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# INVESTING WHEN IT COUNTS: ADOLESCENT GIRLS & THE SDGs

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Panel on Population Dynamics, Economic Development, and Poverty  
United Nations Population Division

January 22, 2015

# AGENDA

‡ Why girls?

‡ \* L U O V . H G X F D W L R Q

‡ : R P H Q . V O D E R U I R U F H S D U W

‡ Fertility

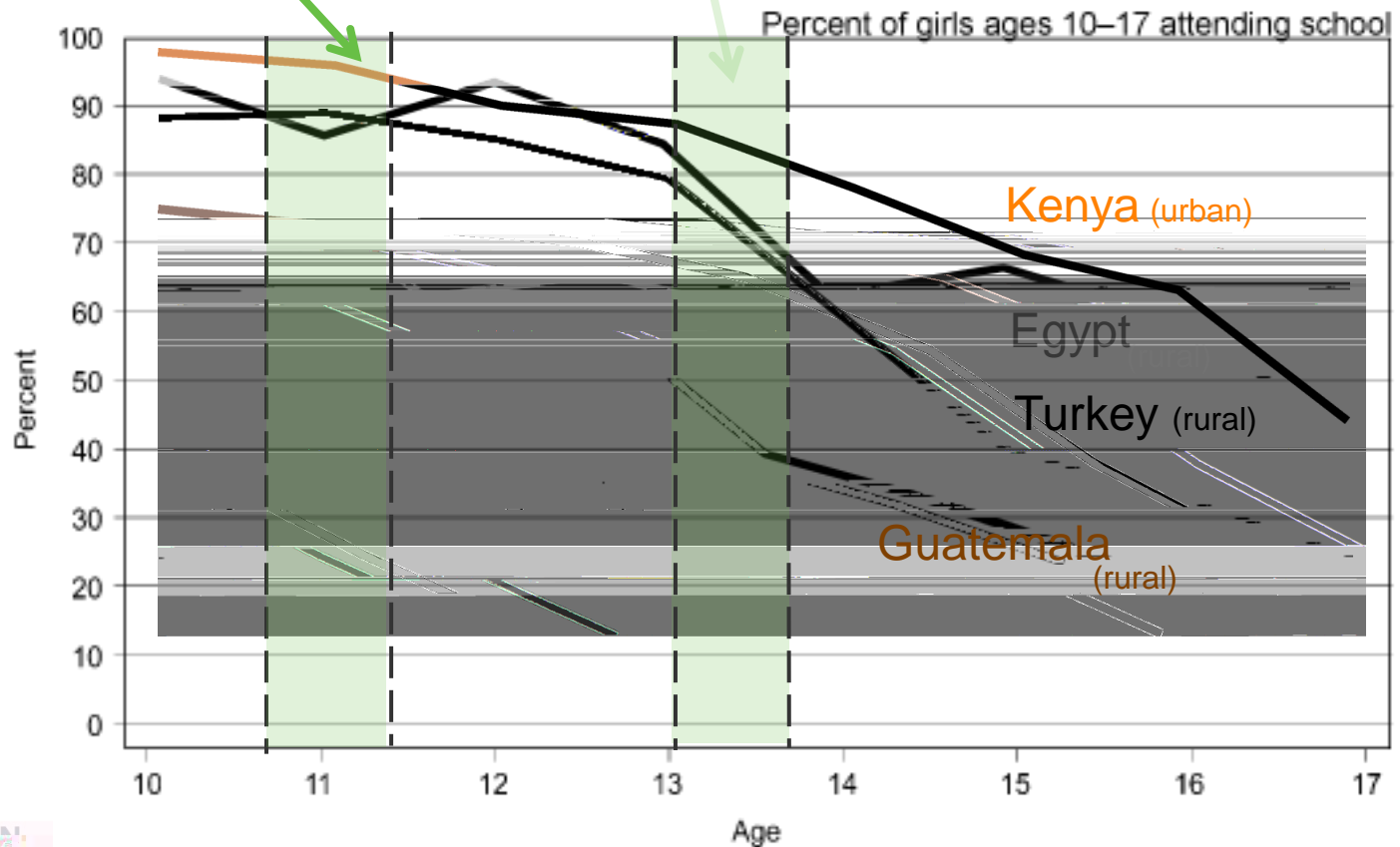
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# Why girls?

