



Arthur Erken, the UNFPA representative in Bangladesh giving a lecture on population and development at East West University on Saturday.

## UNFPA Representative speaks at EWU on Population and Development

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Arthur Erken, the UNFPA Representative in Bangladesh made a courtesy visit to East West University, and gave a colloquium lecture on Population and Development to the students and faculty members at the university auditorium on Saturday, according to a press release.

In his presentation, Erken showed the global population trends and Bangladesh popu-

lation prognosis and challenges. Erken revealed that Bangladesh is globally acclaimed as a success story in fertility reduction across different wealth groups starting from a low income and literacy base, yet the population would grow to 225 million by 2050 from today's 150 million due to momentum and young age structure. In a context like this, the ideal policy might be to

delay the child birth by 2 years in a country where persistent early marriage is prevalent across all income groups. The rising unmet need is hindering the progress towards achieving replacement level fertility.

Dr. Mohammed Farashuddin, President, Board of Trustees of EWU, chaired the whole session and also took part in the discussion.