



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Population Unit

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Policy Briefs

▶ **Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich**

Third Meeting, UNECE Working Group on Ageing
Geneva, 22-23 November 2010



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Programme of Work 2009-2010

United Nations

ECE/WG.1/2010/4



Economic and Social Council

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Third meeting

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Implementation of the Work Programme

Note by the secretariat

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Introduction	1-4	2
II. Implementation of the work programme for 2009-2010	5-30	2
A. Policy briefs with good practice examples	5-11	2
B. Monitoring of the UNECE ¹ Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing	12-20	3
C. Capacity development	21-28	5
D. Intergenerational relationships	29-30	6
III. Evaluation of programme performance	31-36	7
IV. Proposals for the programme of work for 2011	37-48	7
A. Policy briefs and good practice examples	39	8
B. Monitoring implementation of the UNECE Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing	40-43	8
C. Capacity development	44-46	8
D. Intergenerational relationships		9



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Policy briefs: idea behind

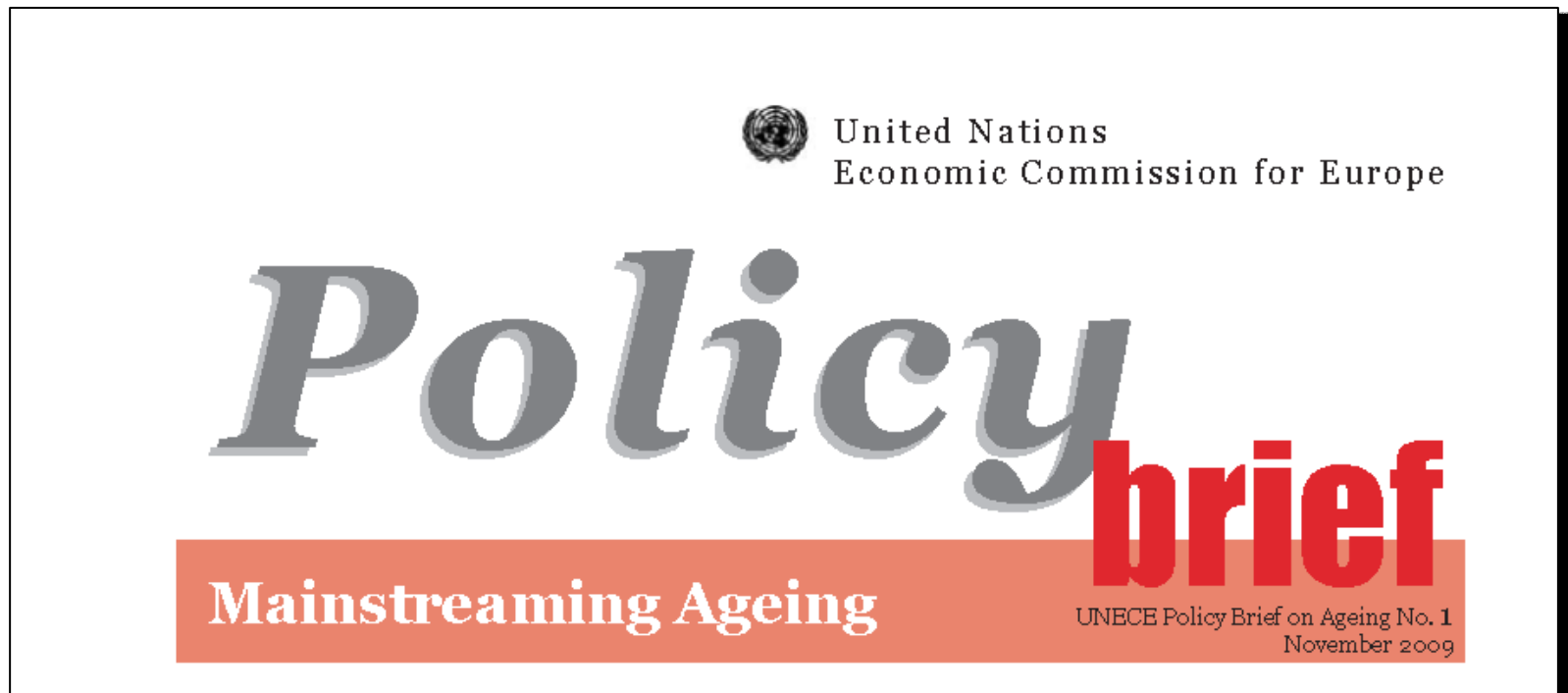
The challenge: Break down abstract policy frameworks of MIPAA/RIS to concrete action