# THERE IS A GENERAL PATTERN OF GIRLS BEGINNING TO DROP OUT OF SCHOOL AT THE ONSET OF PUBERTY

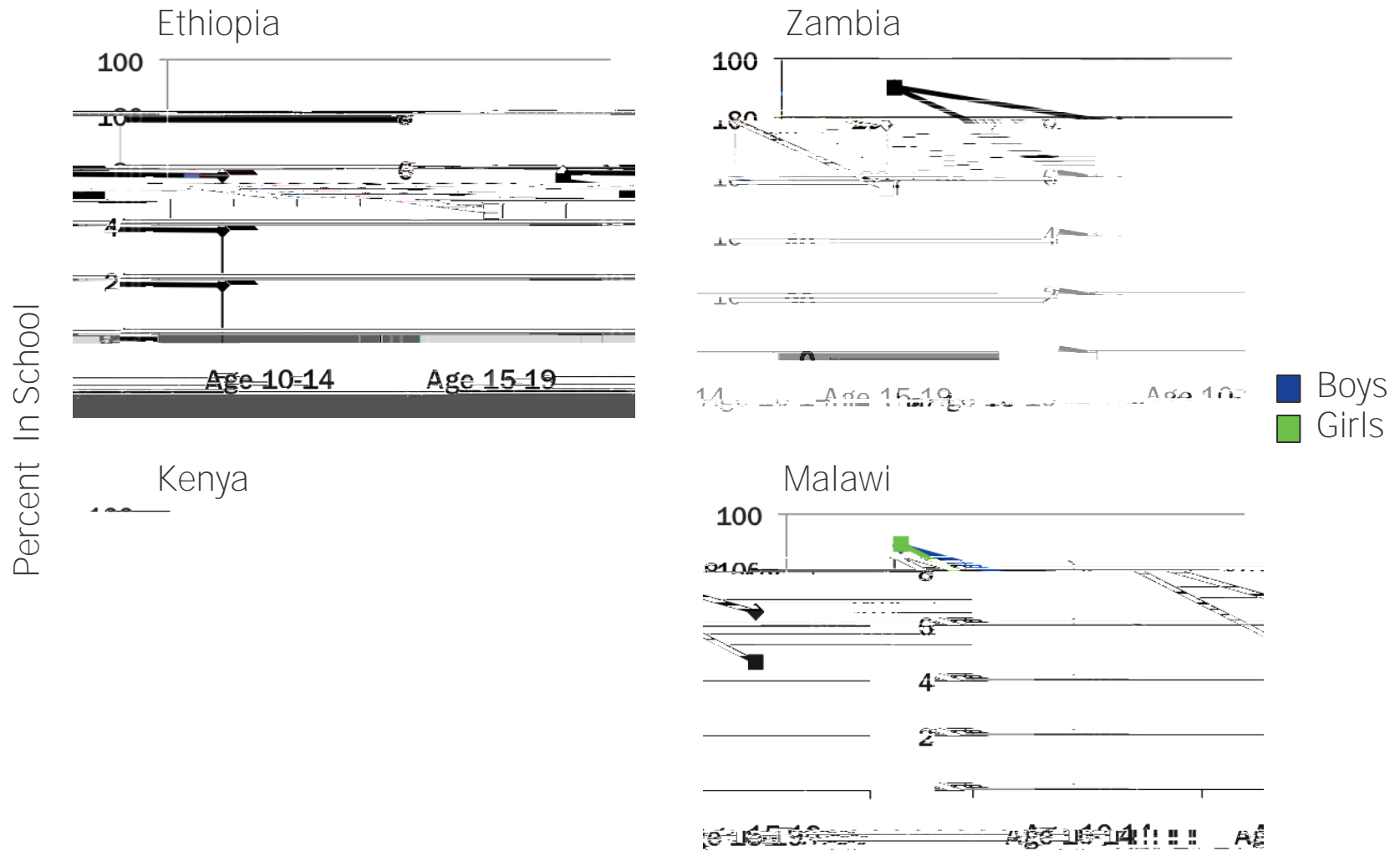
Intensify investment here

Drop out accelerates here



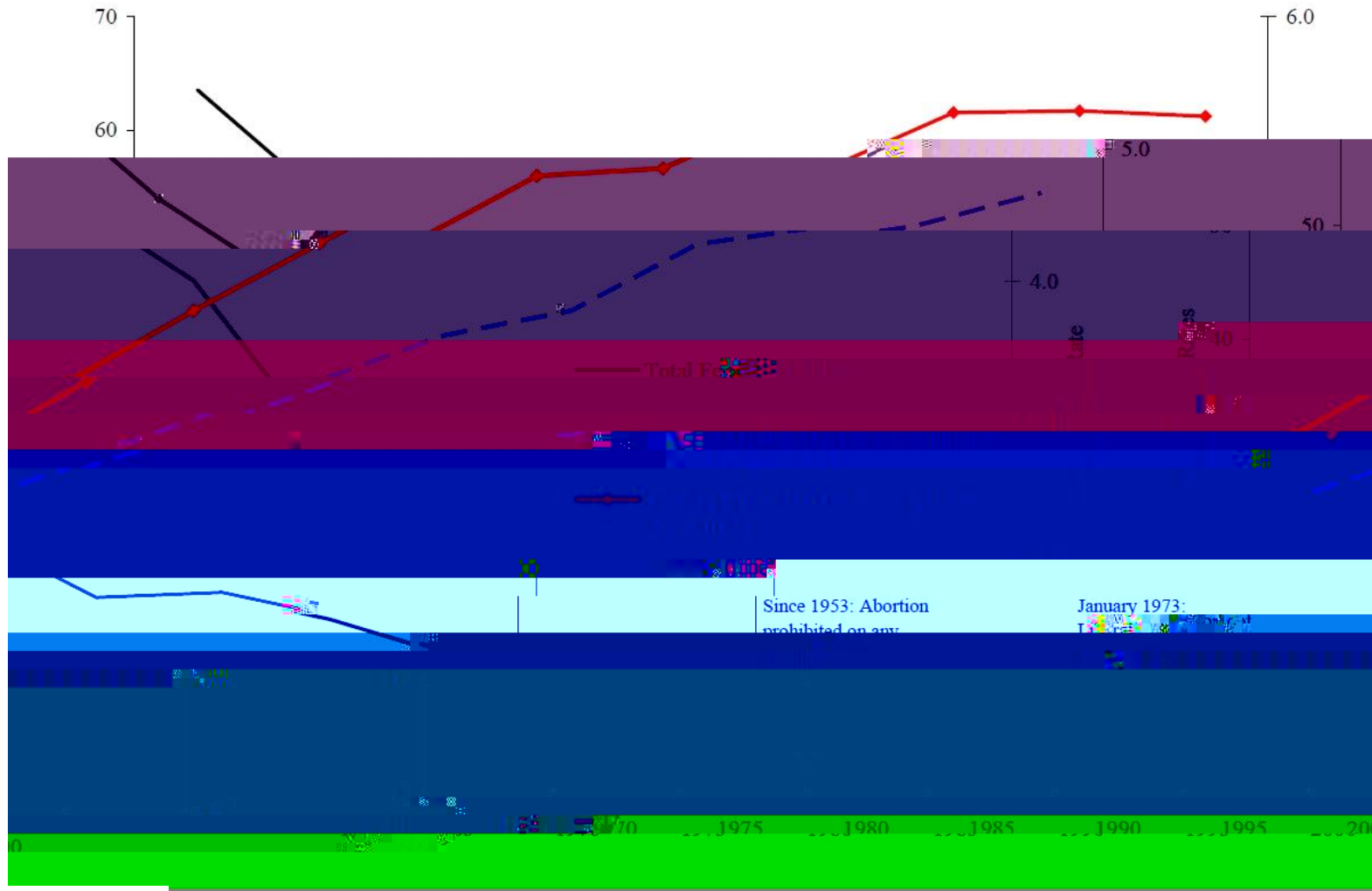
# THE GENDER GAP GROWS DURING PUBERTY

## CURRENT SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY GENDER AND AGE



SOURCES: POPULATION COUNCIL. ADOLESCENT COUNTRY DATASETS. ETHIOPIA, 2005; ZAMBIA, 2007; KENYA, 2009; MALAWI, 2004.

