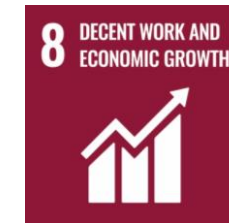


Population ageing and decent work in ASEAN

Sabine Henning, PhD

Chief, Sustainable Demographic Transition Section,
Social Development Division, ESCAP

Regional Conference on “Promoting Decent Work for Older Persons for an Inclusive Society in ASEA+3: Strengthening A More Resilient and Inclusive Society During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic” - 28-29 June 2021, Virtual Conference



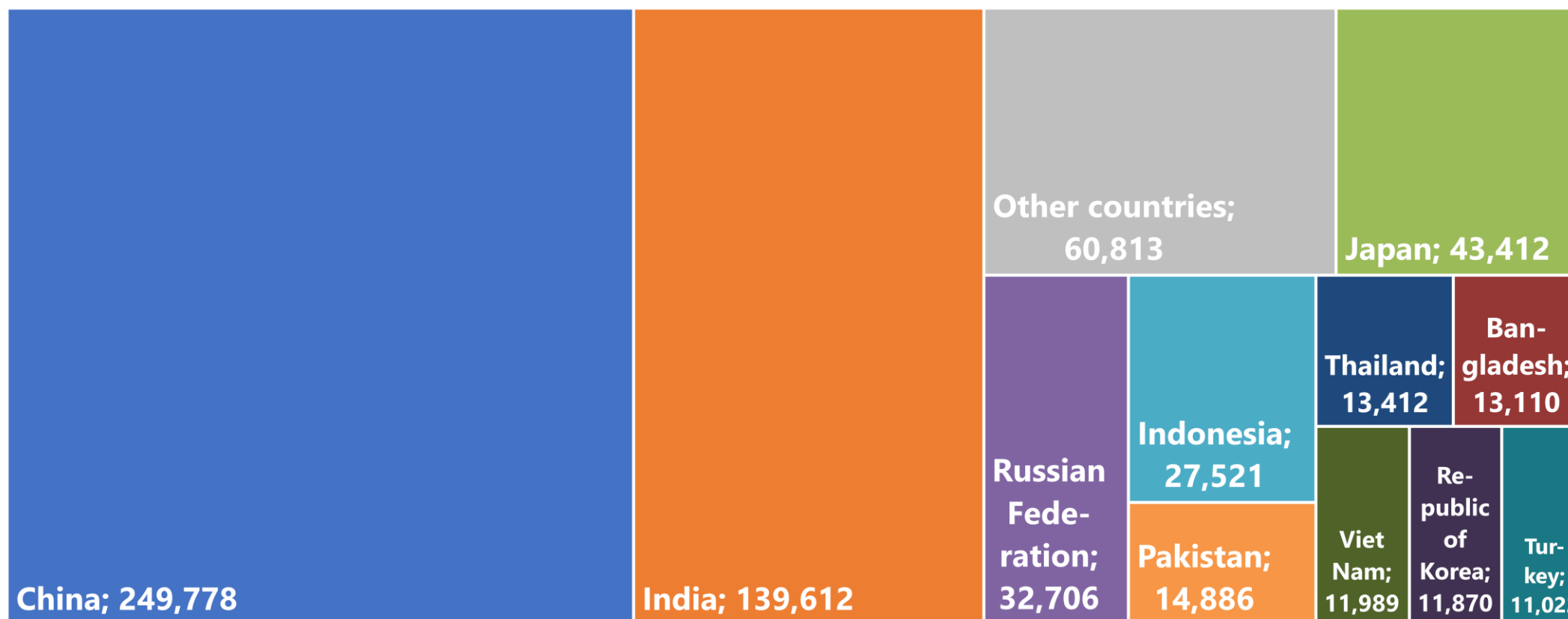
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MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

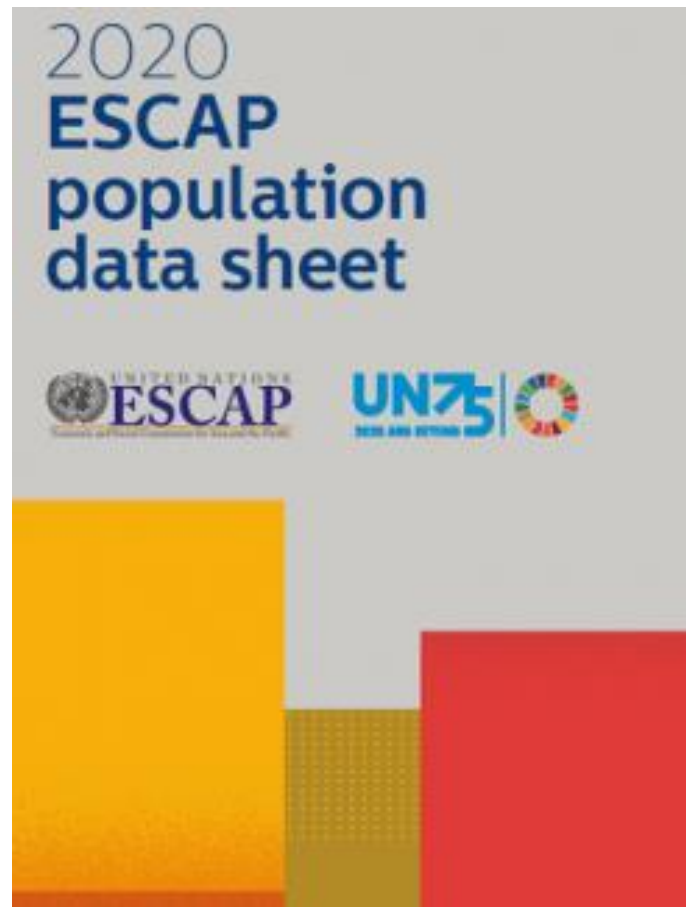


2020: Over 630 million older persons in the Asia-Pacific region – ASEAN+3 has some of the largest ageing populations

Number of people aged 60+ in the Asia-Pacific region (thousands), 2020



ESCAP compiles and reports on population ageing data (www.population-trends-asiapacific.org)



<https://bit.ly/3wTe5DH>



<https://bit.ly/35X7vjL>

COVID-19 pandemic impact on older persons

Life and death

Serious morbidity and mortality rates from COVID-19 are significantly higher among older persons. An estimated 66% of people aged 70 and over have at least one underlying health condition.

Economic well-being

The pandemic may significantly lower older persons' incomes and living standards, compromising their overall access to health care and other health-related supports.

Responders

Older persons are not just passive victims. They are also responding. They are health workers, caregivers, and among many essential service providers.



Essential health-care and social support that older persons often rely on is under pressure. Almost half of all COVID-19-related deaths worldwide have occurred in long-term care settings.