- ✓ Translate knowledge into evidence-based policy advice
- ✓ Outline rationale for choosing a particular policy alternative
- ✓ Summarise state of the art of policy debate on an issue
- ✓ Concise, easily understandable for broad audience
- ✓ Good practice examples representing all UNECE region



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Policy brief: elements



The logo



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Policy brief: elements

Good practice examples: geographical coverage

Romania: Consumer protection in housing policies

The proportion of privately owned houses in Romania has been increasing, which has resulted in a reduction of the stock of social dwellings. The economic transition was accompanied by a spectacular growth in price of property. In recent years, homelessness has become more visible and debts for the payment of the maintenance costs frequently result in eviction. Older persons living in rented houses are also at risk of eviction by former owners who were expropriated in 1949 and are entitled to receive back their properties.

Integrated policymaking for older persons: the Slovak Social Services Act

The Slovak “National Programme for the Protection of the Elderly” (NPPE) provides a comprehensive framework for policymaking related to older persons. Its overall aims are to achieve self-sufficiency, social participation and integration for older persons and to enable them to fulfil themselves and live in dignity. The NPPE covers a broad range of areas, including social security, employment and family policy, education, safety, health care, housing, culture and media, taxes and fees, transport, postal and telecommunication services, legal protection, the economy, agriculture and the environment.

To address the increasing need for social services specifically, the government of Slovakia has adopted a new Social Services Act, which entered into force in January 2009. The Act addresses the efficient provision of services to severely disabled and older persons, among other target groups. It regulates the competence of government bodies, introduces a system of community planning provides for the interlinking of social services and health care, including the financing of social services. It sets out requirements necessary for performing work in the field of social services and introduces a system of quality control. Service providers now have to register in order to operate. They have to comply with a clearly defined set of procedural, personnel and operating conditions which are monitored by independent inspection bodies. The Act offers a comprehensive approach to social service provision, as one crucial component of a wider strategy on ageing and older persons.

Source: Information provided by the Slovak Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, personal communication July 2009.

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Policy brief: elements

Response template:

- ✓ Title of project or legislative act
- ✓ Topic of policy brief for which the project is considered relevant
- ✓ Start and end date of project
- ✓ Goal and very brief explanation
- ✓ Degree of implementation/progress status
- ✓ Explanation of why this is a good practice example
- ✓ Link to website or contact for further information

All UNECE member States were asked to contribute good practice examples from their countries.



