

Active Ageing Index

A legacy of the 2012 European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations

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OVERVIEW

1. Active ageing as a policy approach
2. Introducing Active Ageing Index “**AAI**”
3. Key findings from the AAI for EU countries
4. Moving forward

Part 1

Active ageing as a policy approach

Active ageing approach

- The active ageing approach rejects the deficit model (projecting older people as passive) and favours a rights-based approach to recognise equality of opportunity and potential of older people

Active Ageing and Sustainable Development

I. the moral case, to take care of our elders in the development process

Development strategies must be inclusive of older persons, in improving their wellbeing and QOL

A bold pledge made in the 2015 Agenda of Sustainable Development

‘... leaving no one behind...’

Active Ageing and Sustainable Development

- I. *the moral case, to take care of our elders*
- II. *the economic case, to tap the fullest potential of older persons*

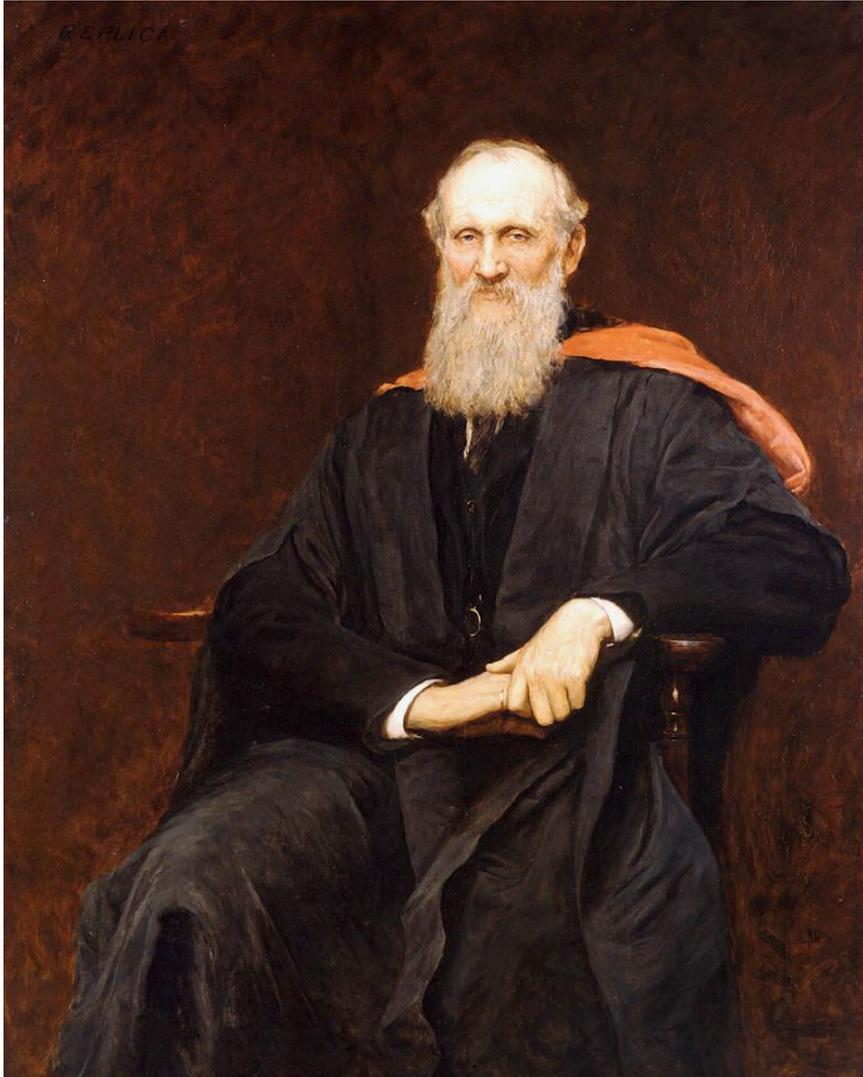
when empowered, active and engaged older persons contribute to their own health, independence and autonomy and to the welfare of the society in which they live

Part 2

Introducing Active Ageing Index (AAI)

The philosophy behind the AAI

Building knowledge using numbers



“When you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meagre and unsatisfactory kind”

Lord Kelvin in 1883

Mathematician, physicist and engineer, 1824-1907

Three Objectives of the AAI project

Launched on the eve of the European Year 2012

- I. To produce high-quality, independent, multi-perspective quantitative evidence on active ageing in Europe

Second objective of the AAI

- II. To highlight the **contributions of older people** in different dimensions of lives of older persons; and help identify the potential of older people

