Basic Ageing Facts

By the end of the Decade (2030):

• 1 in 6 people worldwide will be aged 60 or over (Today there are 1 in 8)
• The number of people aged 60 years and older will have grown by 56%, to reach 1.4 billion.
• Older people will outnumber children under 10 years
• 80% of older people will be living in low- and middle-income countries

Many older people are being “left behind” without access to even the basic resources necessary for a life of meaning, dignity and equality.

All countries face major challenges to ensure that their health and social systems are ready to make the most of the demographic shift.

Because the pace of population ageing is much faster than in the past, low- and middle-income countries must adapt more quickly to ageing populations but from lower levels of income, infrastructure and capacities.
The Journey to Age Equality - Beyond Demographics

- Diversity
- Inequity
- Centrality of Health

EVERY OLDER PERSON IS DIFFERENT

Some have the level of functioning of a 30 year old.

Some require full time assistance for basic everyday tasks.

Health is crucial to how we experience older age
What is *Healthy Ageing*?

“Healthy Ageing” is the process of developing and maintaining the **functional ability** that enables wellbeing in older age.
Global Strategy (2016 – 2030) and Action Plan 2016 – 2020 on Ageing and Health

Vision
A world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life.

Goals
1. Evidence-based action to maximize functional ability that reaches every person (2016 – 2020).
2. By 2020, establish evidence and partnerships necessary to support a Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020 – 2030.
Roadmap to launch the *Decade of Healthy Ageing* 2020-2030: milestones, products and processes

**AIM**

A participatory *Decade of Healthy Ageing* centred around the voices, rights, abilities and needs of older people

**2019**

- **WHO**
  - JAN EB144
  - MAY WHA72

- **UN**
  - **Concept Note** discussed. Calendar of events prepared
  - **Information session** with MS on the process - May 6 (GBS invite)
  - **Side Event** May 20

- **PRODUCTS**
  - **Draft 0**
    - Decade Proposal
  - **Online consultation** in July

- **PROCESSES**
  - Build political engagement with Member States through global/regional political opportunities, including WHO Governing Bodies, Regional Committees, UNGA, G20, APEC, EU
  - Engage with partners in WHO, the UN system, civil society and other non-state actors to shape the *Decade* proposal and support Member States
  - Revise the proposal
  - Set up mechanisms to hear the voices of diverse older people
  - Mobilise resources for hosting and supporting events, engaging stakeholders, documentation, communications, translation, travel, personnel etc

**2020**

- **WHO**
  - JAN EB146

- **UN**
  - **MARCH**
  - **MAY WHA73**

- **PRODUCTS**
  - **Draft 2**
    - Submitted to EB (incorporates feedback September to mid October)
  - **Final Document and Decision adopted**

**MILESTONES**

- **April/May**
  - August to October consultations with WHO Regional Committee
- **May 6**
  - Concept Note discussed. Calendar of events prepared
  - Information session with MS on the process - May 6 (GBS invite)
  - Side Event May 20

- **July 5**
  - Consult MS1 (Draft 0)
- **September**
  - Analysis of consultation feedback

- **MARCH**
  - Consultation with the UN on the Decade

- **MAY**
  - Launch *Decade of Healthy Ageing* on 1 October 2020
  - International Day of Older Persons

- **JAN**
  - EB146

- **MAY**
  - WHA73
Steps taken to develop the proposal for the Decade

1. We asked people what they want: survey conducted

160 respondents from 81 countries, all regions

When asked “What issues should the Decade focus on?”, respondents prioritized:

1. Improved engagement with older people
2. Better understanding of older people’s needs
3. Developing and strengthening health and long-term care, specifically at community level
4. Improved multisectoral action

When asked what priority outcomes the Decade should promote, respondents ranked highest:

1. Healthy life expectancy
2. Age-friendly cities and communities
3. Reduced number of older people who are care dependent.

2. We reviewed what others did: from 6 past UN Decades

Factors for success

- Ensure the powerful cause has a human face
- Identify (early on) Member States Champions
- Identify and engage committed partners, particularly civil society
- Transform the “ecosystem” (coordination, financing, accountability), not just the issue
- Linkages and practical package solutions within SDG framework
- Having a strategic policy framework/plan
- Cross sectoral collaboration
- Focus on country level support

Barriers to success

- Losing sight of country-level implementation
- Lack of cross-sectoral outreach
- Resource limitations
- Decade “fatigue”
Step 3. We work with Member States to harness political opportunities and listen to different perspectives.
Step 4: We share and disseminate through a new Platform

https://www.who.int/ageing/decade-of-healthy-ageing

Direct email: Decade_Ageing@who.int
Step 5: We ran an online survey (in 6 languages, July 9 to Sept 8)

Online consultations for Decade proposal

Notice: The online consultation deadline has been extended to 8 September 2019.

In 2015, 194 Countries adopted, at the World Health Assembly, a Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health (2015-2020), informed by the evidence in the World report on ageing and health (2015) and aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, the Strategy called for transformative change.

Member States envisioned that change to be a world where people can live long and healthy lives. Governments realised that to achieve impact in countries we need a decade of concerted action on Healthy Ageing. For WHO, Healthy Ageing is defined as the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables well-being in older age.

Context

Populations around the world are ageing at a faster pace than in the past and this demographic transition will have an impact on almost all aspects of society. The world has united around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: all countries and all stakeholders pledged that no one will be left behind and determined to ensure that every human being can fulfill their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.

A decade of concerted global action on Healthy Ageing is urgently needed. Already, there are more than 1 billion people aged 60 years or older, with most living in low- and middle-income countries. Many do not have access to even the basic resources necessary for a life of meaning and of dignity. Many others confront multiple barriers that prevent their full participation in society.

To ensure that the Decade of Healthy Ageing is a formidable force for fostering partnerships and accelerating progress, we need a unified vision and plan that provides directions for governments and non-State actors to enable people to live longer and healthier lives.

On-line Consultation

Between 9 July and 8 September 2019, WHO and partners are seeking open input, comments, revisions, additions on the zero-draft proposal for the Decade of Healthy Ageing. The document is 20 pages (excluding annexes) and is divided into 4 sections:

Section 1: A new context needs concerted, sustained action
Engagement

- 89 Member States
- 16 UN Agencies/International organizations
- 300 Non State Actors
Decade Proposal: make a real difference in the lives of older people, their families and communities

Guided by the GSAP, the *Decade* aims to stimulate local action that ensures:

1. Change how we think, feel and act towards age and ageing
2. Communities develop in ways that foster the abilities of older people
3. Older people have access to quality integrated care and primary health care
4. Older people who need it have access to long-term care.
The Decade will build connections and collaboration

Central to every step will be close engagement with older people themselves

Governments
Civil society
Professionals
Media
Academia
Private sector
International agencies
Enabling change through partnering on efforts to:

✓ Hear and respond to diverse voices and enable engagement
✓ Nurture leadership and capacities at all levels
✓ Connect stakeholders at all levels
✓ Foster research, data, knowledge exchange and innovation.
New website: https://www.who.int/ageing/decade-of-healthy-ageing

Direct email: Decade_Ageing@who.int