

Some facts and ideas on Ageing in the post-2015 Development Agenda



Jorge Bravo
Population Division, DESA

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1. Population ageing is taking place almost everywhere in the world

Globally, ageing was already noticeable in 2002, around the time of the 2nd World Assembly on Ageing, where the MIPAA was adopted.

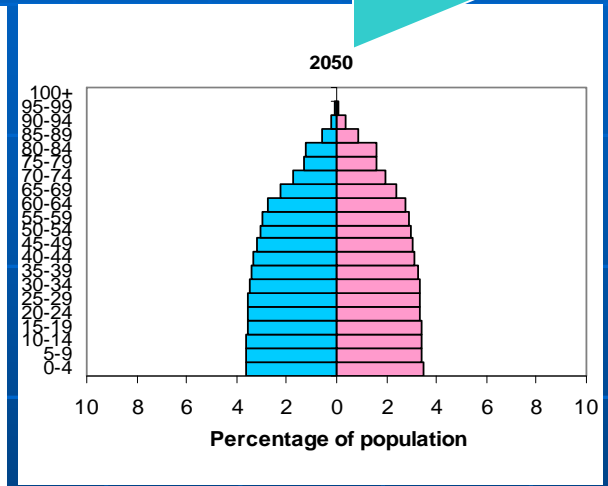
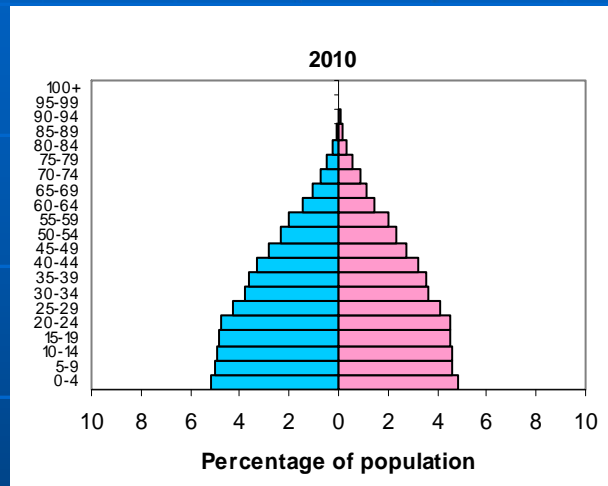
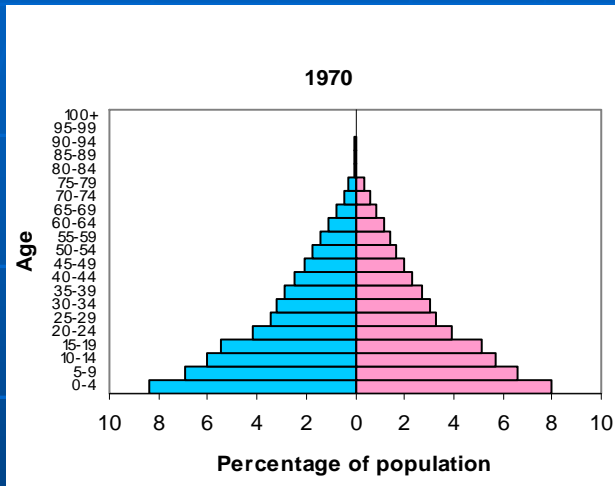
Ageing has accelerated since, increasing by 178 million persons aged 60 or over to 2012

Figure 1: Age distribution of the world's population by development group, 1970, 2010, 2050

Much of the growth of the older population will take place in the less developed regions.

Age composition of the population is transitioning to an older structure in all regions of the world

