

## **Towards an Active Ageing Index Concept, Methodology and First Results**

Developed by the Research Team at European Centre Vienna, in  
collaboration with the UNECE and the European Commission

**November 2012**

Within the framework of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Assembly on Ageing, the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of review and appraisal of the implementation of MIPAA/RIS and the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, the European Commission's Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion together with the UNECE, and the European Centre Vienna have been undertaking a jointly-managed research project: the '**Active Ageing Index**'. This project aims to provide policymakers with a tool (the Active Ageing Index, AAI) that will highlight various areas for policy interventions across countries in relation to promoting active and healthy ageing in all its multifaceted ways.

The AAI would be a tool to measure active and healthy ageing across the EU and other UNECE countries. In addition to numerical outcomes, it will also point to untapped potential in ensuring quality of life for older people, at the country level and with a breakdown by men and women. The AAI makes use of a dashboard of indicators, organised under four different domains. It shows the extent to which older people have and can realise their potential with respect to employment, health, independent and autonomous living and other unpaid family, social and cultural contributions to the society.

To undertake this project in the most rigorous manner, the UNECE and the European Commission have put together a team of advisors, who are distinguished international experts in active ageing and intergenerational relationships from UNECE, European Commission, OECD and academia as well as from EUROSTAT and the national statistical agencies, and representatives of policymaking bodies of national governments and civil society.

The work reported by the European Centre Vienna during the Special session on monitoring MIPAA/RIS and Active Ageing Index project at the Fifth meeting of the Working Group on Ageing will include the preliminary set of results for 27 EU member States on individual active ageing indicators, which have been aggregated into a gender-specific index. The presentation will also describe the research methodology used and the essential insights drawn from the discussions on conceptual considerations. Most notably, the results reported at this stage remain work-in-progress; therefore, comments for further

improvements from experts present at the meeting of the Working Group on Ageing would be highly appreciated.

UNECE secretariat will report on the pilot study for compiling the AAI in Georgia. The purpose of this study is to investigate the possibilities and impediments in applying AAI outside the EU area.

The work on AAI continues and is being revised and expanded in the light of comments from the UNECE, the European Commission and the Expert Group as well as from discussions of the preliminary AAI results at various events, such as the 2012 World Demographic & Ageing Forum in St. Gallen, at the 2012 UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing in Vienna and the Fifth meeting of the Working Group on Ageing.

**More detailed analysis is presented in the paper:**

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By

Asghar Zaidi, Katrin Gasior, Maria M. Hofmarcher, Orsolya Lelkes, Bernd Marin,  
Ricardo Rodrigues, Andrea Schmidt, Pieter Vanhuyse and Eszter Zolyomi

European Centre Vienna

July 2012