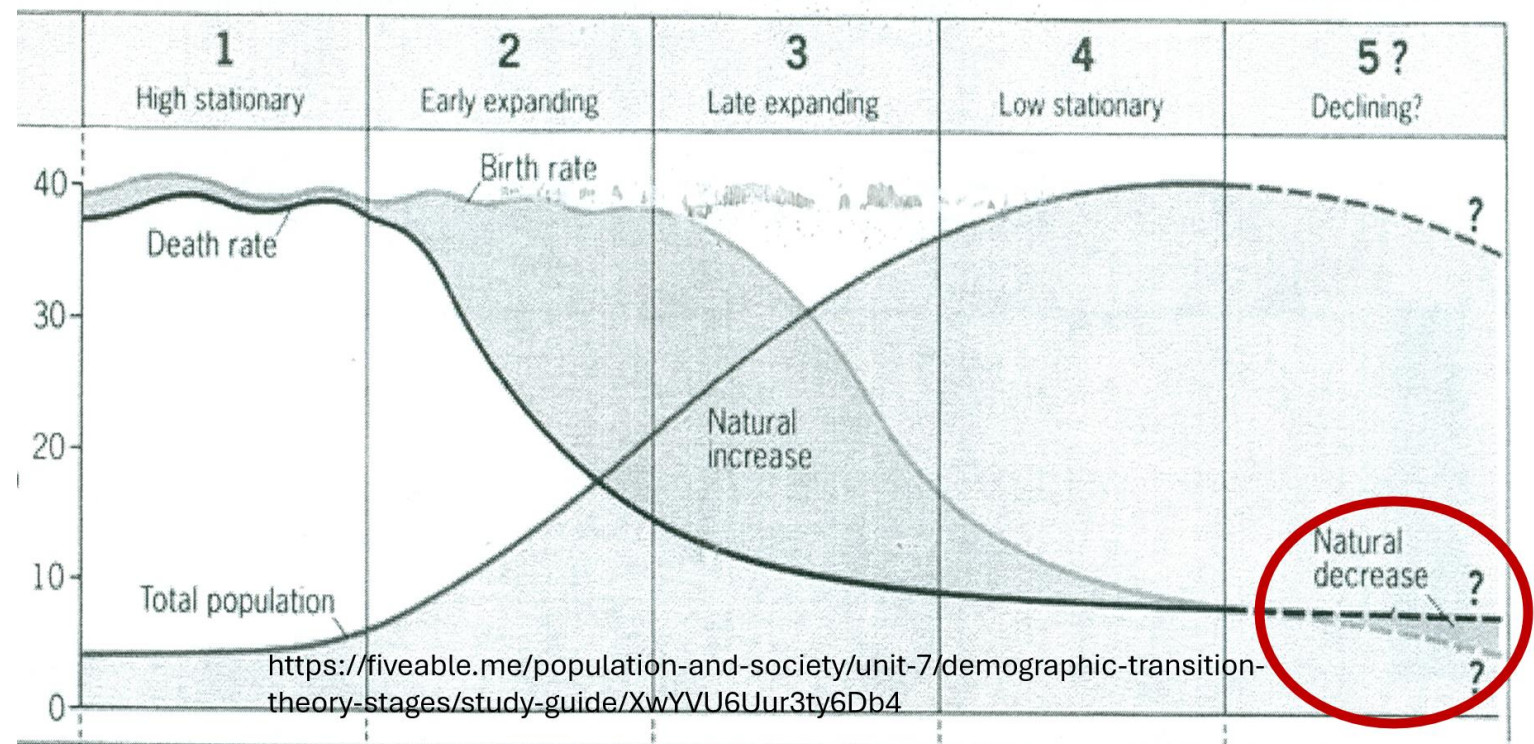
# Theories of Fertility Decline

- Past fertility theory is about decline, and transition from high to low fertility
- Stalls, and reversals are anomalies
- Implicit assumption that fertility stabilizes at “low” level but .....
- ..... below-reproduction and fertility promotion rarely considered



<https://www.intelligenteconomist.com/demographic-transition-model/>

# No Pro-natalist theory



- Few theories to address below-reproduction fertility
- The development gains that fostered fertility gains can't be reversed
- Immigration is not a long-term fix
- Need to explore new levers for promoting families and fertility