Vulnerability

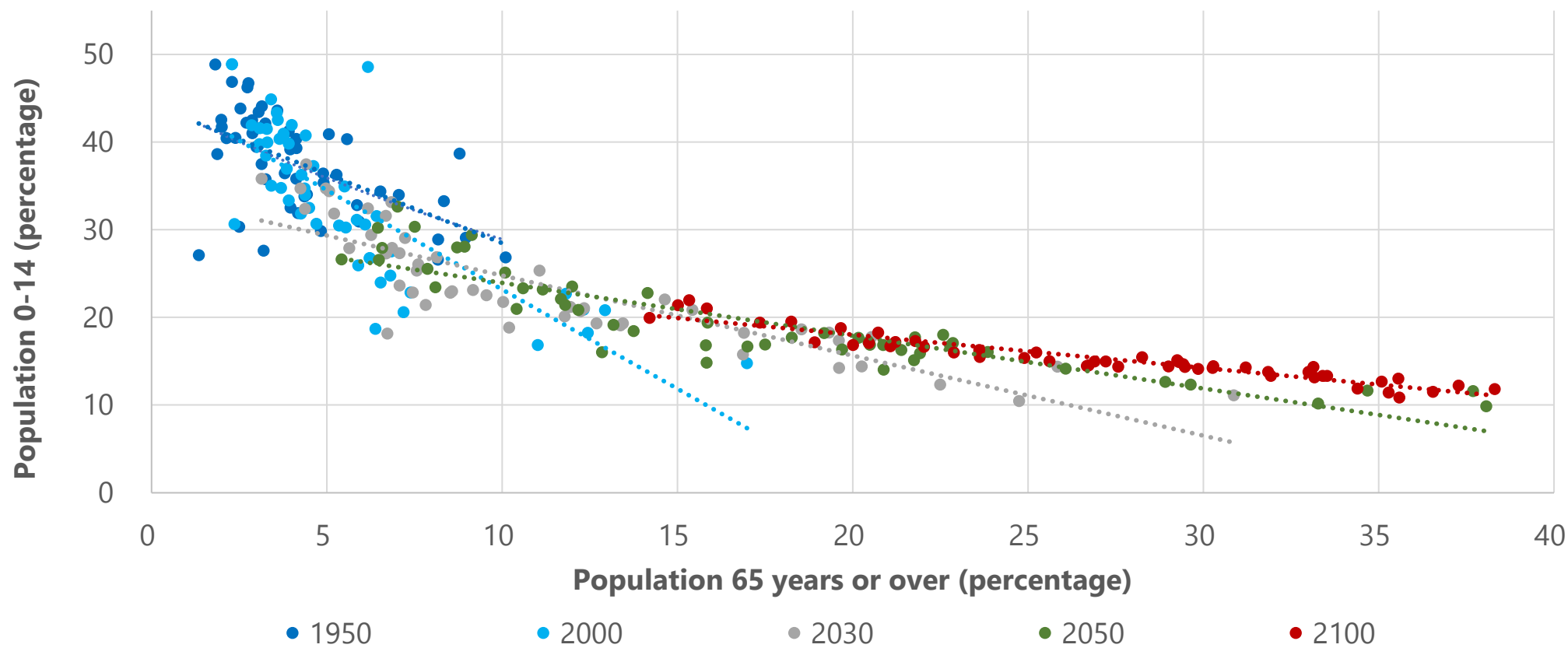
Mental health

Social distancing can take a heavy toll on the mental health of older persons. Living alone and being more digitally disconnected than others, the risks are higher for older persons

Abuse and neglect

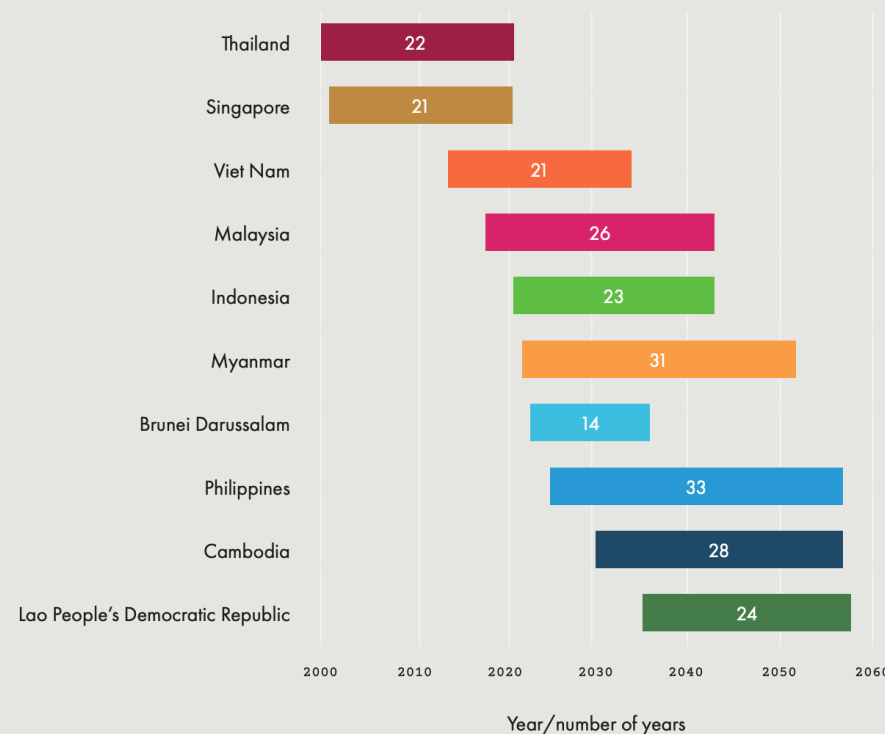
In 2017, 1 in 6 people were subjected to abuse. With lockdowns and reduced care, violence against older persons is on the rise.

Shifting age structures in Asia-Pacific



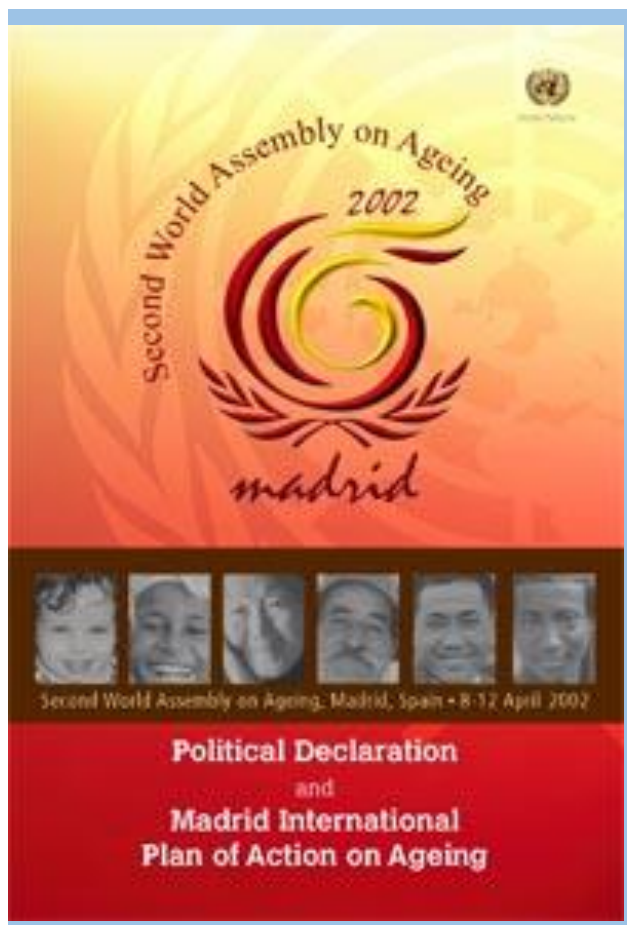
ASEAN countries at different stages of population ageing

Speed of population ageing = number of years required or expected for percentage of population aged 65 or over to rise continuously from 7 to 14 per cent (measured from 1950 onwards)



Source: ESCAP calculations based on: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019), World Population Prospects 2019, Online Edition and Kinsella, Kevin and Wan He (2009). "An Aging World: 2008". International Population and ESCAP (2021), 2020 Older persons in ASEAN in numbers <https://bit.ly/35X7vjL>

Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA)



§116 ... The aim of the International Plan of Action is to ensure that persons everywhere are able to age with **security** and **dignity** and to continue to participate in their societies as citizens with **full rights**.