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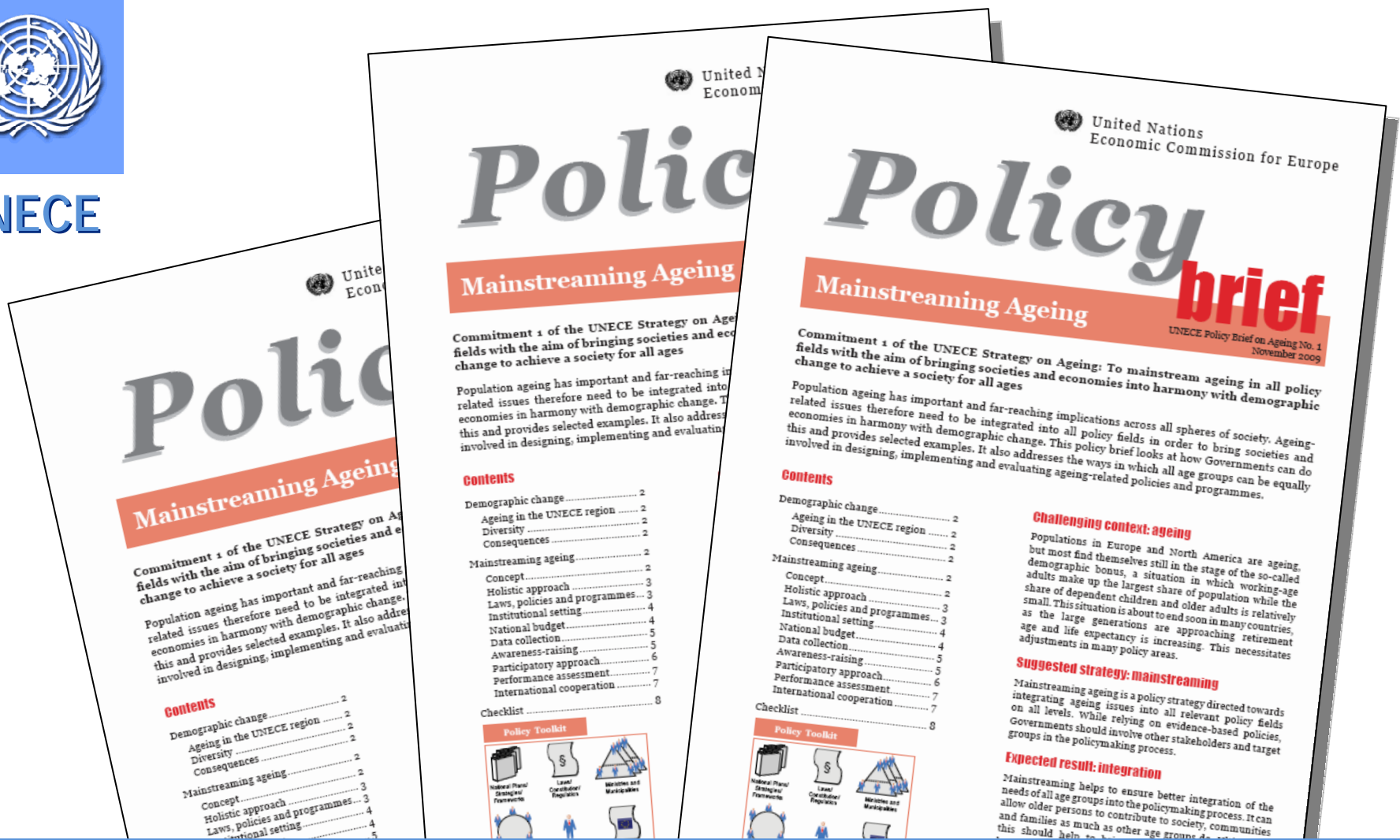


The series of 8 Policy Briefs published: Special thanks to all contributors!

- Better quality of life for older persons
- Increased social cohesion for society as a whole
- Achieving a society for all ages



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Thank you for translating the Briefs and for disseminating them in your country!



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Geneva, July 2007
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Policy brief

Mainstreaming Ageing
UNICE Policy Brief on Ageing No. 1
November 2009

Population ageing has important and far-reaching implications across all spheres of society. Ageing-related issues therefore need to be integrated into all policy fields in order to bring societies and economies in harmony with demographic change. This policy brief looks at how Governments can do this and provides selected examples. It also addresses the ways in which all age groups can be equally involved in designing, implementing and evaluating ageing-related policies and programmes.

English Russian

Gender equality, work and old age
UNICE Policy Brief on Ageing No. 2
November 2009

To respond to demographic and societal changes, the effects of policies on men and women and on all generations have to be considered. Gender mainstreaming is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, for instance legislation, policies and programmes, prior to implementation. This allows the development of strategies in which concerns and experiences specific to women and men are an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes.

English Russian

Older persons as consumers
UNICE Policy Brief on Ageing No. 3
November 2009

In an ageing society, one aim is to further enhance the social, economic, political and cultural participation of older persons. [...] Older persons should therefore be recognized as a significant consumer group with altered and specific needs, interests, and preferences. Governments, service providers and civil society should take into account the views of older persons on the design of products and delivery of services.

English Russian

Integration and participation of older persons in society
UNICE Policy Brief on Ageing No. 4
November 2009

To respond to demographic and societal changes, the effects of policies on men and women and on all generations have to be considered. Gender mainstreaming is the process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, for instance legislation, policies and programmes, prior to implementation. This allows the development of strategies in which concerns and experiences specific to women and men are an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes.

English Russian



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Policy brief: next steps

Questions for discussion:

- ✓ Which topics would it be desirable to cover in 2011?
- ✓ Which additional good-practice examples do you know of that could be reflected in them?
- ✓ Are you going to translate and disseminate them in your country?
- ✓ How could future policy briefs be improved?

Thank you!