But, in spite of her problems, Haiti has been a symbol for black people everywhere. As the world's oldest black republic, she gave hope and inspiration to many of the emerging nations of Africa.

Today, Haiti prides herself on being the "Africa of the Caribbean".

(Salute in Creole - SYNC)

(Children singing)
NARRATOR:

To mark World Population Year, the United Nations asked member states to pause and take stock of their human and economic resources.

For many countries — especially the developing ones, people are their single greatest resource. The task of the planners is to turn that resource into an asset rather than a liability.

The problems are complex.

There are no clear-cut solutions.

Each country must set its own policies based on national goals.

In this film, we'll take a look at five developing nations: Haiti, the first black republic in the New World; and four brand-new countries in Africa:

...The Central African Republic...Ghana...

Nigeria...Tanzania.
Haiti had its first census in 1970. Till then, social programs could not be measured. Now the census is updated each year, and it shows literacy has jumped from 10 per cent in 1969 -- to 25 per cent in 1973.

(Naorele SYNC)

NARRATOR:
Island republics are the first to feel population pressures ...
Boundaries are fixed by nature ...
But people multiply year after year.

There are now 5 million Haitians. By the year 2000, there will be 10 million. Modern medicine lowered the death rate but the birth rate continues to be high. More people are being born ... And they are living longer.

Haiti's population policy includes a new kind of army ... dressed in blue ... called community agents. They take education out of the classroom, bring it directly to the women of childbearing age -- by teaching them how to keep their children healthy.
Only after infant mortality is sharply reduced, will Haitians begin to accept the idea of family planning.

(Creole Sync)
Explain contraceptive methods to women.

NARRATOR:
But education is not the only problem. Cultural traditions often clash with new ideas.

Most Haitians believe that a woman without children is animated with bad spirits. And that belief is firmly grounded in voodooism, an animistic cult widely practiced and very similar to many in Africa today.

NARRATOR:
Here in the Central African Republic, death brings an entire village together to share in one man's grief. His wife died in an accident four days ago.

In another village, a baby was born four days ago. Neither event was registered. No one knows how many other births — or deaths, occurred on that same day.
The Central African Republic has anywhere from one-and-three-quarters to two-and-a-half million people. Exactly how many and where they are is not known.

The logical solution is a census...

During World Population Year, with the help of the United Nations, many African nations conducted their first such survey.

Africa is the only continent which has shown a decrease in its share of the world's population over the last 300 years.

In 1650, Africans made up 18.3 per cent of mankind. By 1970, the percentage dropped to almost half. Today, less than 10 per cent of the world's population lives here on one-fifth of the entire land surface of the earth.

Census agents map out each village, number each house, and take the names of each family. All to prepare for the interviewers who follow.
Unlike Haiti, Africa is underpopulated. Density is high in only a few scattered areas.

Agriculture suffers not from scarcity of suitable land -- as much as the lack of capital and labor to make it work.

Most people in the Central African Republic are farmers -- like Jean-Pierre Poundinego.

But how many families are there like Jean Pierre's? And where do they live? You have to know where people are today... in order to provide for them tomorrow.

By the time the census taker arrives, people will have been prepared by radio announcements, posters, special classes in the schools, and a celebration in every village.

Traditionally, people throughout the world have been suspicious of census takers. Sometimes with good reason for the results were often used for tax purposes.
He begins by asking Jean-Pierre some basic questions: Name? Position in household? Sex and age? Place of birth? Nationality and amount of schooling, if any.

(SYNC - asks wife her name, etc.)

This takes about 5 minutes per household. One in ten families will be asked more questions -- about pregnancies, live births and living children to check on fertility trends.

Census takers run into special problems with groups like the nomads. Cattle herders who live on meat and milk products, they don't build permanent houses that can be numbered. And for six months of the year they travel with their herds in search of good pastures.

The government needs to know more about the nomads' migrations -- but first they must find them when they are not on the move.
An even greater census problem is posed by the pygmies who live deep in the rain forest. Their houses are also temporary—to be abandoned when they are ready to move.

But there are precious woods in these forests, and logging concessions will bring change to the pygmies' natural habitat.

Plans for their future must include some idea of how many pygmies live in the forest. But to date, no one has come up with a practical scheme for counting them.

350 million Africans.

The total will double by the year 2000.

High birth rates and a relatively short life span mean that almost half are under the age of 15.

But the children of Africa are her hope for the future.
Ghana's culture favors large families. Children take care of themselves at an early age on a farm... And look after their parents when they grow old.

But millions of people will be added in the next few years -- more than the country can comfortably afford.

Ghana initiated a population policy in 1969 -- making her the first sub-Saharan country to do so.

Part of that policy provides expanded health services.

Family planning in Ghana means improved child care. Only after parents see all their children survive, will they begin to accept the idea of limiting family size.

Nutrition lessons are part of clinic program -- because protein deficiency is a major cause of infant mortality.
Average diets are mostly starches and children seldom eat meat, vegetables, fruit or milk.

Mothers want larger and healthier families. In order to ensure that 3 or 4 children survive, a woman must have 5 or 6.

They are taught how to cook nutritious local foods.

Mortality has dropped somewhat, thanks to better medical care, nutrition and sanitation. But fertility remains high. Ghana's birth rate is 47 per thousand, one of the highest in the world. But the fear of childhood death is ever present, so women are reluctant to risk birth control.

Male attitudes are even harder to change. Masculinity and prestige are often measured by family size. While children may be an economic asset on the farm, they become an economic liability in the city. As a father wants more for his children, he will want fewer of them in number.
Films showing small families in other cultures -- this one, in Tokyo, with an obviously high standard of living -- are beginning to change cultural attitudes. Once this awareness is created, information and services must be available to allow families to decide on the number of children they want.