Priority direction:

- A. **Older persons** and **development**
- B. Advancing **health** and **well-being** into old age
- C. Ensuring **enabling** and **supportive environments**

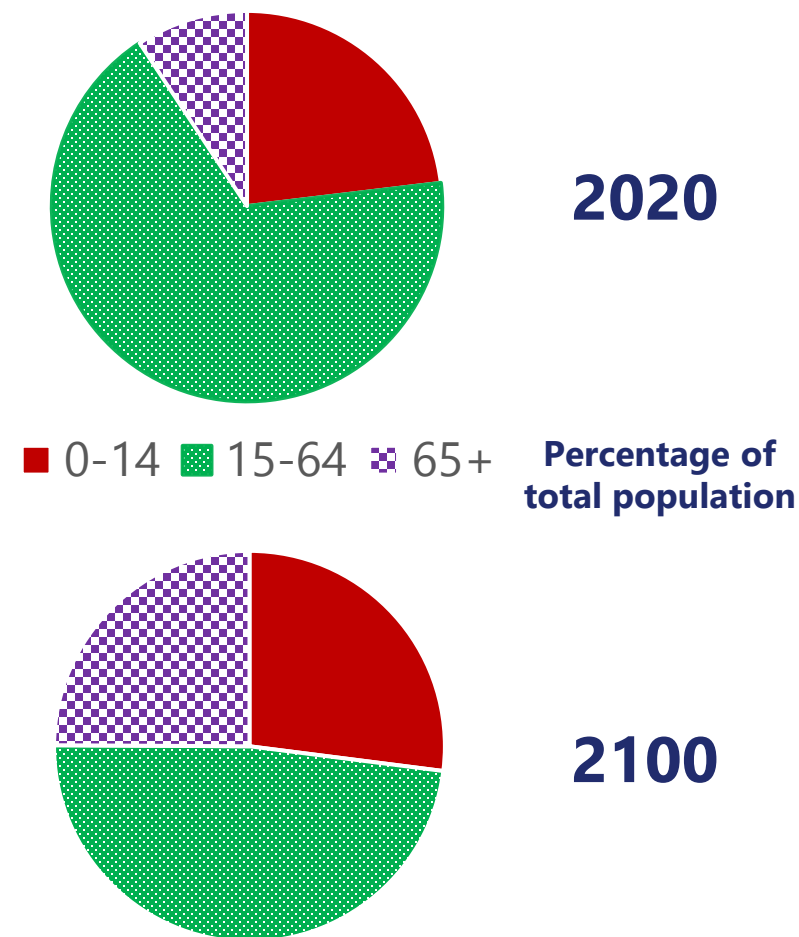
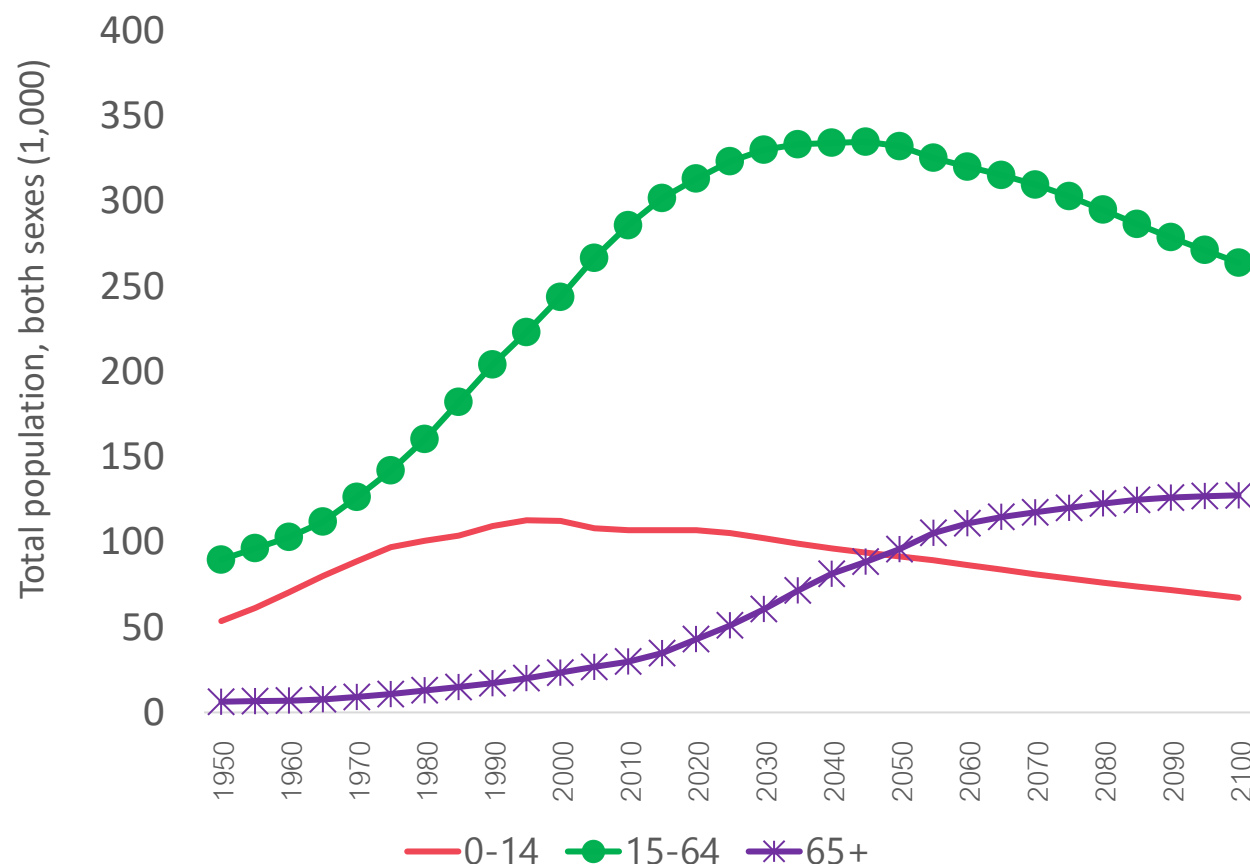
MIPAA – pillars and priority directions

Pillar I: Older persons and development	
1. Active participation in society and development	2. Work and the ageing labour force
3. Rural development, migration, urbanization	4. Access to knowledge, education, training
5. Intergenerational solidarity	6. Eradication of poverty
7. Income security, social protection/social security, poverty prevention	8. Emergency situations

Pillar II: Advancing health and well-being into old age	
1. Health promoting and well-being throughout life	2. Universal and equal access to health-care services
3. Older persons and HIV/AIDS	4. Training of care providers and health professionals
5. Mental health needs of older persons	6. Older persons with disabilities

Pillar III: Ensuring enabling and supportive environments	
1. Housing and the living environment	2. Care and support for caregivers
3. Neglect, abuse and violence	4. Images of ageing