# SOUTH KOREA, TOTAL FERTILITY RATES AND FEMALE LABOR MARKET PARTICIPATION 1960-2000

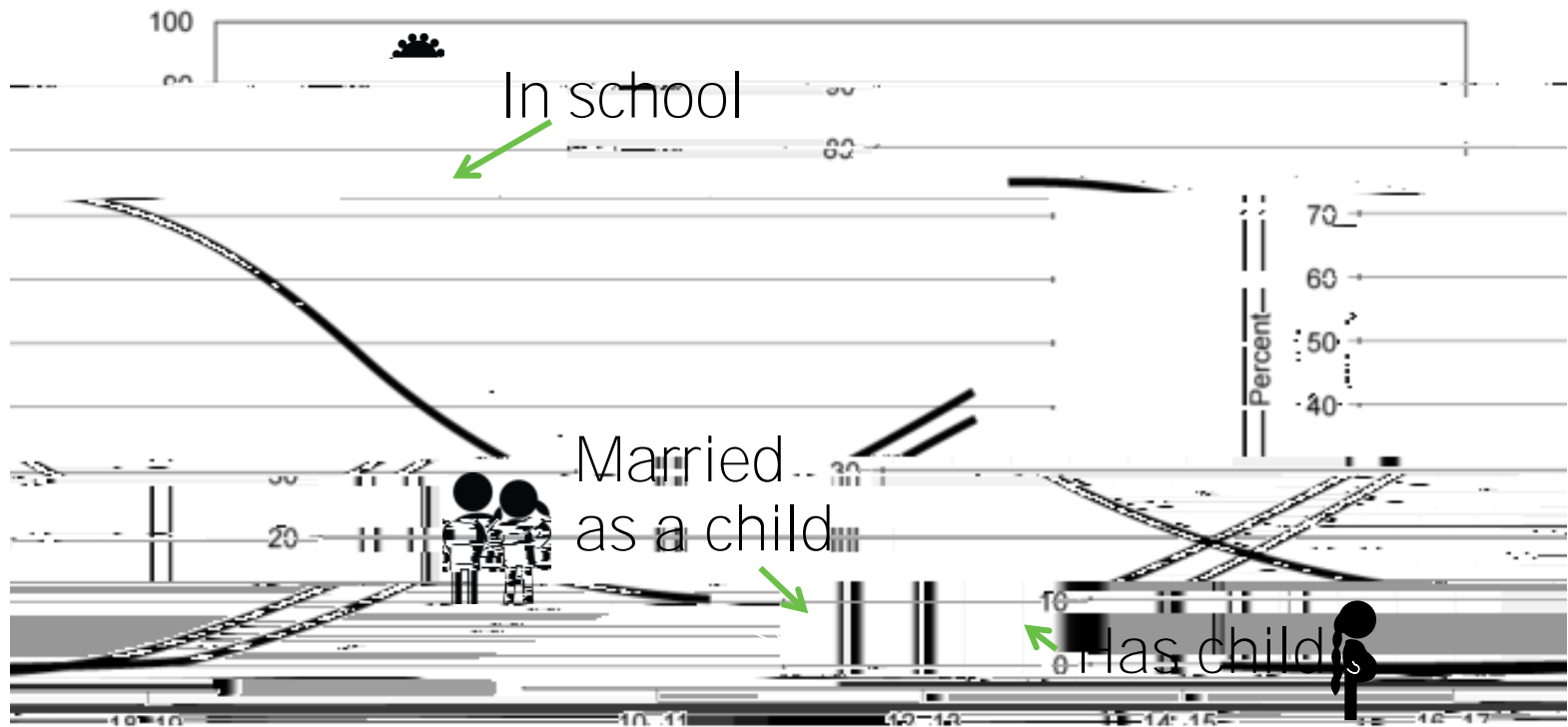


SOURCE: BLOOM, CANNING, FINK & FINLAY 2007, PGDA Working Paper No. 25

