



# Shanghai Forum 2017 Perspective Highlights

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## Population and Development of Countries and Regions along the Belt and Road

**Roundtable 05    Session One**

**13:30-15:30, May 27**

**Chair:** Peng Xizhe Director, Center for Population and Development Policy Studies, Fudan University

**Moderator:** Gu Baochang Professor, Population Development Studies Center, Renmin University of CHINA

**Paul Yip**  
**the University of**  
**Hong Kong**  
**Professor**

### **Understanding Population Dynamic in Belt and Road countries**

- 1.The population dynamics of OBOR countries is diversified in many ways such as population size, total fertility rate, life expectancy, population aging and so on.
2. To achieve healthy sustainable development in Belt and Road countries, it's important to make a good balance between short-term and long-term plan, hardware and software, GDP and Wellbeing.

**Tang Mengjun**  
**China Population**  
**and Development**  
**Center Director of**  
**the International Co-**  
**operation**  
**Department**

### **Population Policy in Countries along the Belt and Road**

- 1.The Belt and Road initiative covers 66 countries and regions across Eurasia, with gross population accounting for 63% of world population, so population policy should not be neglected.
- 2.Population policies along the B&R share certain similarities. They all expect to achieve their population goals and address their population issues through policy interventions.
3. Given the huge differences in demographic dynamics, governments uphold different directions, thus leading to the diversified population policies.
- 4.The diversification is observed from not only the different policy types, but also the linkage between different policies and the different measures, which have led to differentiated policy outcomes.
- 5.There are both similarities and differences, which therefore entails the mutual exchanges/studies and cooperation among countries.



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**Mohammad Jalal Abbasi-Shavazi**      **Population Dynamics and Human Capital in Muslim Countries along the Belt and Road**

**University of Tehran  
Professor**

1. Muslims constitute around 27 % of the Population of B & R countries, and their population is still growing.
2. Muslim high population growth has lead to young age structure and demographic dividend.
3. Major social and demographic change including educational advancement have been made in Muslim countries though there exists diversity.
4. Demographic dividend, despite being an exciting opportunity, is a profound challenge for these countries.
5. Investment in women's human capital (education and health) has important implications for maximizing the benefits of the dividend.

**Jiang Leiwen**      **Trend of International Migration under One-Belt-One-Road Strategy**

**Shanghai University  
Professor**

1. All current international migration assumptions used by demographers do not reflect a successful implementation of the OBOR initiative.
2. Low rate of international migration flows between OBOR countries.
3. Large flows out to the rest of the world.
4. Exploiting new estimates to develop suitable scenarios is important and necessary.

(Editor: Gong Yao)



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## Population and Development of Countries and Regions along the Belt and Road

### Roundtable 05 Session Two

15:30-17:15, May 27

**Chair:** Peng Xizhe Director, Center for Population and Development Policy Studies, Fudan University

**Moderator:** Tim Dyson Professor of Population Studies, LSE

**Leela Vasaria**

**Gujarat Institute of  
Development  
Research Professor**

#### **Demographic Transition and Development in India**

1. India experienced a steady decline in mortality since 1921, and also experienced a decline in fertility since 1980.
2. Demographic transition opening a window of opportunity.
3. To take advantage of these changes, India must invest in providing quality education at all levels to children who will become future work force, and designing and imparting meaningful skills and training to them along with focus on technological innovations.

**Peng Xizhe**

**Center for  
Population and  
Development Policy  
Studies Director**

#### **Population and Development in China**

1. China has experienced significant demographic transition since 1950s in several aspects, such as population size, total fertility rate, life expectancy at birth, sex ratio at birth, population in urban and percent of aged 65+.
2. Chinese population is at the historical turning point. Firstly, China is an Urban society and more than half of Chinese population are urban residents. Secondly, China is a migration society and 260 million populations on move. Thirdly, China became an aging society and has 220 million elder populations aged 60+. The last one, China is also a diversified society which has significant difference between rural-urban, east-west, rich-poor.