Third objective of the AAI

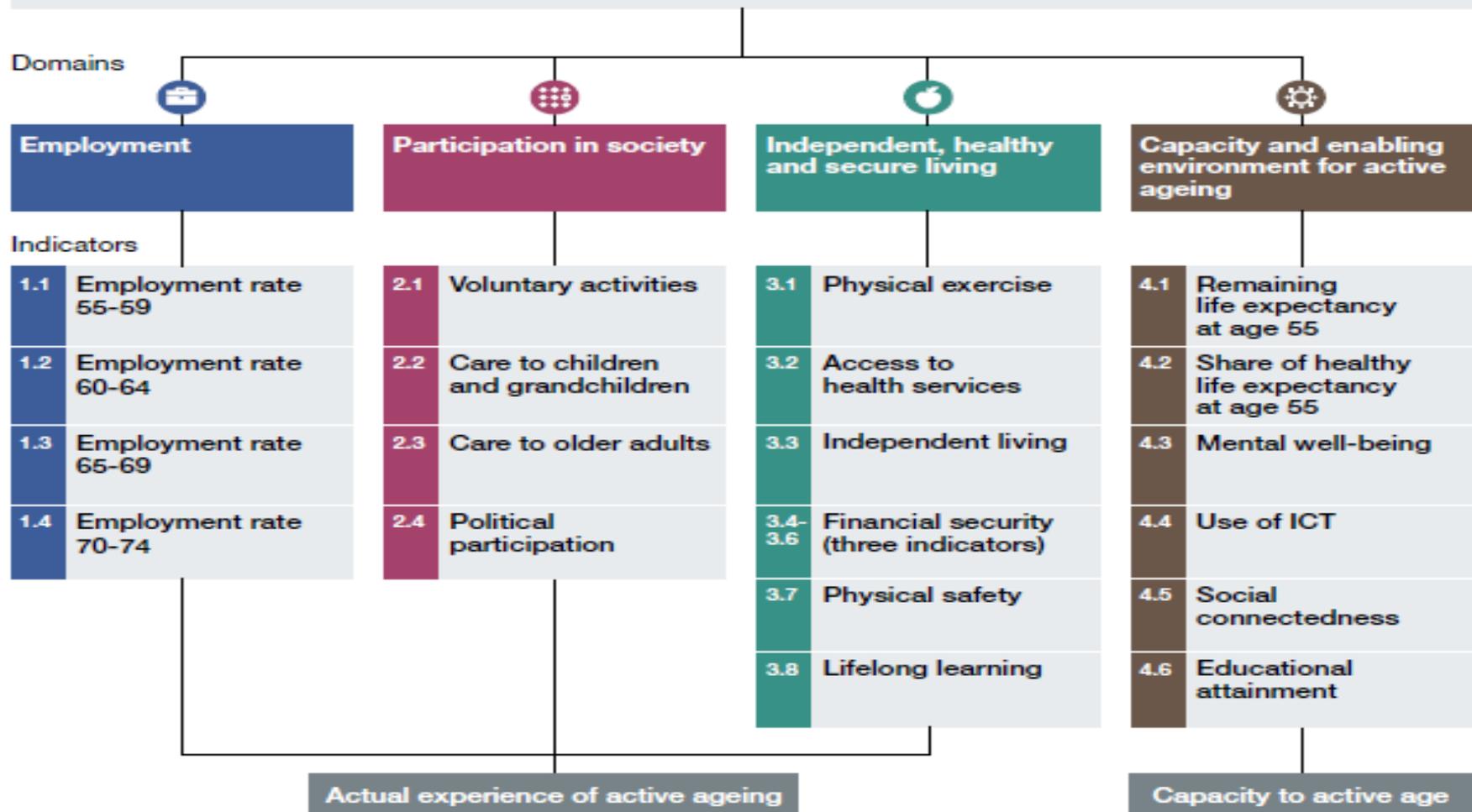
- III. To offer policy makers **comparative evidence** and encourage them to use the AAI for mutual learning and in developing strategies for promoting active and healthy ageing.

The AAI framework

22 indicators to 4 domains to a single number AAI

Active Ageing Index

The Active Ageing Index (AAI) is a tool to measure the untapped potential of older people for active and healthy ageing across countries. It measures the level to which older people live independent lives, participate in paid employment and social activities as well as their capacity to actively age.



Source: For a discussion on the choice of indicators includes, see Zaidi and Stanton (2015)

Part 3

Key findings of the Active Ageing Index for EU countries

The report released
by the UNECE /
European
Commission during
the AAI International
Seminar, 16-17 April,
2015

Data points covered:
2008
2010
2012

Active Ageing Index 2014

Analytical Report

April 2015



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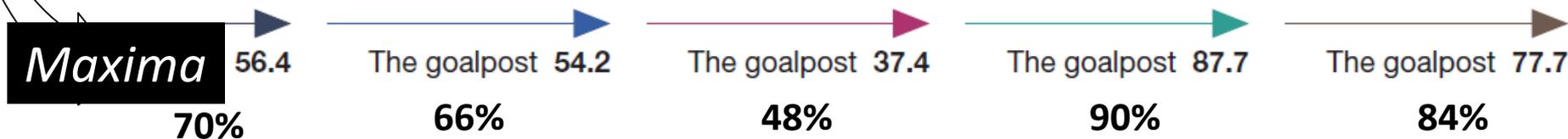
Affluent EU States in the Northern and Western Europe have had greater overall success



