



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Population Activities Unit
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Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the UNECE Region

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Meeting of National Focal Points on Ageing in the UNECE Region
Segovia, Spain, 13-15 November 2006



Outline

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- Roles of UNECE and its Member States
- Role of focal points
- Overview of regional level activities
- Overview of country level activities
- Plans for the 2007 UNECE Conference on Ageing

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Review and appraisal of MIPAA in the UNECE region

- Responsibility on countries
- Role of UNECE:
 - Assist countries in conducting national reviews
 - Convene regional conferences
 - Contribute to the SG's overview reports
- Merits of the regional dimension:
 - Join forces to search for answers to common problems
 - Learn from each other

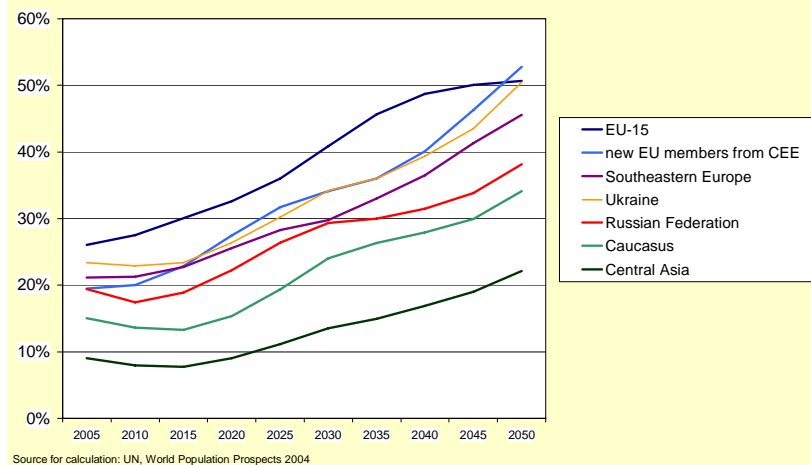
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Old-age dependency ratio by region



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Procedure and modalities - Member States

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2006

- Receive guidelines for the review and appraisal from UNDESA (July 2006)
- Indicate priorities, undertake an "instrumental" assessment of actions taken in response to MIPAA/RIS

2007

- National and regional processes of review and appraisal will begin
- Information on these processes will be collected, analyzed and presented to the Regional Commissions

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Procedures and modalities - Regional Commissions

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2006

- Provide an initial regional overview based on information provided by countries

2007

- Will assist countries in conducting their national reviews and appraisals
- Will convene regional conferences to consider findings and identify priorities for future action
- Will submit conclusions of meetings and reports to the Commission for Social Development in 2008

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Role of national focal points

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- Organize and facilitate review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS, with support from the national coordinating mechanism on ageing and from other stakeholders
 - Identify specific policies on ageing related to MIPAA, and other national policies, programmes and national budgets relevant to ageing
 - Identify facilitators experienced in participatory research
 - Engage in the analysis of findings and in the process of formulation of proposals for policy adjustment
- Where appropriate, integrate the review and appraisal of MIPAA with other established monitoring activities (good for awareness raising, mainstreaming)
- Primary contact points for regional level activities

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Main questions for analysis

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- What has been done in our country in the areas covered by MIPAA/RIS since its adoption?
- What was the impact of these actions on the quality of life and well-being of older people in our country?

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Regional level activities

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- Co-ordinated by UNECE, advised by Task Force *Monitoring RIS*
- Building a network of national focal points on ageing – this meeting
- Surveying national follow-up activities - questionnaire
- Developing indicators and tools to monitor implementation
 - MA: IMI project
 - Project on employment and fiscal policy implications of ageing
- Organizing the regional conference (draft note distributed)

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Main supporters in the region

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- **Spain:** meetings (incl. this one), 2007 Conference
- **Austria:** Task Force, MA: IMI project at the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research
- **UNFPA:** capacity-building in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

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Network of Focal Points on Ageing

- Letters from UNECE Executive Secretary to the missions of all Member States in October 2004, reminders in July 2005
- Request to nominate a focal point repeated in July 2006 in connection with distributing the questionnaire
- 39 Member States have nominated a focal point
- Meeting in November 2006, delegates from 27 countries

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Objectives of the Meeting of Focal Points

- Provide assistance in conducting MIPAA review and appraisal on the national level, including providing guidance on using the bottom-up approach
- Collect information on national level activities
- Broaden the range of countries involved in international exchange
- Deliver outputs of regional level projects to countries
- Discuss good practices
- Establish contacts to facilitate future exchanges between focal points

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Questionnaires on national policies