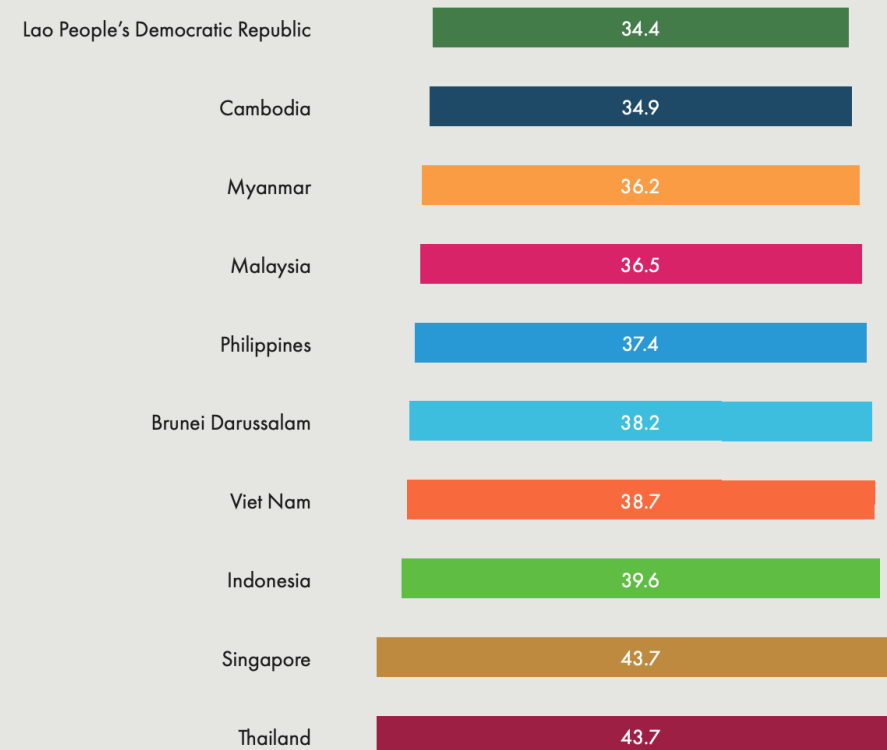
15-65 age cohort shrinks as older cohort grows: a new definition of “working age”



ASEAN labour force is getting older

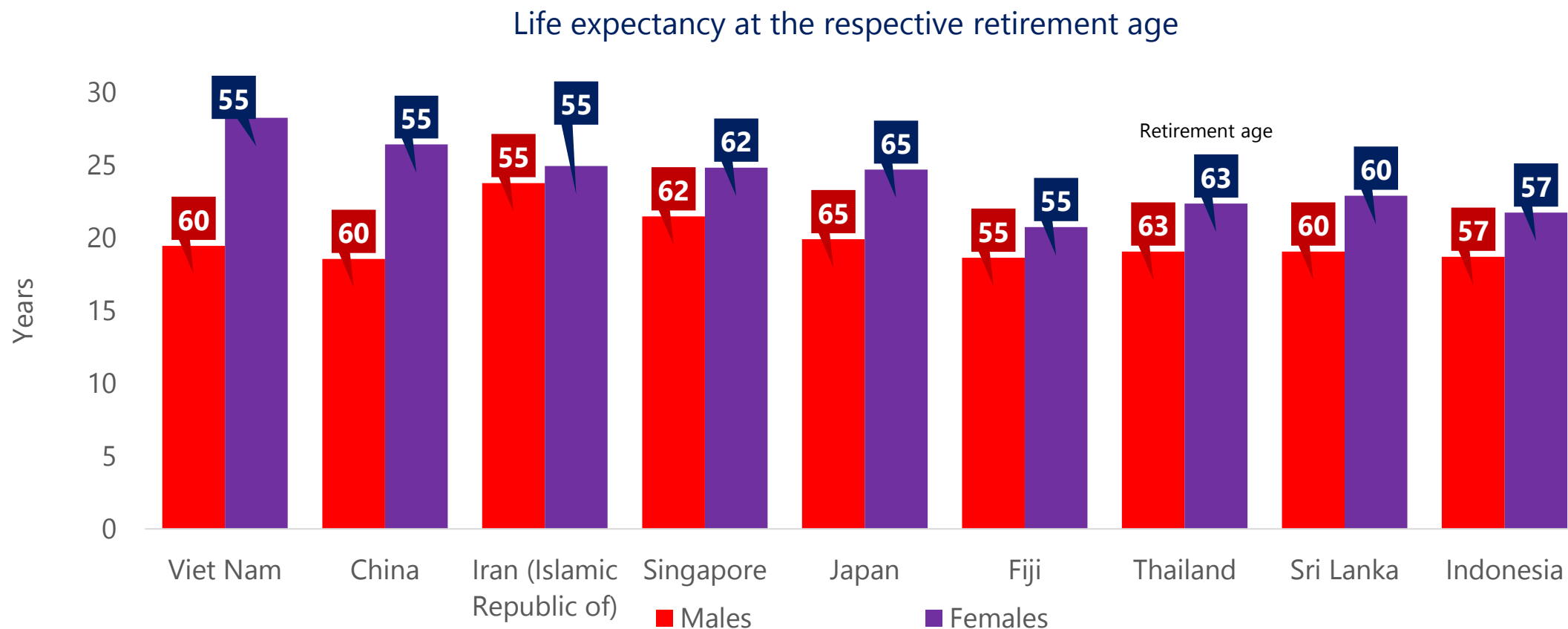


Median age of the working-age population in ASEAN countries (years), 2020



Source: International Labour Organization (2020). ILOSTAT database. Online. Available from <https://ilostat ilo org data/> and ESCAP (2021), 2020 Older persons in ASEAN in numbers <https://bit.ly/35X7vjL>.

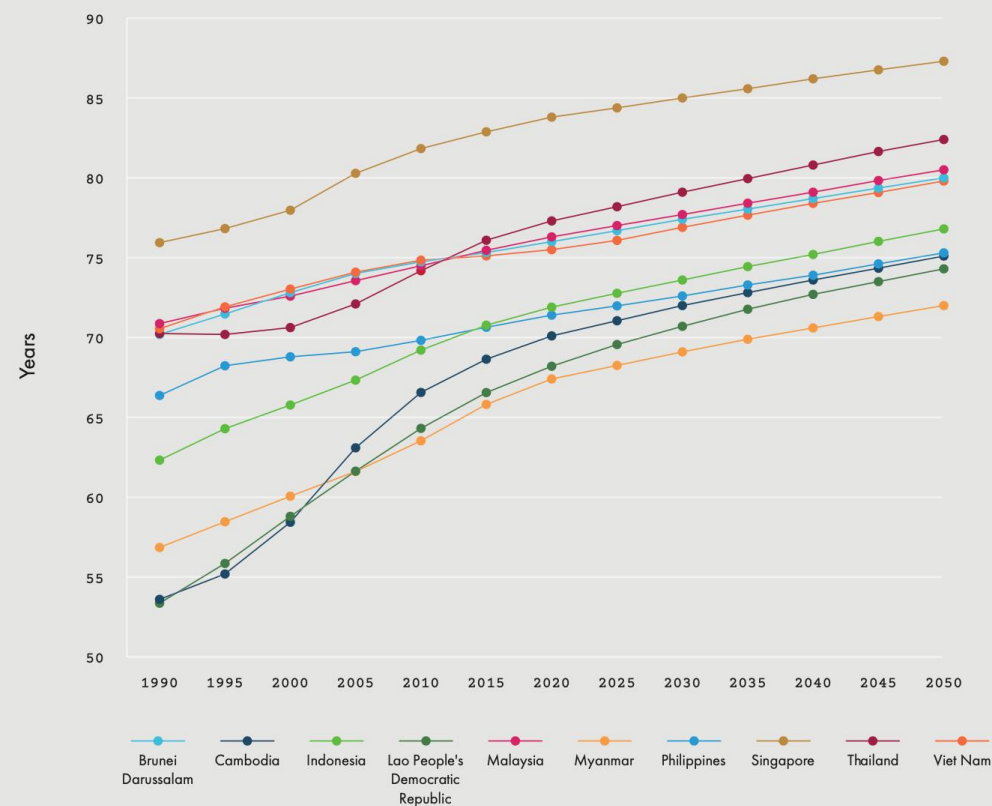
In Asia and the Pacific people live between 19 and 30 years beyond retirement