A. Less developed regions



B. More developed regions

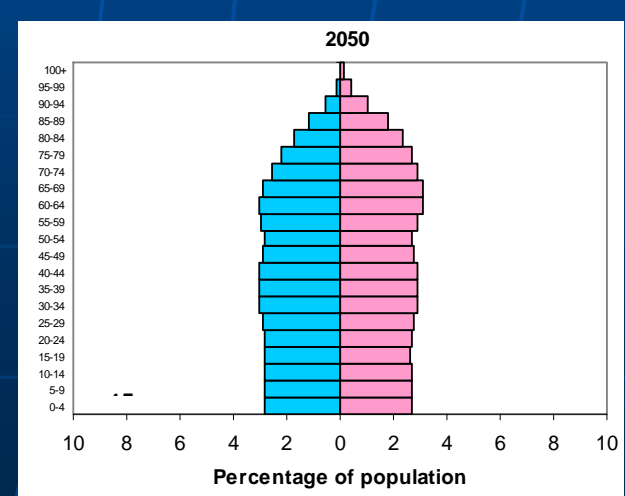
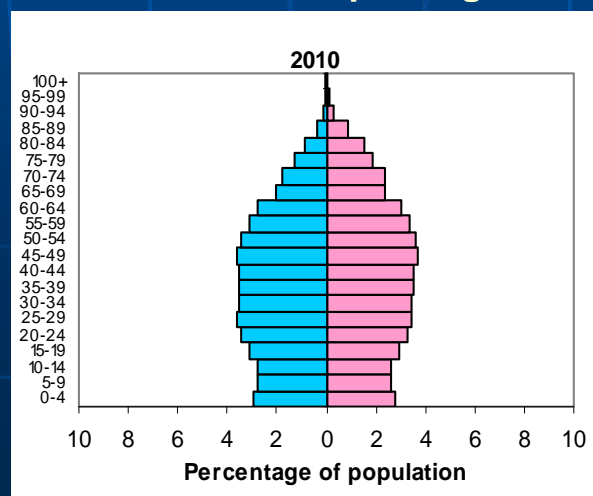
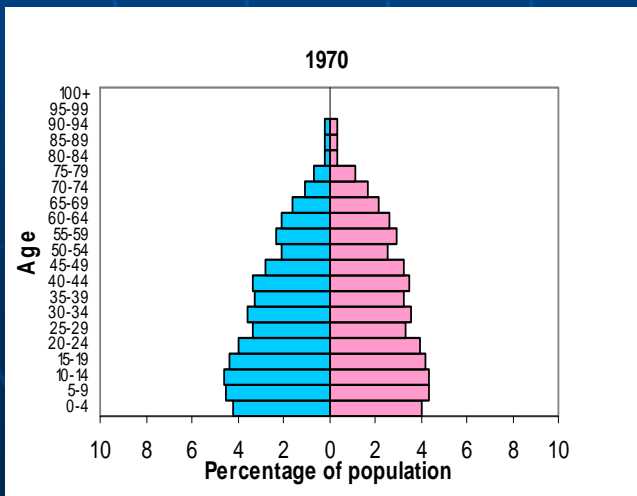
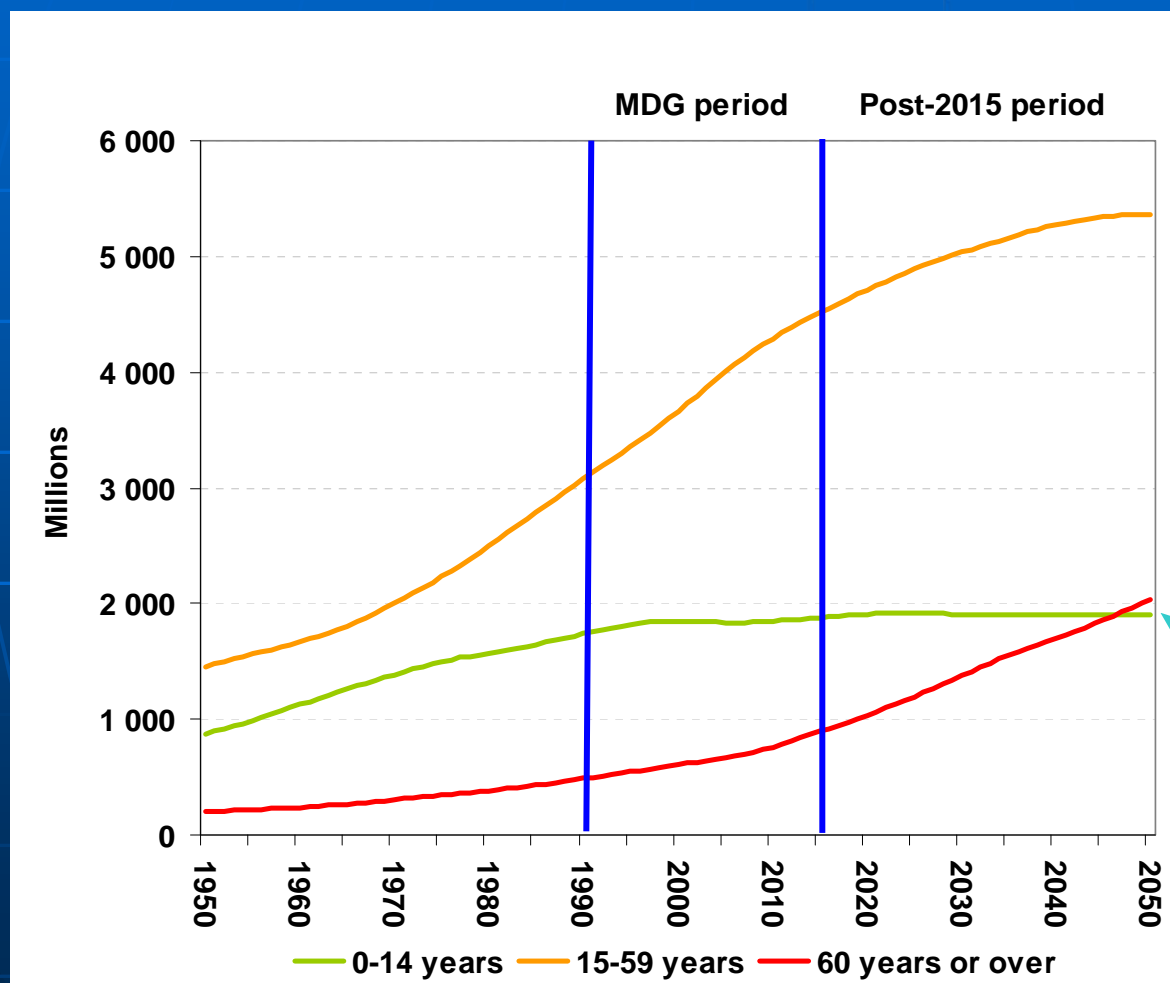


