
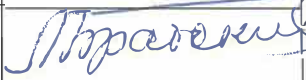



MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Evaluation Title:	Extending policy relevance of the Active Ageing Index (AAI): Cooperation with UNECE		
Period of Review:	1 May 2016 – 31 August 2019		
Date of Evaluation Report:	26/10/2019		
		Date	Signature
Approved by:	Catherine Haswell Chief, Programme Management Unit	21/01/2020	
Cleared by:	Lidia Bratanova Director Statistical Division	21/01/2020	
Prepared by:	Manager of the evaluation Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich Chief, Population Unit	21/01/2020	

Recommendation 1:

Improve alignment with SDGs and the *Leave no one behind* agenda.

Management Response:

UNECE accepts the recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

Mapping AAI indicators with SDG targets was already implemented before the end of the project.

Given that the project ended on 31 August 2019, it will not be possible for UNECE to continue working on AAI without additional funding. UNECE will use the results of mapping of AAI and SDG targets in its future work to raise awareness about how active ageing contributes to achievement of SDGs. This will be done in the context of the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and its Regional Implementation Strategy (MIPAA/RIS) in 2021-2022.

Responsible – Chief of Population Unit.

Recommendation 2:

2.1. Review Table 11 that contains elements of an Action Plan for follow up by UNECE.

2.2. Continue to make the AAI more topical by more explicitly aligning it to current/ upcoming goals/ priorities/ topics (e.g. Europe 2020 - a Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth; WHO decade of healthy ageing from 2020-2030, rights of older people etc.).

2.3. More academic focus should also be encouraged, via competitive funding for academic research using the AAI as a tool.

Management Response:

UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

2.1: The table 11 of the evaluation report was reviewed by the Population Unit and most of the suggestions were found relevant. Given that the project ended on 31 August 2019, it will not be possible for UNECE to continue working on AAI without additional funding.

2.2: UNECE will keep promoting AAI at relevant events, in particular in the context of the fourth review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS in 2021-2022; more specific work on aligning AAI with other agendas will not be possible without additional funding.

2.3: The Population Unit to the extent possible will continue advising upon request on AAI methodology; it will not be possible to support research or “encourage academic focus” beyond that without additional funding. With additional funding, an international research seminar could be organised with the awards for best papers — the good practice from previous phases of the project which leads to an increase in interest in AAI among researchers.

UNECE cannot encourage “competitive funding for academic research” as such, since it is not in its mandate.

Responsible – Chief of Population Unit.

Recommendation 3:

3.1 Document more examples of the application of the index in a way that is relevant for policymakers. Ensure the AAI is linked and used in any policy briefs produced by UNECE.

3.2. The EC (and UNECE) should use the visualization tool when completed to conduct publicity (within DG EMPL) on the AAI.

3.3 Keep an official centralized recalculation every two years.

Management Response:

UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

3.1: The Population Unit will continue using AAI in its Policy briefs on ageing where appropriate. The country reports referencing the use of AAI in policymaking and monitoring efforts will be used as good examples in the context of the fourth review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS in 2021-2022.

3.2: UNECE will use the visualisation tool (once it is ready) when referring to AAI in its presentations.

3.3: Producing specific documents or keeping a centralised recalculation will not be possible without funding. The Population Unit will work with member States to collect available data on AAI indicators for the Statistical Annex of the Synthesis Report on the MIPAA/RIS implementation during the fourth cycle. Report will be issued in the first half of 2022.

Responsible – Chief of Population Unit.

Management Response, Evaluation, PMU, UNECE

Recommendation 4:

4.1 Develop a concept note to obtain funding for subnational calculations, which also includes indicative budget lines to be filled by national experts.

4.2 Qualitative studies that complement the index could be encouraged and commissioned if funding is available or commissioned in partnership with other projects (e.g. the Generations and Gender Programme).

Management Response:

UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.

Follow up actions and responsibilities:

UNECE (Population Unit) could consider developing a concept note to obtain funding for subnational calculations or other possible activities related to AAI, provided there is interest from the European Commission or member States. The Population Unit will approach partners in the European Commission and explore the interest and fundraising possibilities to follow-up on the use of AAI as a monitoring tool for ageing related programmes.

Timeline for fundraising: April-November 2020;

Responsible – Chief of population Unit