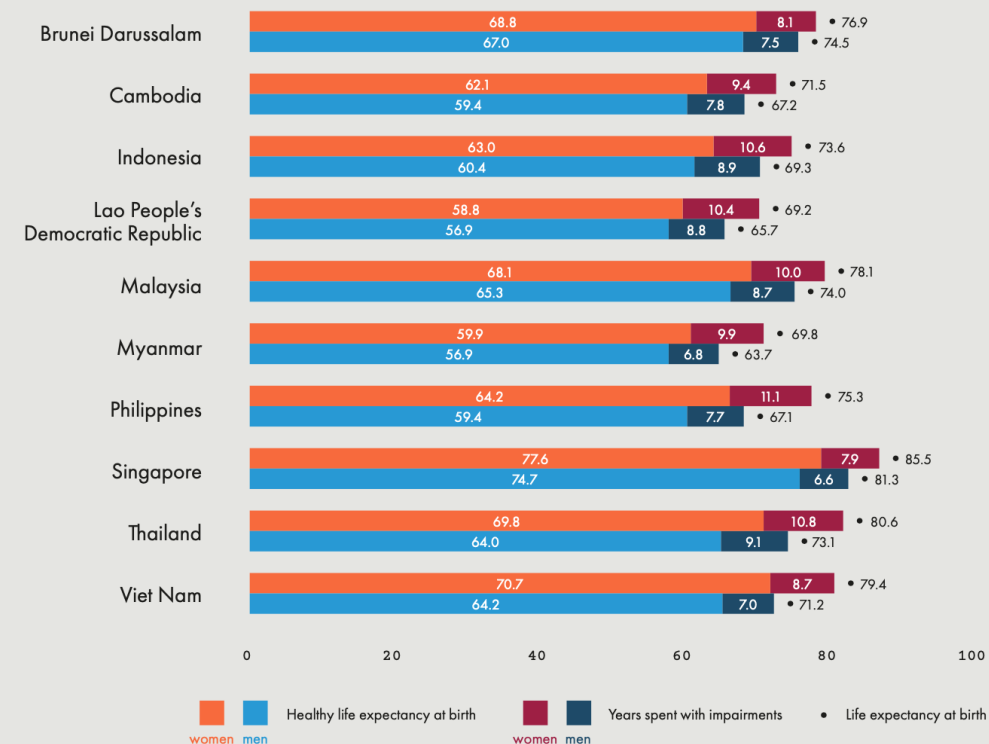
Source: ESCAP calculations with data from United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019), *World Population Prospects 2019 - Special Aggregates, Online Edition. Rev 1*; United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019).

Living longer but not always healthier

Life expectancy at birth in ASEAN countries, 1990-2050

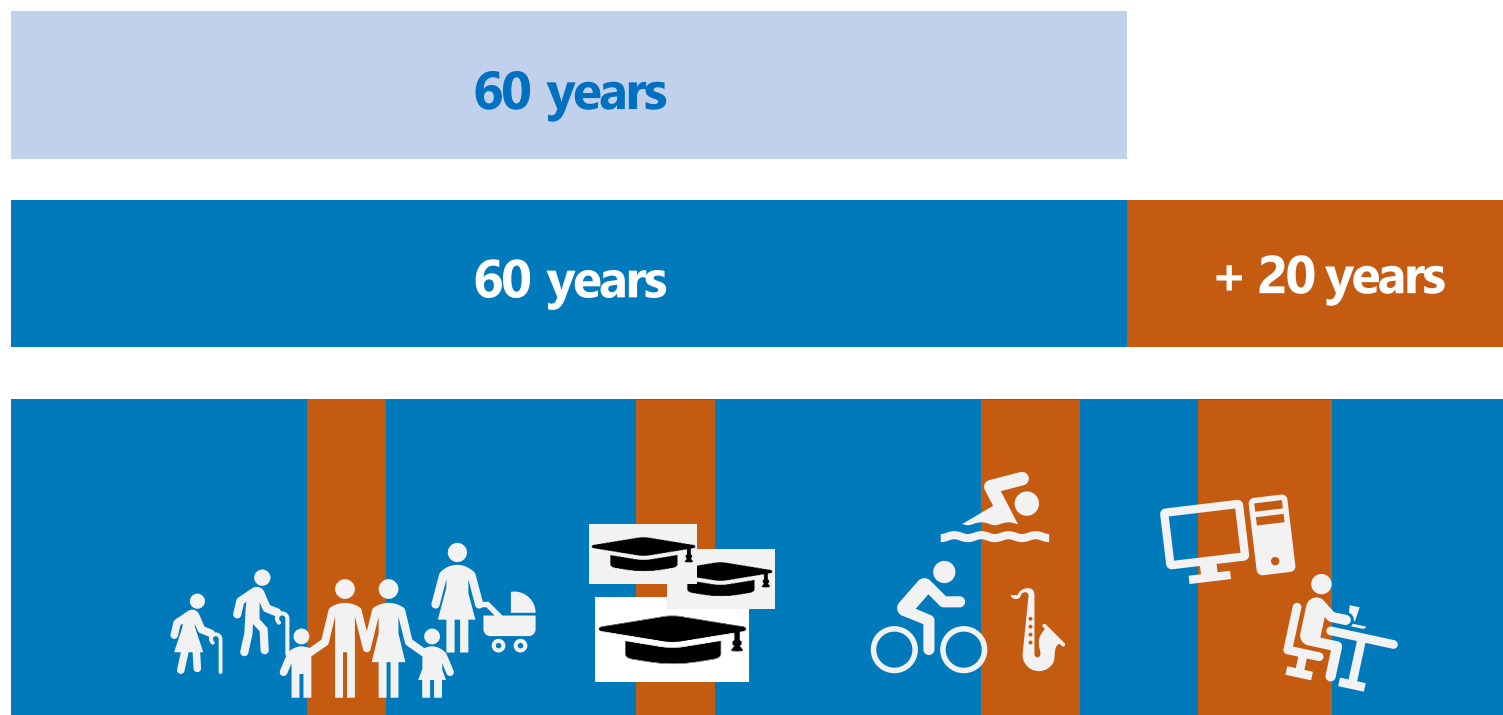


Healthy life expectancy at birth, women and men, and years spent with impairments, 2016 (defined as the difference between life expectancy at birth and healthy life expectancy at birth)



Healthy lifestyle and continuous learning are key to longer and more active lives