# REACH GIRLS EARLY

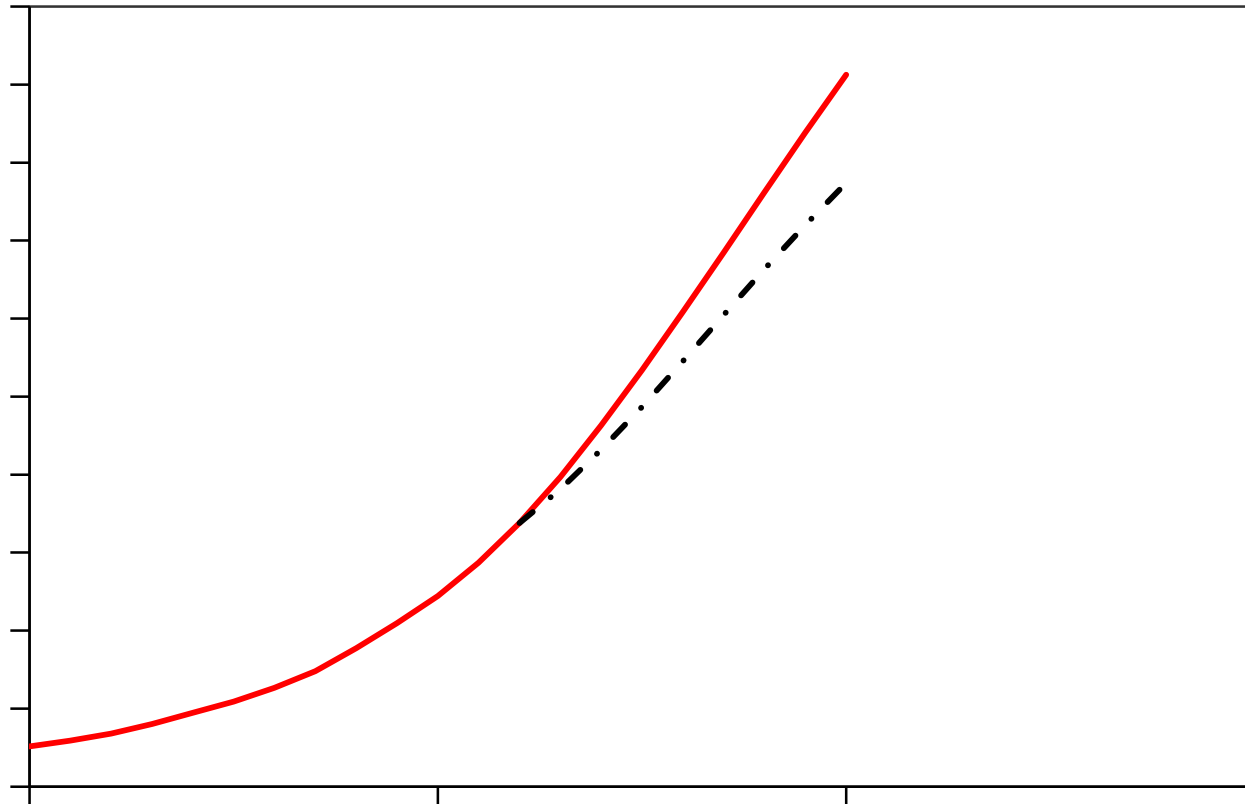
EARLY ADOLESCENCE IS THE PIVOTAL MOMENT FOR GIRLS. THAT IS WHEN THEIR LIVES GO OFF TRACK.