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**Abdullah H.M. Al-Khalifah**  
**Research & Consultations Department, National Center for Social Studies**  
**General Supervisor**

**Demographic Transition and Development of Saudi Arabia**

- 1.Saudi Arabia has experienced the first three stages of demographic transitions in less than six decades (1950-2010).
- 2.This experience represents a unique demographic transition, considerably different from that observed for many industrial western countries.
- 3.These speedy demographic changes have been in many ways the product of massive ambitious development plans (1970-2015), which has transformed the Saudi society from an agrarian primitive state to a modern highly complex society within less than five decades, presenting another unique situation rarely observed elsewhere in today's present human society.

**Wendy Hartanto**  
**National Population and Family Planning Board Deputy Chairman**

**Demographic Transition and Development in Indonesia**

- 1.Indonesia has experienced significant demographic transition in many ways, including population growth rate, age structure and dependency ratio, total fertility rate, labor force participation rate, and so on.
- 2.The total fertility rate of Indonesia has a decline trend from 1971-2015 and to some extent the increase of contraceptive prevalent rate has do some contribution to this result.
- 3.Indonesia believes the Belt and Road Initiative will bring about more cooperation opportunities for Indonesia and China. Indonesia is willing to work with China under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, to upgrade bilateral trade and investment.

(Editor: Gong Yao)



## Population and Development of Countries and Regions along the Belt and Road

Roundtable 05 Session Three

9:00-12:00, May 28

**Chair:** Peng Xizhe Director, Center for Population and Development Policy Studies, Fudan University

**Moderator:** Zhang Xuying

**Tey Nai Peng**

**University of**

**Malaya**

**Associate Professor**

**Demographic transition and development in Malaysia:**

1. Malaysia is in the final stage of demographic transition with low mortality and fertility.
2. Emergence of labour shortage since the 1980s attracted a new wave of migrants.
3. Rapid aging brought many challenges to Malaysia and adequate health care services to aging population and adequate social protection are needed.
4. OBOR initiative gives Malaysia a tremendous advantage in the growing global competitive market, and it is already in the process of taking advantage of this initiative.

**Oleksandr Gladun**

**Ptoukha Institute**

**for Demography and**

**Social Researches**

**of National**

**Academy of Sciences**

**of Ukraine**

**Professor**

**Demographic crisis in Ukraine: causes and consequences**

1. There are several main characteristics of the current demographic situation in Ukraine, including ongoing changes in reproductive behavior of the population; “Conservative” structure of death causes; large gap in life expectancy between men and women; population aging; uncontrollable mass migration.
2. There are two main factors which influenced the modern demographic situation. The first one is the incompleteness of socio-economic transformations, and the second one is Russian-Ukrainian war since 2014.

**Tim Dyson**

**London School of**

**Economics and**

**Political Science**

**Professor**

**Child mortality in Iraq: Politics and subterfuge**

1. Child mortality is overestimated in Iraq and the Iraqi authorities showed little sign of wanting to revisit the issue.
2. The United Nations radically revised downwards its estimates of child (and therefore overall) mortality in Iraq.
3. Indeed, estimated life expectancy in Iraq was suddenly increased by about ten years.



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- Dang Nguyen Anh**  
**Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences**  
**Associate Professor**
- Population and Development in Vietnam**
1. Vietnam has a population of 92 million which is likely to reach the peak of 120 million by the mid 21<sup>st</sup> century.
  2. The “young population” period ended in 2005, followed by the “ageing population” starting from 2007.
  3. A decline of high birth rate is sustainable.
  4. Vietnam need suitable contraceptive methods.
  5. Migration and population mobility has fast increased due to rapid urbanization and regional disparities.
- Sabahat Hussain**  
**Population Council in Islamabad, Pakistan**  
**Doctor**
- Pakistan’s Demographic Transition and Opportunities in The One Belt One Road Project**
1. Pakistan is at a critical point in its demographic transition and experiencing a peak in its youth population.
  2. The future trajectory of population growth however, will be very sensitive to the timing and extent of further fertility decline.
  3. The main opportunity is in the form of the 7 million women with unmet need for contraception to accelerate fertility decline.
  4. Potential period of capitalization to utilize the demographic dividend experienced in other OBOR countries in Asia.
  5. The minimum growth rate required to absorb the increase in Pakistan’s labor force is 6.5pc.
  6. Immediate priority should be given to employment planning that considers the number of jobs required.
  7. Pakistan could stand a chance to reap its demographic dividend through close cooperation with China.
- Shen Ke**  
**Fudan University**  
**Associate Professor**
- Public Transfers in Aging China:**
1. The income of public transfers in China is unfair, and the fiscal coffers become fatter and fatter, but the welfare spending as share of GDP is increasing during 2007 to 2015.
  2. According to National Transfer Accounts, we find that: Public transfers strongly inclined toward the old and the high income group; the education is largely regressive at each level; health is relatively equal at young ages but highly unequal among the elderly; meanwhile, pension is highly regressive.
  3. This conclusion indicates that we need to enhance retirement age, taxation and government revenue, to make health care more efficient.