# From Family Planning to Planning Families

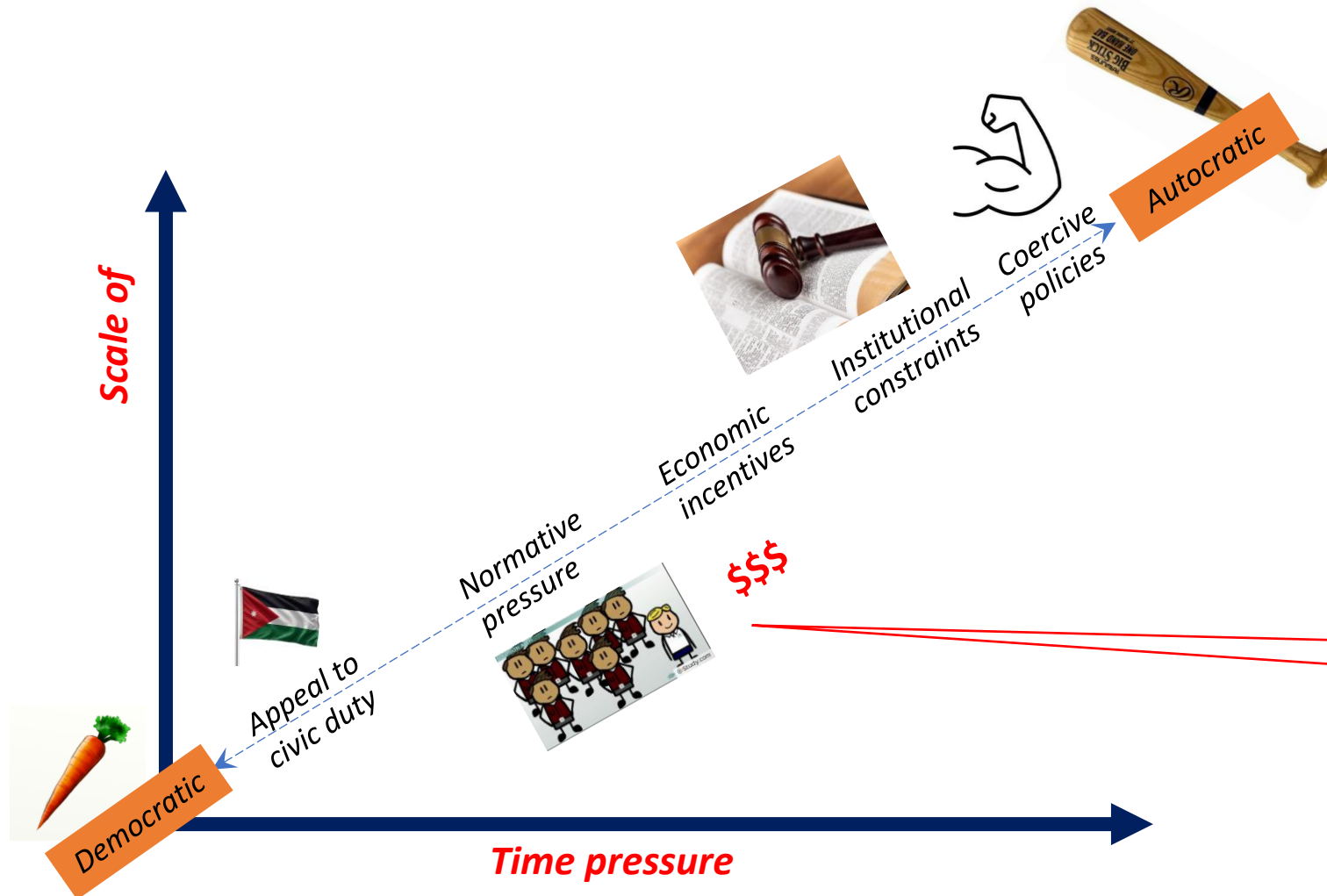
**Pro-natalist theories**

# *Need for Pro-Family Policies*

1. *A range of potential incentives*
2. *But focus on economic and normative levers*
3. *Focus on adolescents and young adults*
4. *Focused on Planning families not family planning*



# A Range of Potential Incentives



- A wide of possible incentives, BUT
- The leftmost may be ineffective
- The rightmost may be abusive
- The sweet spot is in the middle-ground incentives (normative pressure & economic incentives)

# Focus on Adolescents and Young Adults

## (Investing in the “Greatest” Generation)

### POLITICO-DEMOGRAPHIC RATIONALE

#### Demographic weight

57% of people of reproductive age and 66% of national fertility

#### Immediate Response

Age when many youth make crucial choices about education, reproductive life, mobility, employment, consumption,

#### A Turning Point

Well-supervised youth → demographic dividend;  
Poorly supervised → risk of socio-political instability and long-term stagnation

Youth aged 15 to 29



### ECONOMIC RATIONALE

#### Multiple Benefits

Economic, social and demographic repercussions

#### Long-lasting effects

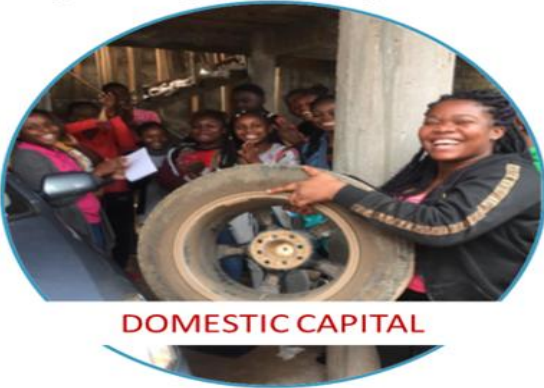
Effects to be felt throughout the rest of life (~40 years) and beyond.