Percent of Guatemalan girls ages 10-19, by outcome



# UGANDA:

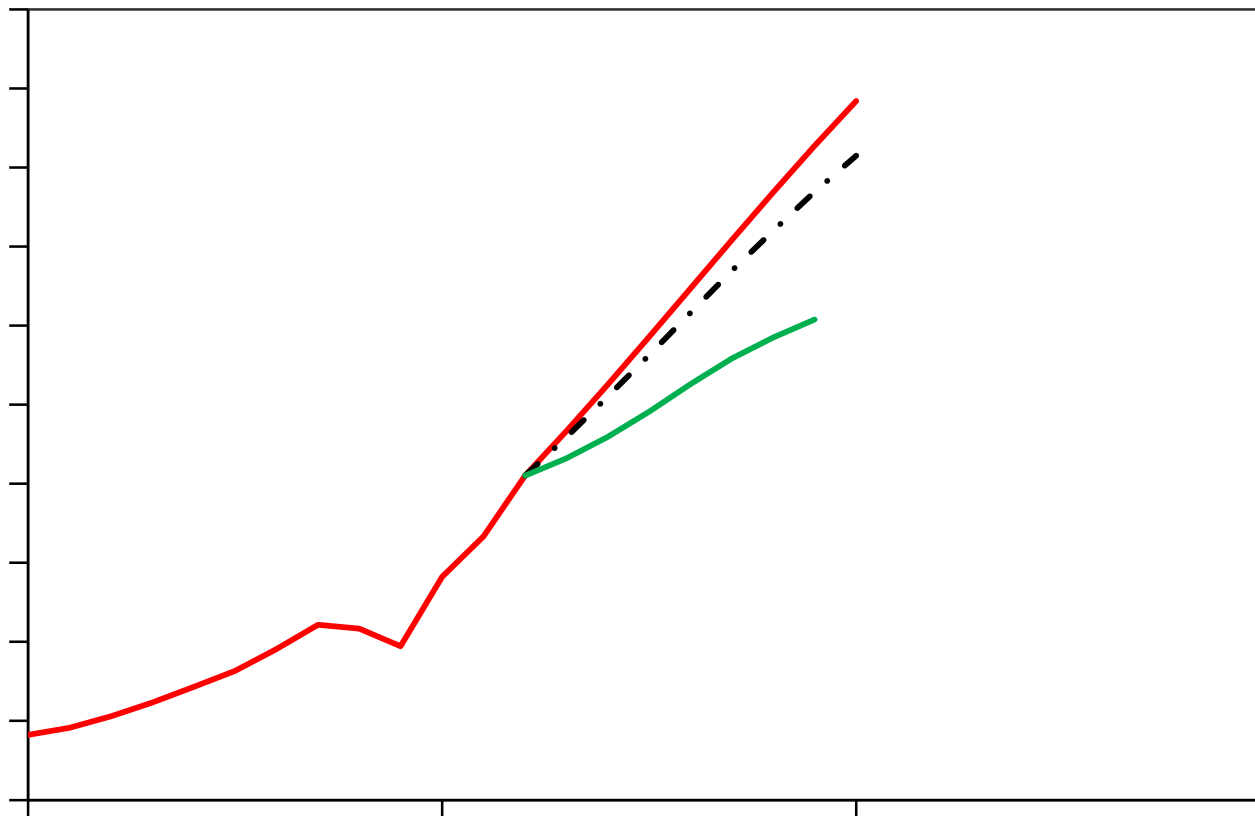
## ALTERNATIVE POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR 2005-2050 AND POPULATION GROWTH COMPONENTS