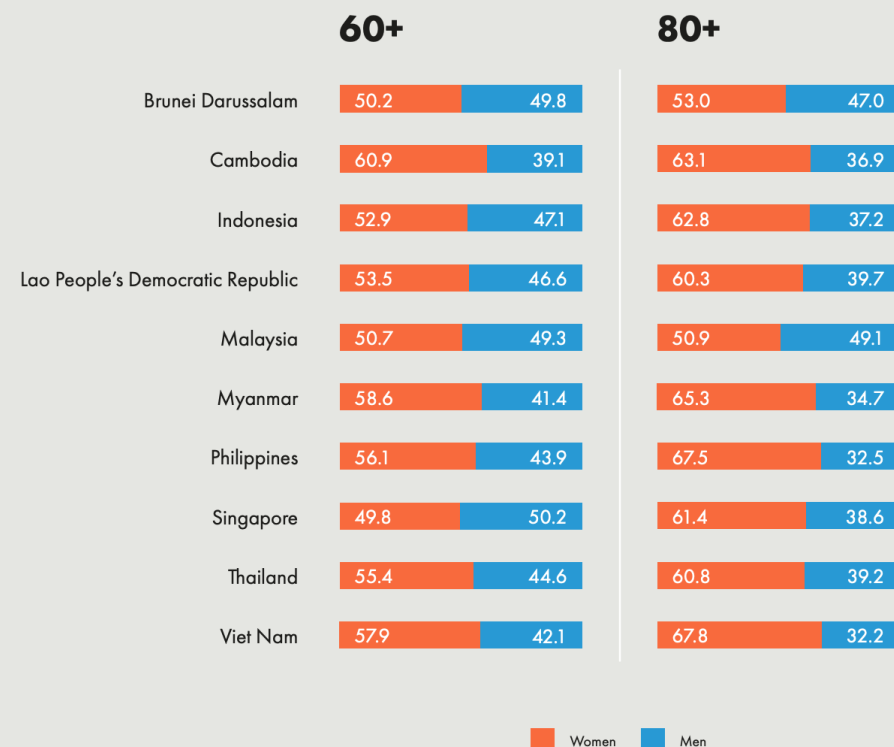
Rethinking work-life to enjoy the extra 20 years throughout life



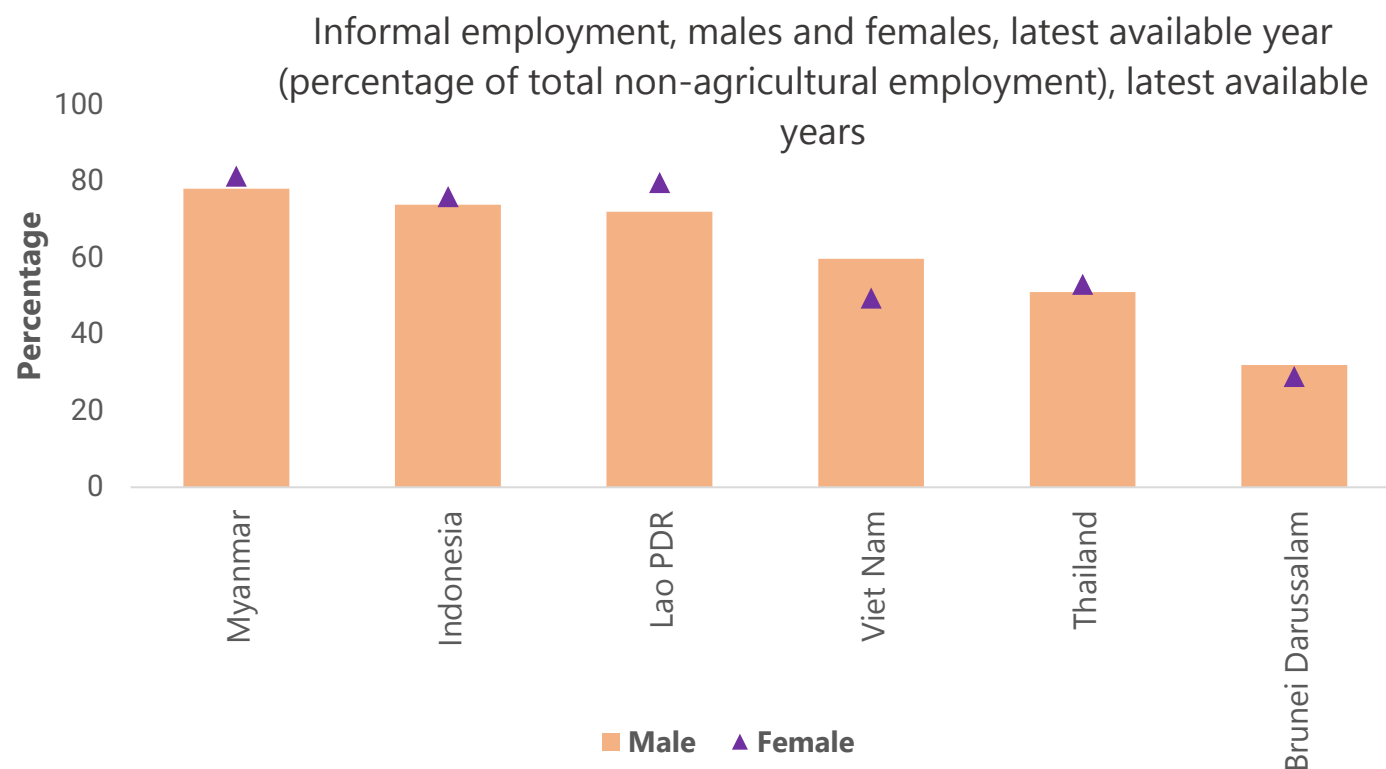
Older women outnumber older men



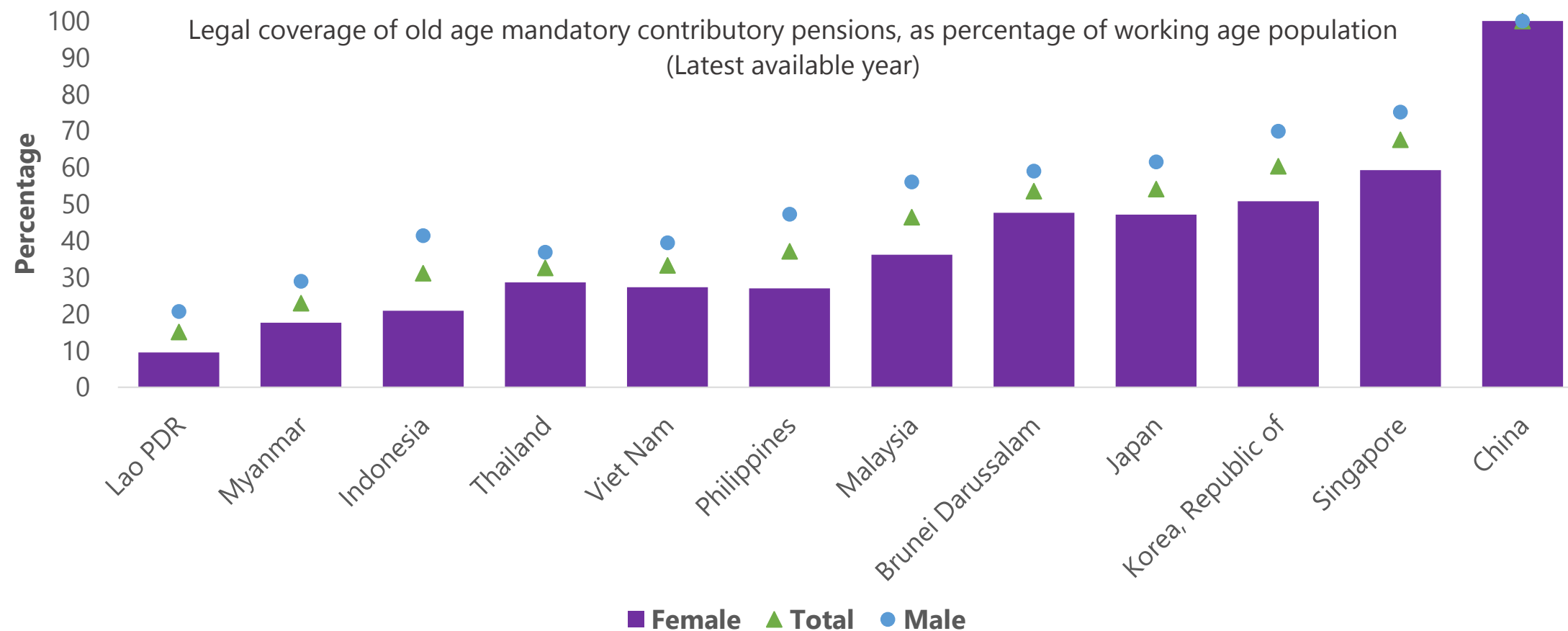
Percentage of women and men aged 60 or over and aged 80 or over in ASEAN countries, 2020