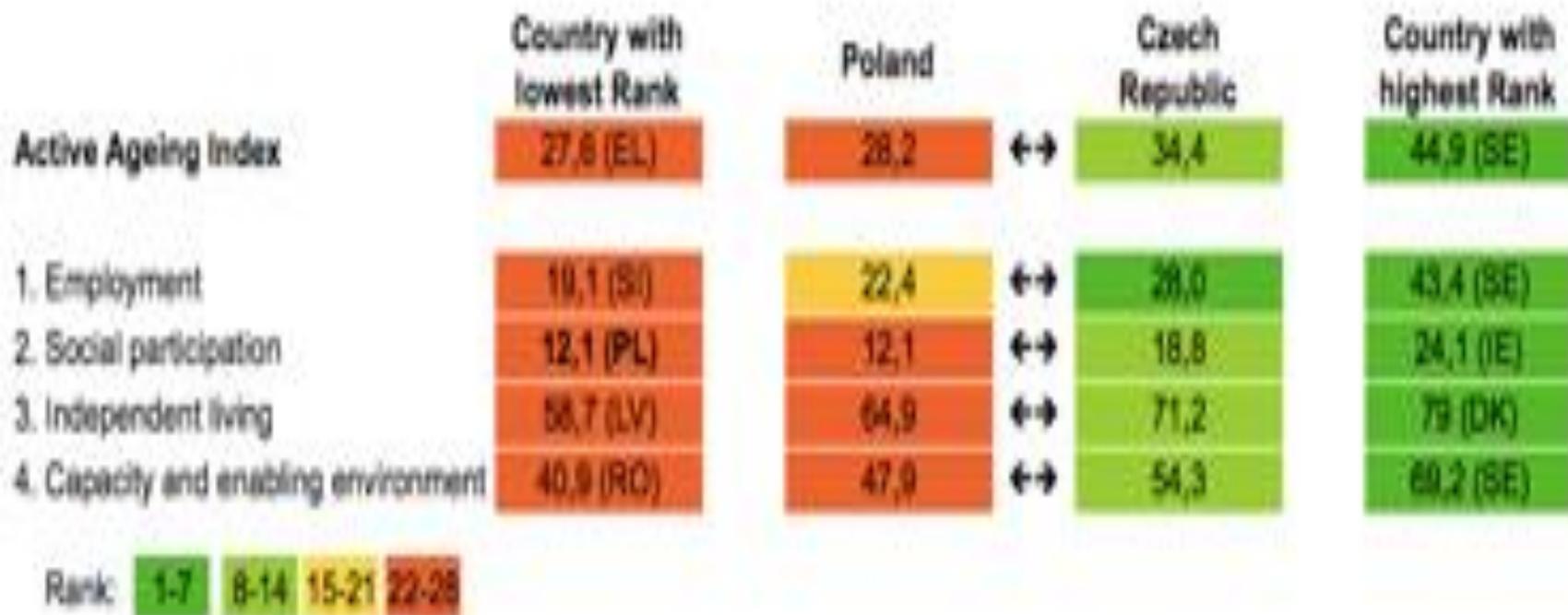
Source: Zaidi and Stanton (2015), pp. 18

Key message: The AAI helps use identify policy priorities in promoting the AAI

	<i>Overall</i>		<i>Emp</i>		<i>Soc</i>		<i>Indep</i>		<i>Env</i>
1	Sweden	44.9	Sweden	43.4	Ireland	24.1	Denmark	79.0	Sweden
2	Denmark	40.3	Estonia	39.7	Italy	24.1	Finland	79.0	Denmark
3	Netherlands	40.0	Denmark	35.8	Sweden	22.9	Netherlands	78.9	Luxembourg
4	UK	39.7	UK	35.8	France	22.8	Sweden	78.6	Netherlands
5	Finland	39.0	Germany	34.4	Netherlands	22.4	Luxembourg	76.7	UK
6	Ireland	38.6	Netherlands	33.9	Luxembourg	22.2	France	75.9	Finland
7	France	35.8	Finland	33.7	UK	21.6	Ireland	74.9	Belgium
8	Luxembourg	35.7	Portugal	32.6	Finland	20.5	Germany	74.4	Ireland
9	Germany	35.4	Latvia	32.0	Belgium	20.2	Slovenia	74.2	France
10	Estonia	34.6	Cyprus	31.4	Denmark	19.6	Austria	73.8	Austria



AAI in pair-wise comparisons (in MOPACT)



Part 4

Moving forward

Moving forward

- I. The AAI points to critical insights about promoting active ageing:
 - It helps generate **evidence** on how a country (or a sub-region) fares in comparison to its comparators?
 - Further in-depth analysis highlights the potential of **policy learnings** (e.g. using comparative pair-wise analysis)

Moving forward

- II. Replication of the AAI methodology is possible with the help of **the guidelines available**, however replication does not imply a perfect comparability
- ✓ Comparative research based on the AAI must account for different visions and goals with respect to active ageing;
 - ✓ ... must account for diversity of contexts across countries (and regions) and its subgroups
(this aspect will be emphasised in the two presentations made by my colleagues)

Thank you

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Key AAI references

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