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ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND SECURITY PROJECT

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Environmental Change and Security Project

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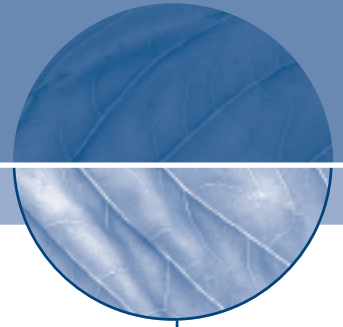
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environmental change & security project

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND SECURITY PROJECT



Since 1994, the Environmental Change and Security Project (ECSP) has explored the relationships among environment, population, disease, economic development, migration, political stability, and violent conflict. ECSP brings international policymakers, practitioners, and scholars to Washington, D.C., to address the public and fellow experts on environmental and human security. The project distributes two annual journals, the *Environmental Change and Security Project Report* and the *China Environment Series*, along with a biannual newsletter and original research, to over 7,000 people around the world. *ECSP News*, a monthly e-mail newsletter, links 3,000 subscribers to news, meeting summaries, and event announcements on the project's comprehensive website, <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/ecsp>. ECSP is directed by Geoffrey D. Dabelko and is housed in the Woodrow Wilson Center's Division of International Studies, headed by Robert S. Litwak.

ECSP's core activities are made possible by the generous support of the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Population and Reproductive Health through a cooperative agreement with the University of Michigan's Population Fellows Programs.

ECSP and its China Environment Forum also receive support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Japan Foundation's Center for Global Partnership, Shell (China) Limited, Tamaki Foundation, the United Nations Environment Programme, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars is the living, national memorial to President Wilson established by Congress in 1968 and headquartered in Washington, D.C. It is a nonpartisan institution, supported by public and private funds, engaged in the study of national and world affairs. The Wilson Center establishes and maintains a neutral forum for free, open, and informed dialogue. The Center commemorates the ideals and concerns of Woodrow Wilson by: providing a link between the world of ideas and the world of policy; and fostering research, study, discussion, and collaboration among a full spectrum of individuals concerned with policy and scholarship in national and world affairs. The Center is directed by the Honorable Lee H. Hamilton, and its Board of Directors is chaired by the Honorable Joseph B. Gildenhorn.

Submissions and Correspondence

The *Environmental Change and Security Project Report* is sent annually free of charge throughout the world. Contact ECSP at the address below to be placed on the mailing list or for instructions regarding the submission of articles.

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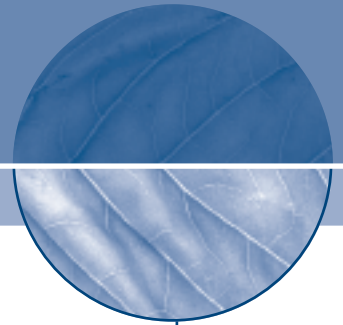
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FOREWORD



**GEOFFREY D.
DABELKO**

Editor

“Environmental security is the disarmament policy of the future.” Klaus Toepfer, the executive director of the UN Environment Programme, chose the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Environmental Change and Security Project (ECSP) to deliver this message. Why? Because he believes it is the “leading institute for environmental security in the United States.” Since its founding in 1994, ECSP has explored the relationships among environment, population, disease, economic development, migration, political stability, and violent conflict. Over the last 10 years, more than 250 ECSP meetings have drawn academics, policymakers, and practitioners to the Woodrow Wilson Center to welcome luminaries such as Gro Harlem Brundtland, Warren Christopher, Jane Goodall, Mikhail Gorbachev, Jeffrey Sachs, and General Anthony Zinni. The *ECSP Report’s* nine issues, distributed to 7,000 people around the world annually, have shattered the disciplinary boundaries separating environment, population, and security. This 10th anniversary issue celebrates ECSP’s legacy and looks forward to the new challenges facing this exciting field.

The *ECSP Report*, the only forum dedicated to showcasing environmental security, has transformed concepts of conflict and peace. In its pages, leading scholars have debated theoretical underpinnings, honed methodological approaches, and evaluated empirical evidence. In this issue’s special commentary section, “From Planting Trees to Making Peace: The Next Steps for Environment, Population, and Security,” Jared Diamond, Margaret Brusco-Mackenzie, Erika Weinthal, Richard Cincotta, Roger-Mark De Souza, and Richard Matthew and Bryan McDonald honor ECSP’s contribu-

tions to the field by outlining their visions for the next 10 years.

Like the Woodrow Wilson Center’s namesake, ECSP bridges the chasm between academic theorizing and practical policymaking. Beltway insiders turn out to quiz big thinkers, and professors and practitioners meet political players on neutral ground. ECSP was among the first to systematically shine a light on nascent U.S. policy efforts in environmental security by publishing reports from former Vice President Albert Gore’s State Failure Task Force and the CIA’s National Intelligence Council. Continuing this long tradition, *ECSP Report 10* includes three papers—on water, climate change, and natural resources—commissioned by the United Nations Foundation for the Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change, which Kofi Annan charged with recommending effective collective responses to the world’s security problems.

As described by the Secretary-General, the universe of threats to peace includes a multitude of interdependent variables. Large youth populations, water pollution, HIV/AIDS, climate change: all of these factors, and more, could reduce human security and potentially



This 10th anniversary issue celebrates ECSP’s legacy and looks forward to new challenges.



Past ECSP Reports (Credit: ©David Hawxhurst, Woodrow Wilson Center)

destabilize nations. But it is essential to look at the links between population growth and environmental change to understand the roots of—and the solutions to—these “soft” threats. In a special report, Sahlu Haile of the Packard Foundation describes how decades of population growth in Ethiopia have contributed to overfarming and deforestation, which have degraded the environment and undermined development. *ECSP Report 10*’s book reviews also reflect the project’s interdisciplinary focus, covering a broad spectrum of new publications that address the connections among population, health, environment, and security.

The year 2004 brought a number of changes to ECSP. More meetings—a 25-percent increase from the year before—and more off-site conferences reflect the growing interest in this crucial nexus in the United States and

abroad. Our monthly e-newsletter, *ECSP News*, delivers meeting summaries, project news, and event announcements straight to the inboxes of 3,000 subscribers, allowing us to reduce the size of our publications. Our ever-expanding website’s new topical organization will make finding news, research, and links as easy as a click of the mouse. As part of this expansion, *ECSP Report 10* introduces a new column—“dotPop”—that illustrates the wealth of population data available online.

A decade after ECSP began, the Nobel Committee recognized environmental connections to security by awarding Wangari Maathai the Nobel Peace Prize for her work linking sustainable development and human rights. ECSP pledges to honor work like hers by continuing to map the path to a sustainable peace for the next 10 years—and beyond.