But family planning without economic development has never worked anywhere. Only when services go hand in hand with a decent standard of living, can people control their own lives.

One bond which firmly unites African nations is their shared agrarian culture.

The Homowo festival in Accra celebrates a plentiful harvest that marked the end of an ancient famine... Centuries later, Ghanaians jeer and hoot at a long-forgotten hunger...

But, paradoxically, Africans today don't produce enough food to feed themselves.
Pressure to grow cash crops for export has cut into domestic food production.

Cocoa as a cash crop has brought wealth to Ghana, giving her one of the highest per capita incomes in Africa. Farmers can buy consumer goods and educate their children.

But this has not been a good year for Africa. A dry spell reduced an expected bumper crop. Prices are higher, but supply is off. So exports are down.

The farmer and his older children walk five miles each morning on narrow bush tracks to reach their cocoa farm.

Up to now, Ghana's been a one-crop economy. She supplies one-third of the world's cocoa beans -- for which she receives 60 per cent of her total export revenues.

Any change in cocoa supply or demand sends a shock wave through the economic system of the country.
At harvest time, the government supplies the local produce buying agency with enough cash to buy this area's entire crop at a fixed price.

World cocoa prices rise or fall as production levels change. A poor harvest can cause export earnings to drop far below expectations. But prices for imported fuel oil, food and other commodities continue to climb. Other crops are being increased to reduce Ghana's dependency on cocoa.

Underdevelopment is the legacy of colonialism. It has been continued by trade relations which favor the industrialized countries. New forms of international relations are called for — such as the 1972 United Nations Cocoa Agreement — in order to protect producers of raw materials against market fluctuations.
Individual farmers must be able to count on a steady income from year to year. Otherwise, greater numbers will abandon their farms and head for the cities.

Lagos, Nigeria — once only a fishing village. Today the fast-growing capital of Africa's most populous country. Here, and throughout the developing world, the city is a magnet drawing people from the countryside. Especially young people seeking better opportunities.

Lagos now has well over a million people in its urban area. More arrive every day.

But along with the vitality of a booming city come the unwanted signs of too rapid growth: crowded slums, overloaded services, traffic jams, and worst of all — unemployment. As Lagos grows, there are more jobs, but not enough.

As part of its overall development plans, the Nigerian government is trying to change this situation — by putting more jobs where the people are.
United Nations agencies helped Nigeria to set up a test program in the Western State. The project trains craftsmen in wood and metal trades... finds new markets for their products... improves farm production... and helps to construct roads and buildings.

After this vocational training, young men go on to become apprentices with craftsmen in the district -- or continue in more advanced courses.

Half the people who leave the village for Lagos are between 15 and 19 years old -- about the age of the students here. If not for this training, many will leave home to join the unemployment lines in Lagos.

New techniques and tools are introduced as the ancient ways gradually disappear.

A Nigerian blacksmith and his helpers are delighted by this simple forge. The hand-cranked fan is a far cry from the bellows he used before.
TECHNICAL ADVISER
EXPLAINING FORGE

(English SYNC)
For the money, this will be very good. Let's see if it will heat the metal completely in one piece. You see how it is getting hot very quickly? See, you can make a lot of heat. The heat you can get is greater than what you can get with the bellows.

(Interpreter translates for blacksmith)

NARRATOR:
Thousands of farmers have been introduced to hybrid rice and other grains. Forty rice farmers joined together to set up this cooperative. They do their own milling, and promote sales. Production has increased. Profits are up.

Africa's problems are unique and call for new solutions.

Tanzania's plan on rural development -- establishing its collective Ujamaa villages -- is a form of socialism based on African traditions: the extended family and communal living.
Tanzania's not a country with too many people; it's a country with a poorly distributed population...

**PRESIDENT JULIUS NYERERE**

(ON CAMERA)

LS ISOLATED THATCHED ROOF HOUSE

PEOPLE WORKING IN FIELDS

NYERERE (O.C.)

CATTER HERDER WITH LIVESTOCK

NYERERE: (SYNC)
The vast majority of our people, because of the large size of the country and the availability of land (V.O) live in isolated homesteads. And this is our real problem and hence this emphasis on co-operative work. The people must come together. It is impossible for us to develop a modern country and to provide modern services to our people (O.C.) as long as they live in these isolated family homesteads.

(V.O.) It's very clear to us that we can retain some of the values of communal living, even if we transform our life into Ujamaa village, some of those values, including the values of the family, we can safeguard.

**NARRATOR**

For Tanzania, the problems are complex.

But the solution begins with Ujamaa...

and with education...

NYERERE (O.C.)

NYERERE: (SYNC)
We are saying we have the problem of poverty, the problem of ignorance, the problem of disease. These are basic human problems. They are very difficult for the government and, for the planners. You don't know where to begin, they form a real vicious circle. We don't know whether we are poor because we are ignorant, or because we are diseased
and so forth. (V.O.) And so there they are. And really you simply have to make a decision what to tackle first. And in our case, we say, break the vicious circle at education, give people education. Say, simply, arbitrarily, say, "We are poor because we are ignorant." So just start there.

(SONG)

NARRATOR

Africa's hope lies with the future generation. Nations throughout the continent are stressing the promotion of life — rather than the control of life — in their population plans. But unless her children receive the opportunities needed to fully develop themselves and their countries, the year 2000 will not see Africa's problems solved — but merely dangerously multiplied.

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