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Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at 11:00 AM EDT

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New Thinking On Fighting Global Poverty

We hear the case for radical change in how the world fights global poverty.



People walk in the impoverished township of Khayelitsha situated on the outskirts of Cape Town, South Africa. (AP)

Shocking new numbers on the future population of the world just out from the United Nations.

The assumption for years has been that the global human population would level off at a bulging 9 billion in the middle of this century. Now, **the UN says no**, the global population will keep right on growing — past 10 billion.

China's population down. The U.S., up. Some once-little countries like Yemen, exploding.

And then, Africa: tripling in population from a billion to 3.6 billion. How will we deal with that many poor? Must they be poor?

This hour *On Point*: a call for radical change on global poverty.

Guests:

Esther Duflo, professor of economics at MIT, where she is co-founder of the Poverty Action Lab. She was awarded the John Bates Clark Medal in 2010 for the best economist under forty. She was named one of the world's 100 most influential people in 2011 by Time Magazine last month. She is co-author of the new book "Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty."

Abhijit Banerjee, co-author of "Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty." He is professor of economics at MIT where he is co-founder of the Poverty Action Lab.

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