Many informal sector workers in ASEAN

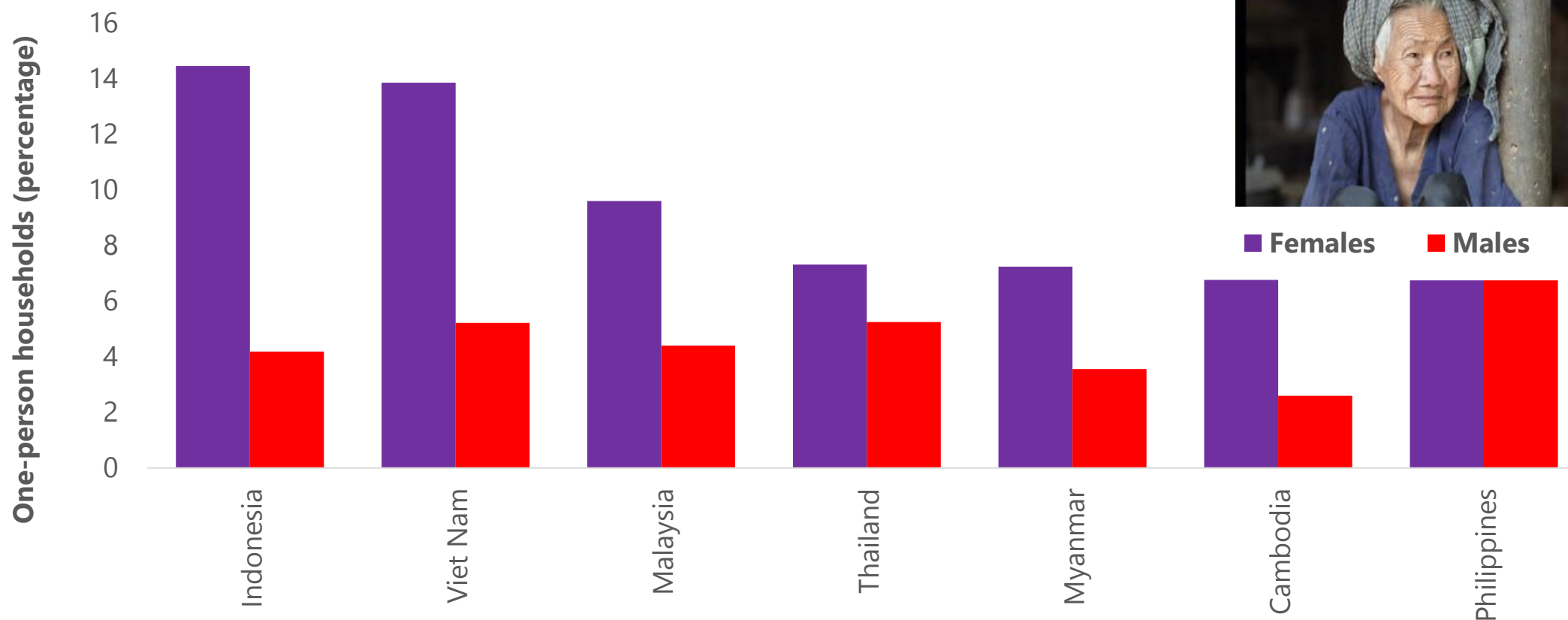


Pension coverage is low in most ASEAN countries



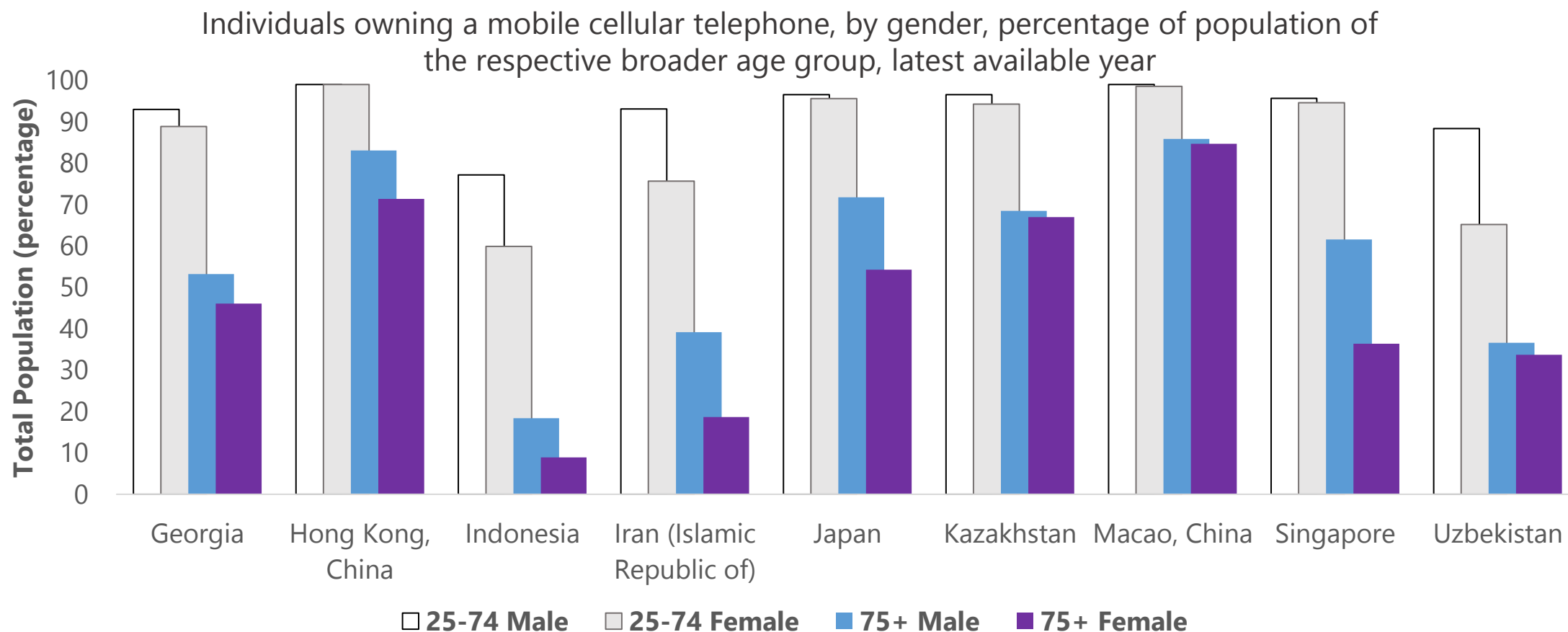
In ASEAN, most older persons (65+) live with their children – but this is changing

