For Developing Countries, Economic Development Needs to be a Higher Priority

Plenary Debate
27th IUSSP Conference
Busan, South Korea

Alex C. Ezeh
APHRC, Nairobi, Kenya
The environmental Kuznets curve: a development-environment relationship
Economic Development Needs to be a Higher Priority in Developing Countries because of...

– The cost of underdevelopment
– The history of development
– The politics of development – Darwinism?
Don’t Eat … It’s Not Good For the Environment!
Economic Development Needs to be a Higher Priority in Developing Countries because of...

- The cost of underdevelopment
- The history of development
- The politics of development – Darwinism?
- The double-standards of environmental conservation discourse
Developing Country Interest

Developed Country Interest

COMPETING MODELS OF CLIMATE CHANGE:

- Records
- Observations
- Theory
- Cute Ribbon, Science Fair?

TESTS CORROBORATION CONSENSUS
- Yes

CONSPIRACY THEORY
- Denial
- Self-Interest

OBFUSCATION
- Cherry-Picking
- Lies

APATHY CYNICISM
- Hell No!
Economic Development Needs to be a Higher Priority in Developing Countries because of…

– The cost of underdevelopment
– The history of development
– The politics of development – Darwinism?
– The double-standards of environmental conservation discourse
– The harrowing effects of poor economic development
## Kenya Versus South Korea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Kenya</th>
<th>South Korea</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP per capita (1965)</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDP per capita (2012)</td>
<td>994</td>
<td>23,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population 1965 (Millions)</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>28.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population 2012 (Millions)</td>
<td>43.0</td>
<td>48.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population 2050 (Millions)</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>51.0</td>
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