#### Ripple effects

The supervision and employment of young people can be directed towards improving services to other social strata

# Enlarging the Scope of Human Capital

First aid, cooking, home repairs,  
parenting, relationships



**DOMESTIC CAPITAL**

Family and community-based  
networks.....

Complementary skills,  
professional dvpt, interning

General knowledge

Concerted cultivation,  
agency, ambition, life  
planning skills

School-based networks

Job-specific skills

Literacy, numeracy, ....

Civics

**Social**

**Work**

**Academic**

**Personal/  
Cultural**

NON-SCHOOL-BASED

SCHOOL-BASED



**PICHNET**

*Four Forms of Capital*



**ECONOMIC CAPITAL**

Job-related skills  
(Computers,  
communication)



**PERSONAL CAPITAL**

(goal setting, self-awareness, health, ... )

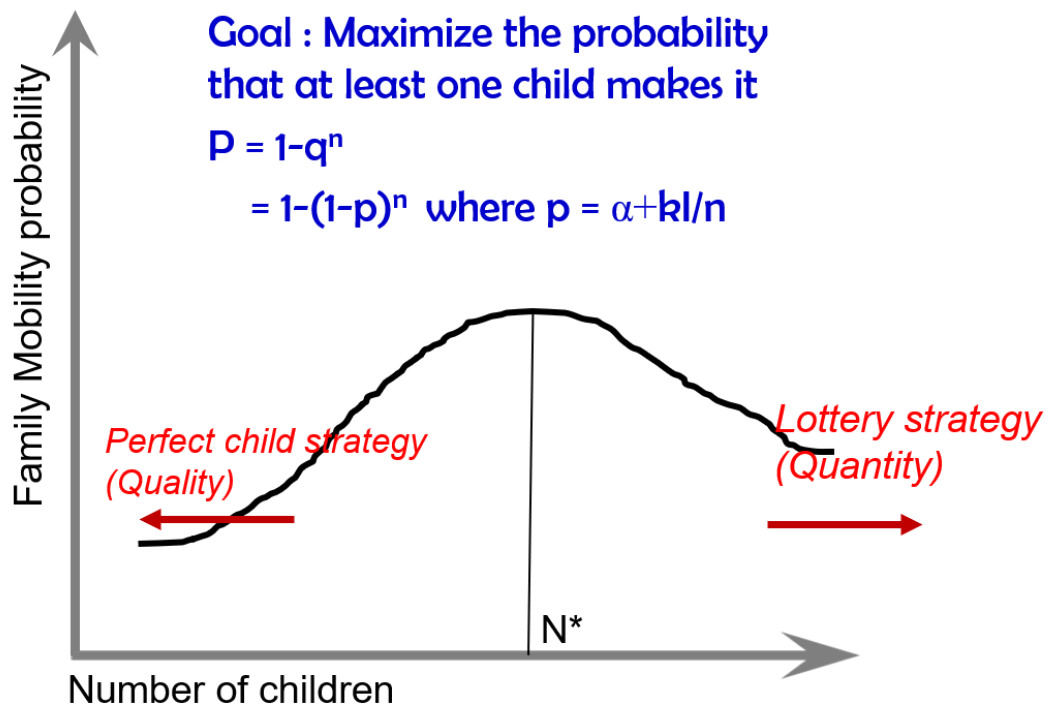
networking, fundraising,  
community service



**SOCIAL CAPITAL**

# Moving from Family planning to the Promotion of Families and Lineage

## A Family Resilience Thesis



Source Eloundou-Enyegue (1997)

- **Fertility goal** ~ maximize reproductive success, i.e. the likelihood that at least one child succeeds, supports parents in old-age and passes their genes onto the next generation.

### Cultural incentives

- Promotion of marriage
- Respect for the elderly
- Family solidarity

### Economic incentives

- Job creation for youth

# Promoting an Integrated Transition to Adulthood



*Creating secure pipelines for synchronous transition to adulthood*

*Integrate all four dimensions of this transition*

- **Economic** (school to work)
- **Social** (dependent to support & citizen)
- **Cultural** (child to adult social)
- **Demographic** (single to parent)

*Thank you!*