Percentage of population aged 65 or over living in a **one-person** household, latest available year

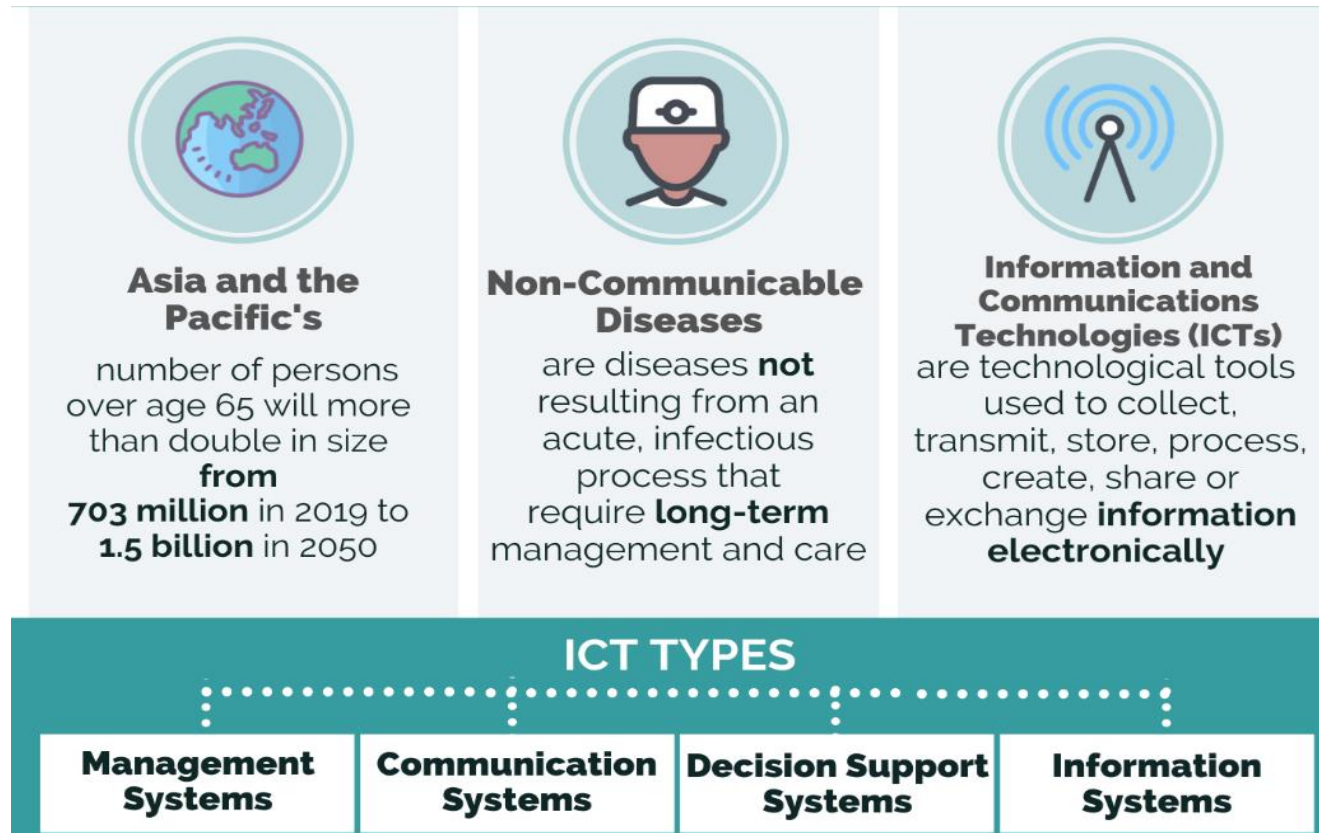


■ Females
 ■ Males

Access to technology is important – older persons must be included

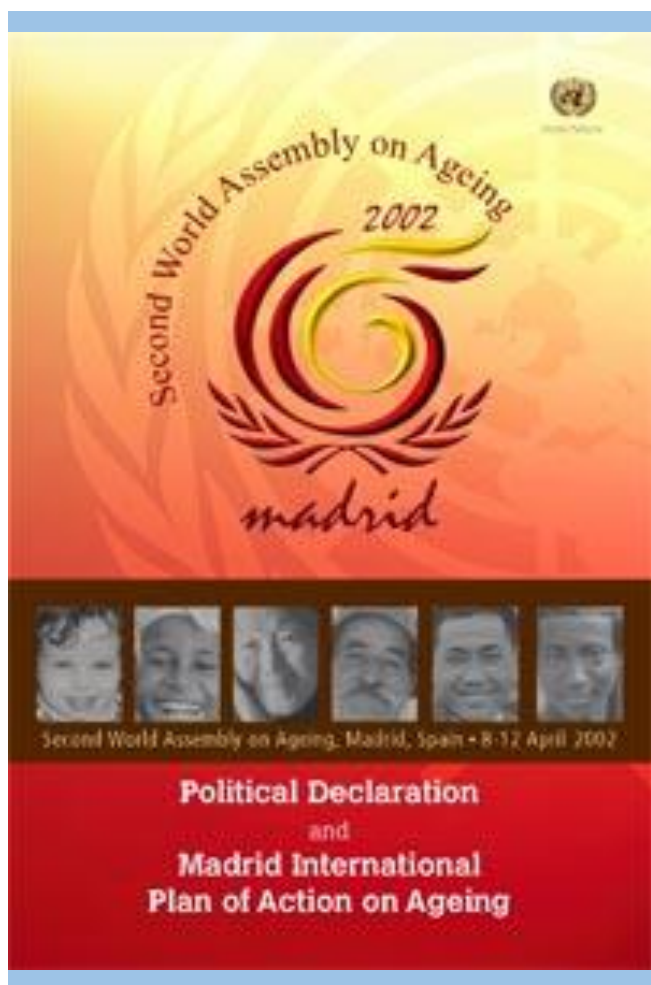


Closing the digital divide for the well-being and decent work of older persons – good practices from Asia and the Pacific



<https://bit.ly/3gVdMT9>

Fourth Review and Appraisal of the MIPAA in Asia and the Pacific – *next steps*



2021: national reviews (survey) + capacity-building; stakeholder consultations + preparation of documentation

- Jan. – March 2021 nomination of ageing focal points
- June – October 2021: national reviews with survey + capacity-building
- May 2021- May 2022: consultation with MSs, stakeholders, UN entities
- Dec. 2021 – June 2022: preparation of documentation

2022: Regional Review meeting (intergovernmental) Asia and the Pacific

2023: Global Review meeting (intergovernmental) – 61st session Commission for Social Development

2023: 79th session Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

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