Leaving no one behind—measurement issues

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Expert Group Meeting, Measuring population ageing: Bridging research and policy
Bangkok, Thailand, 25 – 26 February 2019
Ageing unequally

Illustrations from OECD countries

Source: OECD, Preventing Ageing Unequally, 2017
Average income changes for same cohort per country group

Note: The “Plateau” group is made of Canada, Finland, Hungary, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, the Slovak Republic and the United Kingdom. “Hump” is Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States, while Czech Republic, France, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg and Spain are part of the “Still increasing” group. The analysis is based on country, age and cohort fixed effects.

Source: OECD calculations from the Luxembourg Income Study data.
Income inequality among those 65+ varies widely across countries
Gini coefficient, 2014 or latest year

Source: OECD Income Distribution database
Poverty rates of the 80+ by family living arrangements

Percentage of the 80+ with an equivalised income below 50% of the median

Source: EU-SILC, 2014.
Policy priorities on ageing & older people through an SDG lens

- Health
- Income security
- Violence, abuse & safety
- Empowerment & participation

Source: Consultation response to IAEG-SDGs, HelpAge & UN Programme on Ageing Unit, January 2019
Health for all at all ages (SDG 3)

- Target 3.8, Achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- Indicators 3.8.1 & 3.8.2, Measuring coverage and financial protection
- Severe data deficits on UCH for older people – accessibility, availability, acceptability, quality
- Need for data disaggregation

Source: Global AgeWatch Insights 2018
**Access to health care**

Overall, 49% of South African women aged 65+ reported at least 1 problem in accessing health care:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Getting permission to go for treatment</td>
<td>23.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Getting money to pay for treatment</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didn’t want to go alone</td>
<td>28.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: South Africa Demographic and health survey 2016 (January 2019)
Income security (SDGs 1, 2, 5,8, 10)

Data issues –

employment, pension coverage, pension adequacy, measurement of poverty, access to land and services
Estimates of labour force participation among older women (65+) in 2018, by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia and the Pacific</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and Caribbean</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asia</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe and Central Asia</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab States</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High income countries</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ODI, Between work and care: Older women’s economic empowerment (2018)
Percentage of persons above statutory pensionable age receiving a pension, by region, latest available year

Percentage of population above statutory pensionable age receiving an old age pension by sex, latest available year

Source: ILO, Social Protection Report 2017 - 19
Living, not just surviving

What older people say about their rights to social protection and social security, and to education, training, lifelong learning and capacity building
Violence, abuse and safety (SDGs 1, 5, 16)

Settings + measurement gaps + policy implications - intimate relationships, families, institutions, humanitarian emergencies & disasters
Experience of elder abuse by different categories among women & men aged 80 and over in India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of abuse</th>
<th>% reporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beating, slapping</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal abuse</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic exploitation</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unwelcome/forcible sexual contact</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neglect</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HelpAge India, Elder Abuse in India - 2018
Empowerment & participation
(SDGs 4,5,10,11,16)

• Ageing in an ageist society – negative impact on health and wellbeing (Ayalon & Tesch-Römer, 2018)
• Recognition of age discrimination
• Getting to grips with concepts of contribution, autonomy, participation – role of Titchfield Group
• Developing measurements with participation of older people
• Measuring the age readiness of societal systems & policies (e.g. legal identity, approaches to education, employment, care & support)
Leave no one behind. Measure for diversity, complexity & nuance on ageing and older people.

Thank you.

www.globalagewatch.org
https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg‐sdgs
https://www.ageing‐better.org.uk/publications/ageing‐better‐measures‐framework