## Population and Development of Countries and Regions along the Belt and Road

Roundtable 05 Session Four

12:30-17:00, May 28

**Chair:** Peng Xizhe Director, Center for Population and Development Policy Studies, Fudan University

**Moderator:** Paul Yip

**Jiang Leiwen**  
Shanghai University  
Professor

**The urbanization pathways and urbanward migration along One-Belt-One Road**

1. Urbanization is an engine of socioeconomic growth, driver of demographic and mobility transition.
2. Urban growth affected by economic, demographic, technological changes.
3. According to NCAR Urbanization Projection Model, the Model shows that all regions will be more urbanized, but differences in urbanization will remain quite the same, but with OBOR policies, less urbanized regions will catch faster, regions become more converged.

**Zhang Xuying**  
China Population  
and Development  
Center  
Deputy Director

**Population Integrated Decision system: PADIS, PADIS-IN, PADIS+**

1. Introduce PADIS, PADIS-IN and PADIS+ briefly.
2. PADIS-INT has made great contribution on formation of new family planning policy, for example-policy by allowing couples to have a second baby if either parent is an only child.
3. PADIS-INT is already applied to Africa countries, including Kenya, Ghana, for population projection.

**Chen Feinian**  
The University of  
Maryland  
Professor

**Changing Patterns of Marriage and Family in Asia: Continuity, Change and Future Directions**

1. Trends in marriage and family in Asia exists heterogeneity, including East, Southeast Asia, South and West Asia, different countries and so on.
2. Summary of changing patterns in marriage and family in Asia, we can find later marriage, fewer marriage, lower fertility, increasing in divorce, increasing in premarital cohabitation but duration tends to be short.



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**Wang Xiaofei**  
**China Population**  
**and Development**  
**Research Center**  
**Associate**  
**Researcher**

## **Family Dynamics in China**

1. Gradually put in place universally beneficial policies in line with the interests of increasingly smaller and diversified families.
2. Enhance external support for family development.
3. Enhance external support for family development. Explore to establish a security system for long-term nursing. Strengthen on the enforcement of policies integrated medical treatment with nursing care.

**Zhang Zhen**  
**Fudan University**  
**Associate Professor**

## **According to the Arriaga Model, we can find that:**

1. the life expectancy will be increased continually, in 2050, the life expectancy in most countries along OBOR will higher than 65 years old.
2. During 1950 to 2010, the life expectancy difference between each countries was gradually decreased, but the speeds is also declined.
3. The decrease of death rate in elders and even advanced ages will play a more important role in the decline of Age-specific death-rate.

**Xu Haiyan**  
**Fudan University**  
**Associate Professor**

## **Study on the Ecological Environment of Central Asia Based on the Distribution of Population and Water Resources**

1. According to Water-Stress Index, Uzbekistan was classed as water scarce area in 2012, while situation in Kazakhstan is relatively better, about 50 years after.
2. The biggest ecological and environmental reason accounting for the shortage of water resources in Central Asia is the Aral Sea Crisis, and Aral Sea Crisis Resulted from Deserts Reclamation and Irrigation. Returning Water to Sea is the Fundamental Solution of Relieving Aral Sea Crisis.
3. China's participating in the agriculture modernization of Central Asia and recovery of Aral Sea is the key to build consensus and form joint force between the two sides.

(Editor: Gong Yao)