

- Expert Group Meeting -

Population Ageing and the Situation of Older Persons in Asia and the Pacific: Follow-up to the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing

Review of the Asia-Pacific Report on Population Ageing 2022, Older Persons and Development

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Chapter 2: Older persons and development

- Institutional arrangements
- Recent legislation on older persons
- Active participation of older persons in society
- Work and the ageing labour force
 - Formal and informal work
- Access to knowledge, education and training
- Eradication of poverty

Institutional and legislative arrangements

- Governments have recognized the importance of establishing or strengthening of institutions and bodies that oversee policies and programs on older persons
- Inter-ministerial and who-of-society approach
- Considerable progress in adopted or revised policies, plans and programmes
- Emphasis on health and healthy ageing, care, social protection and gender

Active participation of older persons in society (I)

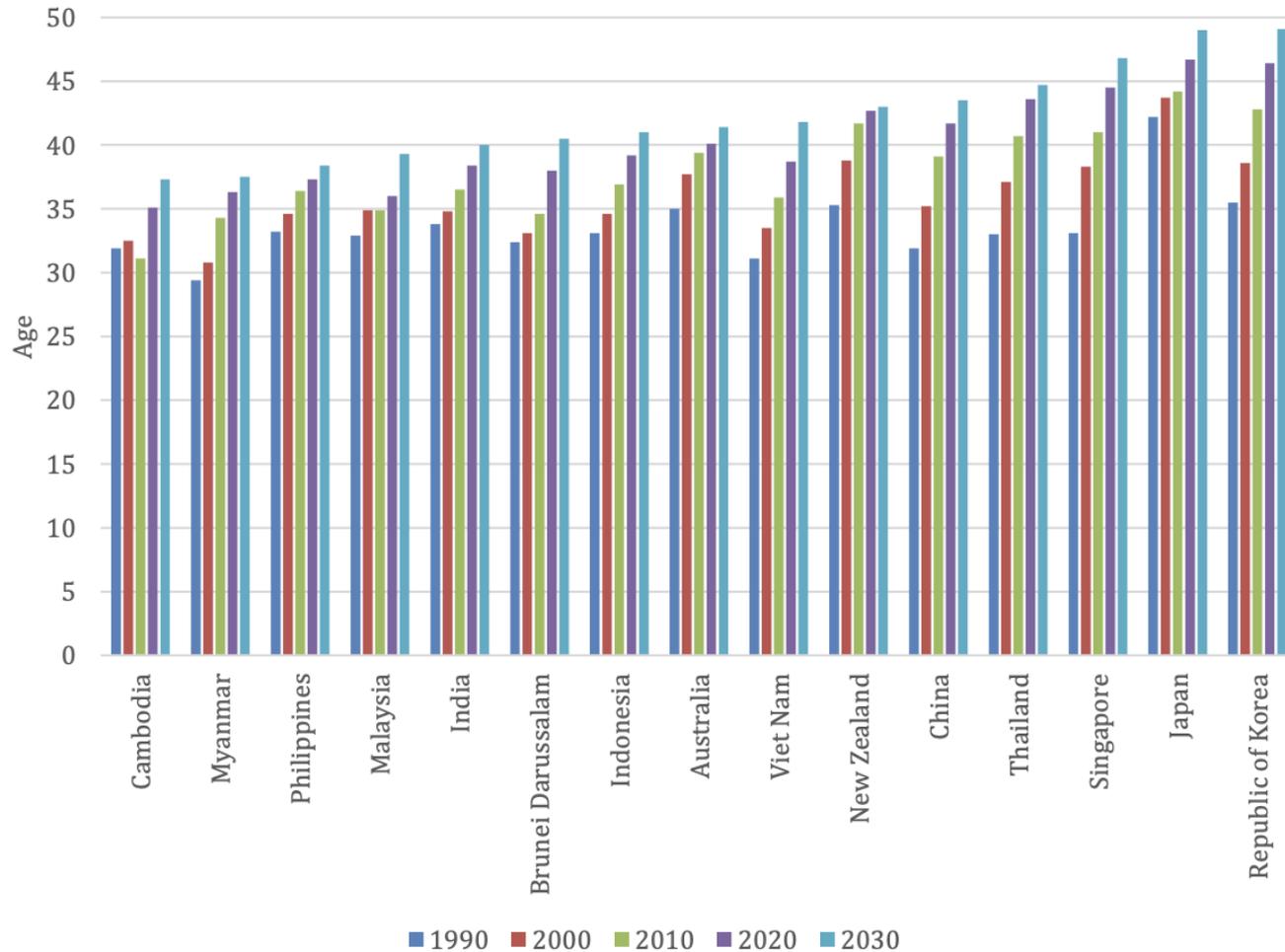
- The majority of countries have measures to promote participation in politics and decision-making, however, the extent of involvement varies
- Challenges: strengthening the role of women in leadership roles as well as changing the perceptions on ageing among youth and older generations
- Examples of mechanisms that support the bottom-up approach to ageing-related decision-making processes
- Strong representation of community-based organizations or older people's associations

Active participation of older persons in society (II)

- Various measures that facilitate the participation of older persons in physical activity
- Many MS reported on volunteer initiatives with older persons or that target older persons
- Opportunities for intergenerational support and exchange
- Social and cultural recognition: campaigns, programmes and training

Work and the ageing labour force (I)

Median age of the labour force (years) in selected Asia-Pacific countries, 1990, 2000, 2010, 2020, 2030



Work and the ageing labour force (II)

- Older persons mainly work in the informal labour force, in particular older women
- Support to enhance the participation of older persons in income-generating work
- Age-discrimination in the work place still a significant problem

The future of work

- Nearly all countries have a set statutory retirement age ranging from 55-65 years – some have increased retirement age
- Gaps in retirement age for women and men remain in a number of countries
- Limited initiatives that promote longer working lives and COVID-19 has caused many workers to stop working or receive lower salaries

Access to knowledge, education and training

- Various initiatives support the access to knowledge, education and training, however challenges persist in rural areas and older women
- Work-related training and learning opportunities
- Life-course approach and life-long learning opportunities
- Digital literacy promotion

Eradicating poverty

- An additional 89 million people have been pushed below the extreme poverty line among others as a result of COVID-19. Many of these are older persons
- Various measures reported: social protection, laws, pension schemes
- Despite increase in old-age pension coverage, it still remains low
- Examples of closing the gender pay gap were reported by MS

Pension coverage