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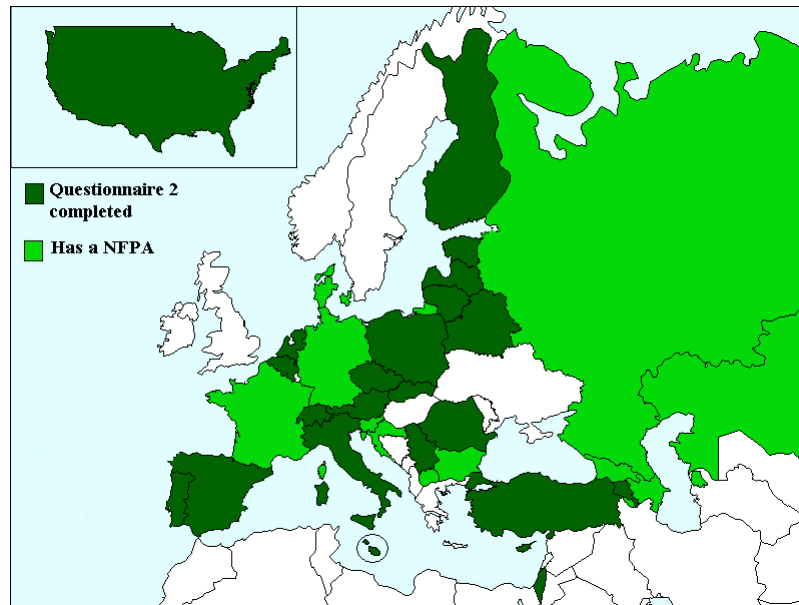
- Collect information on the execution of the Regional Implementation Strategy
- Facilitate exchange of information, experience and good practices
- Questionnaire sent out to the focal points
 - 28 countries responded to the 1st questionnaire
 - 25 to the second

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National action plans

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- 14 countries have adopted a national action plan on ageing
- In 8 countries a plan is either in preparation or in the the process of adoption

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Priority areas, 1

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- Welfare and well-being, 11 countries
 - Adaptation of the pension system
 - Improvement and accessibility of social services, including decentralisation
 - Financial assistance to older persons
 - Mobility – improving the system of public transport
- Health care, 9 countries
 - Affordable, accessible and available health care for older persons
 - Health care integrated with social services
 - Need for preventive measures
 - Improving the overall efficiency of health care system through its reform
 - Social services, local level in particular
 - Integral part of social protection system

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Priority areas, 2

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- Active aging, different aspects, 8 countries
 - integration of older persons in the labour market to promote economic development
 - inherent value of labour force participation for older persons
 - general issues related to inclusion into society, including participation in civil society and social life
- Lifestyle and image issues, 2 countries
 - Increased participation, positive image and increased quality of life
- Research, 3 countries
 - Theoretical analysis of and practical solutions for the social, economic, political and cultural consequences of ageing

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Participatory activities

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- Information from 16 countries on seeking the views of older persons and providing them with information
- Regular meetings with civil society organisations representing older persons
- Dedicated governmental consultation mechanisms, such as councils or committees of older persons
- Communication through different medias: publications, TV, special telephone lines, internet

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Capacity building

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- Information from 17 countries
- Education and training programmes for people working with older persons
 - Improve knowledge on age-specific medical and psychological issues
 - Also for family members who care for older persons
- Training older persons themselves, e.g. on how to avoid accidents and to stay fit
- Creating environment enabling training: networking with research institutions, universities; national coordinating mechanisms, standardization

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2007 UNECE Conference on Ageing

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- Organizers:
 - UNECE
 - Ministry of Labour and Social Services of Spain
- Place: León, Spain
- Time: October 2007
- Objective: review the implementation of MIPAA/RIS by ...
 - discussing national reviews
 - sharing experiences and good practices
 - identifying priorities for future action

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Documents

- Final document:
Political declaration
 - addressing the implementation of MIPAA/RIS
 - assisting Member States in identifying priorities for further actions
- Main background document:
Regional overview of MIPAA/RIS review and appraisal
- Publication of proceedings

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Agenda

- One day before: NGO forum
- First two days: Analysis of country reports on the review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS
- Third day: high-level segment. Roundtable discussion and adoption of political declaration

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Participants

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- Government representatives of the UNECE countries
- Representatives of other UN Regional Commissions and UN departments
- Representatives of civil society, social partners, private sector, academia and other stakeholders

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Preparation

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- Expert group
 - Builds on the Task Force *Monitoring RIS*
 - Provides substantive inputs through the Preparatory Committee
- Preparatory Committee
 - Members States will be invited to delegate a representative; open-ended
 - Discusses substantive proposals, including proposals from the Expert Group
 - Elaborates the format and the agenda
 - Drafts the political declaration

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Calendar of the preparatory process

November 2006	Meeting of focal points
December 2006	Country report outlines provided by the UNECE secretariat
February 2007	Meeting of the Expert Group
April 2007	Country reports and NGO contributions delivered to the UNECE secretariat
May 2007	Meeting of the Preparatory Committee
June 2007	Completion and distribution of the main background paper in English
September 2007	Distribution of the background paper in English, French, Spanish and Russian
October 2007	Meeting of the Preparatory Committee, One day NGO Forum, the Conference

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Thank you for your attention.