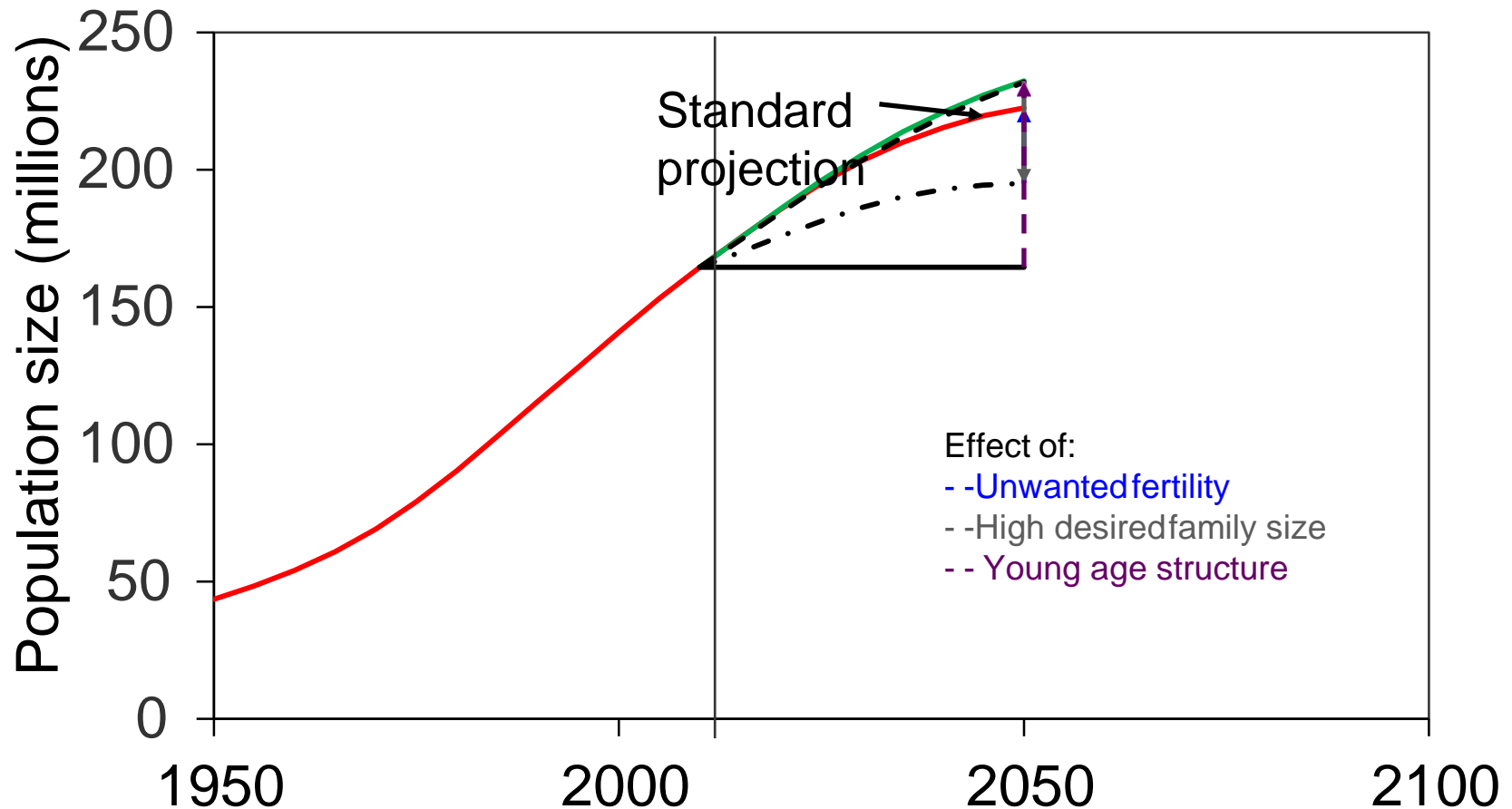
# LIBERIA:

## ALTERNATIVE POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR 2005-2050 AND POPULATION GROWTH COMPONENTS

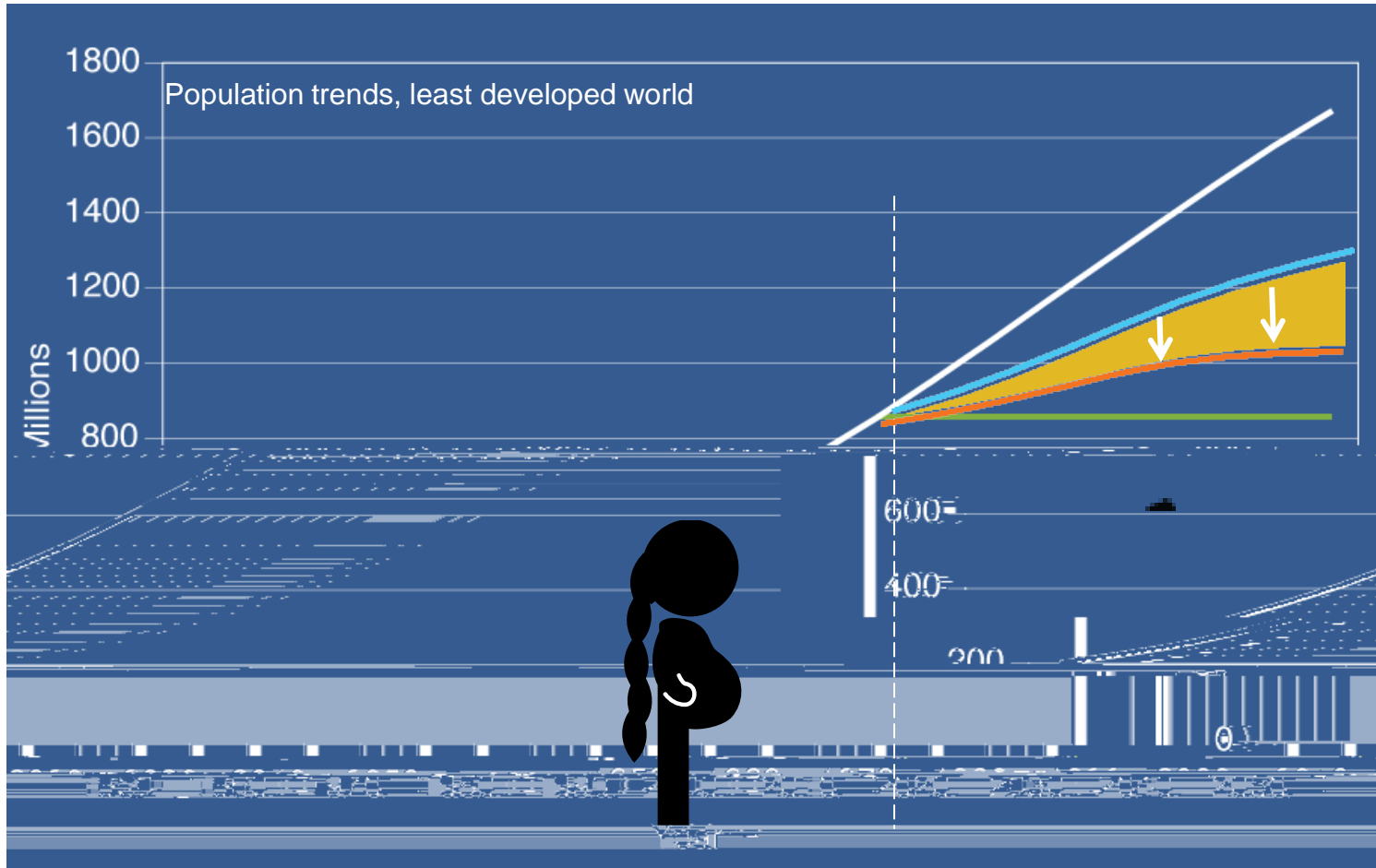


# BANGLADESH:

## ALTERNATIVE POPULATION PROJECTIONS FOR 2005-2050 AND POPULATION GROWTH COMPONENTS



SOURCE: BONGAARTS, JOHN. 2012. "UNFPA POPULATION COUNCIL DECOMPOSITION POPULATION GROWTH (VERSION 2.0.2) [MICROSOFT EXCEL]." NEW YORK: POPULATION COUNCIL.



Standard  
(UN medium  
variant)

Momentum/  
replacement  
fertility

5-year delayed  
first birth

Base

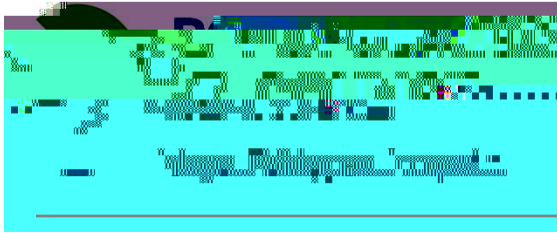


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# INVESTMENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

# SUMMING UP

Achieving sustainability depends critically on investments in girls in settings where they are at high risk of dropping out of school, early marriage, and early childbearing.



Thank you!

For more information,  
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