UNECE: addressing population ageing in the region and beyond

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UNECE member States

56 states, 18% of world population, ~1/3 of world’s 65+
Regional trends: population 1995 - 2015

People in the UNECE region:

- live longer
- are healthier
- are better educated
- have fewer children, and later in life
- live in more diverse family settings
- have higher incomes
- are more mobile
A few facts on ageing population in UNECE region

- 186 million people are ≥ 65 years old
- Life expectancy is high but with important disparities between countries and between genders:
  - Women at birth: from 70 years to 85.2 years
  - Men at birth: from 61 years to 80.2 years
- Statutory retirement age and labour market exit age (LME)*:
  - 60 to 67 years for men / LME 62.2 years (2010)
  - 55 to 67 years for women / LME 61.5 years (2010)
Policy responses: from international frameworks to national strategies

- UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing, Berlin
- UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing, León
- UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing, Vienna
- UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing, Istanbul

1st World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna
- MIPAA
- 2nd World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid

- UNECE Working Group on Ageing
- 1st review cycle
- 2nd review cycle
- 3rd review cycle
- European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations
Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA, 2002)

Priority Directions for Policy Action:

- Older persons and development
- Advancing health and wellbeing into old age
- Ensuring enabling and supportive environments
- Implementation and follow-up
Commitments of RIS

1. Mainstreaming
2. Participation
3. Economic Growth
4. Social Protection Systems
5. Labour Markets
6. Life-Long Learning
7. Quality of Life, Health and Well-Being
8. Gender
9. Intergenerational Solidarity
10. Regional Cooperation
UNECE Working Group on Ageing (WGA)

Established in 2008, meets annually ~ 50 member States, NGOs, academia

WGA aims to facilitate and oversee the implementation of MIPAA/RIS nationally

Presently focuses on the goals for active ageing as outlined by the 2012 Vienna Ministerial Declaration
2012 Vienna Ministerial Declaration: goals

- Longer working live is encouraged and ability to work is maintained
- Participation, non-discrimination and social inclusion of older persons are promoted
- Dignity, health and independence in older age are promoted and safeguarded
- Intergenerational solidarity is maintained and enhanced
We work on:

**Policy Briefs**
to actively manage knowledge on and exchange around effective policies and good practice examples for implementing the Madrid International Plan

**Road Maps for Mainstreaming Ageing**
to provide concrete hands-on technical and policy support to countries according to their circumstances

**Monitoring tools and evidence building**
to translate evidence into policy-advice by facilitating development of targeted indicators and strategic data
Thank you

UNECE Population Unit
http://www.unece.org/pau/welcome.html