

DEALING WITH POPULATION GROWTH AND OVERPOPULATION

When dealing with population growth and overpopulation, there is need to either increase the carrying capacity of the habitat or reduce the stress of a population on it.

1. Expand the resource base (carrying capacity):

- a) Use of technology (existing and/or new)
- b) Creation of artificial environments
- c) New discoveries

2. Emigration

- a) Encourage movement away
- b) Discourage in-migration
- c) Relocate people (transmigration)

3. Economic Change (demographic transition model)

- a) Shift from agrarian to industrial
- b) Shift from rural to urban (*may have a negative impact as urbanized areas cover farmland, thus reducing food production*)
- c) Use of technology

4. Education

- a) Reasoning
- b) Ability to read and follow instructions
- c) Training in the use of technology
- c) Changing attitudes and philosophies of people regarding family size

5. Natural Population Controls (*involves ethical and moral issues: helping borderline areas, providing relief aid for seasonal hunger and outbreaks of diseases, preventing the competition for land, raising standards of living, etc.*)

- a) Famine
- b) Disease
- c) War
- d) Poverty