Figure 2. World population by broad age groups, 1950-2050



The older population (aged 60+) is growing at an accelerated rate.

In 2012, older persons accounted for 11% of the world's population.

In 2050, its size will reach 22%

Older people will outnumber children by mid-century

After 2015, the older population will increase much faster than younger population groups

2. Population ageing brings many benefits to individuals and society

People are living longer, especially women. Global life expectancy at age 60 is 18 years for men and 22 years for women, with a 3 to 5 year advantage between the more and the less developed regions

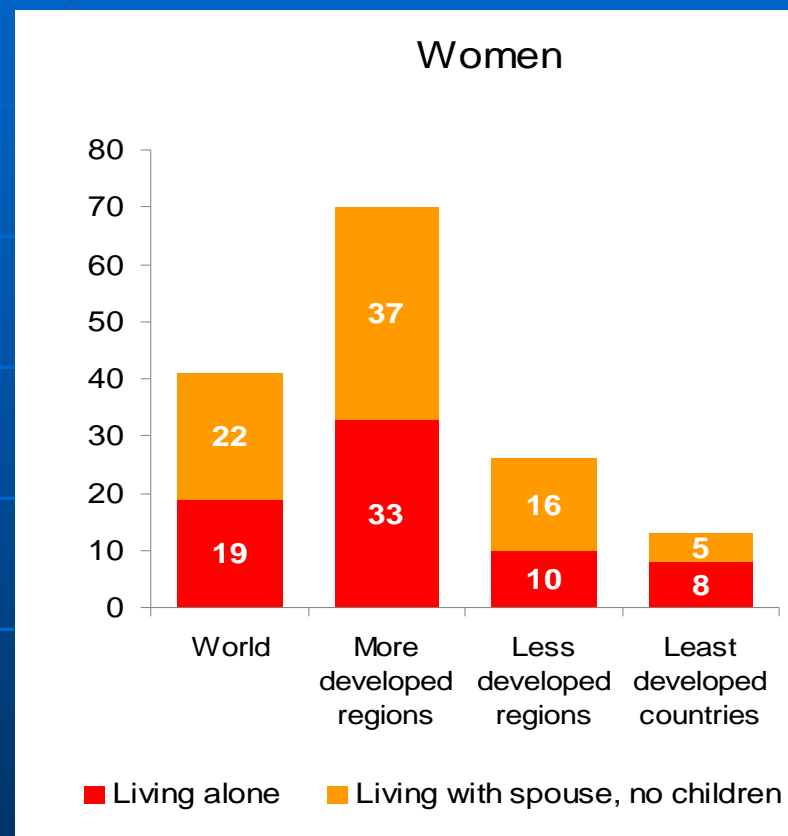
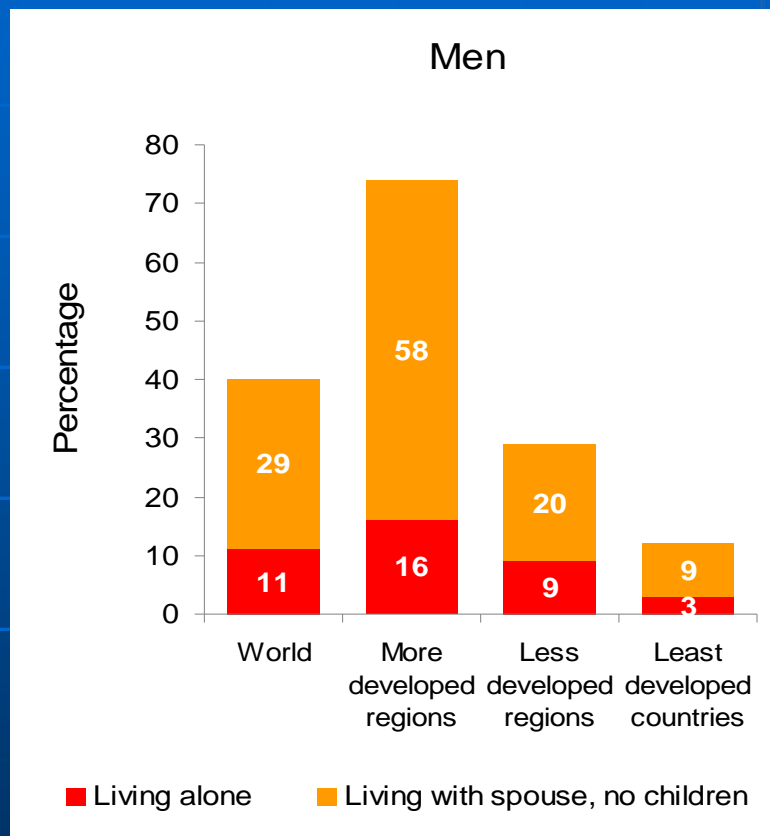
Older persons contribute significantly to the global economy

Globally, labor force participation rate of older men relatively stable at about 31%, but participation rate of older women is projected to increase from 10% in 1990 to 14% in 2020

Older persons make important financial contributions to their families

In most countries, older persons are net providers of familial transfers to their children and grandchildren (except in some Asian countries)

Figure 3. Proportion living independently (alone or with spouse only) among persons aged 60 years or over by sex: world and development regions, circa 2005



Older persons are increasingly able to live independently
 40% of the world's older population live independently
 70% of more developed region's older population live independently

3. Population ageing reinforces the need for social protection for older persons

Fewer working-age adults are supporting an increasing number of older persons

The old age support ratio (15-64/65+) has been falling, and in some countries it is already quite low, of about 3 working-age persons for each older person

But most countries in the world today have ratios between 5 and 20

In many countries, older persons lack of adequate social protection and are subject to higher poverty rates than the general population

In developed countries and some countries in Latin America, older population have adequate social protection system, but the incidence of poverty is higher in Africa

Countries that have adequate social security systems face increasing fiscal costs as the population continue to age

Ageing in the post-2015 discussions

Importance recognized in “Think piece” on population dynamics by the UN Task Team for the post- 2015 DA, and in the document *Realizing the Future We Want for All*

Currently, on-line global consultations, at:

<http://www.worldwewant2015.org/> , especially in
<http://www.worldwewant2015.org/population>

Which will have in the coming weeks a session on Low fertility and **Ageing**

The WWW2015 site has a complete calendar of events, including Civil Society consultations, a High Level Panel meeting in February, and an (in-person) global consultation (“Leadership Meeting”) on population in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 1st week of March, 2013

Thank you