MIPAA+15 Results

• 17 out of 31 African countries have developed comprehensive and stand-alone national plans/policies/strategies on ageing

• Budget allocation for implementation however is rarely integrated into such plans.

• Mauritius by far the most successful country in Africa addressing the ageing issues.
  • Universal non-contributory pension system since 1958.
  • University for Elderly linking youth with elderly

• 23 out of 31 countries report major challenges in implementation of formulated policies.

• Operationalizing the policies prove to be very difficult in the absence of data to guide programmatic action.
MIPAA+15 Results

- There is a long list of challenges faced by governments and they largely circle around operationalizing policies for successful implementation
  - Insufficient financial resources
  - Insufficient political will
  - Insufficient cooperation between ministries
  - Insufficient research and translation of research into policy formulation
    - 9/31: data disaggregated by age/sex on critical indicator
    - 9/31: number of people by age/sex with access to safe water/electricity
    - 5/31: number of people by age/sex with health insurance
    - 4/31: disability adjusted life expectancy data
  - Insufficient human resources
How to Tackle these Challenges?

- **Integrated Digital ID Systems**
  - SDG 16.9: Legal identify for all
  - SDGs: Leave no one behind

- **Digitizing the process...**
  - Efficiency
  - Equity
  - Human Right

- **Civil Registries and Vital Statistics**
  - Substantial improvement across the continent
  - Potential to update/sustain the integrated digital system

- **Service Delivery aspect**
  - Where do people live? Who are they? How many are they?

- **Progress in Namibia and Botswana...**
Evidence-Based Policies Critical for Gender Gap

  - 10 countries: decreasing trend in gender gap
  - 1 country: no change
  - 43 countries: increasing trend in gender gap in favour of women

- Women therefore spend more time with their children and grandchildren. They have more incentives than men to invest in their children/grandchildren.

- There is also a major cost of spending more time with children and grandchildren: time poverty and health problems
  - Involvement in patient care (and negative externality on their own health)
  - HV/AIDS care and orphan care (60% in Zimbabwe and Namibia).

- Risk of disability increasing along with other health problems while geriatric medicine is largely absent.
  - Only 8/31 countries have public geriatric training programmes.
  - Screening needed for cervical cancer which is curable.
THANK YOU!

more info:

Selsah Pasali
pasali@un.org

UNECA.ORG