

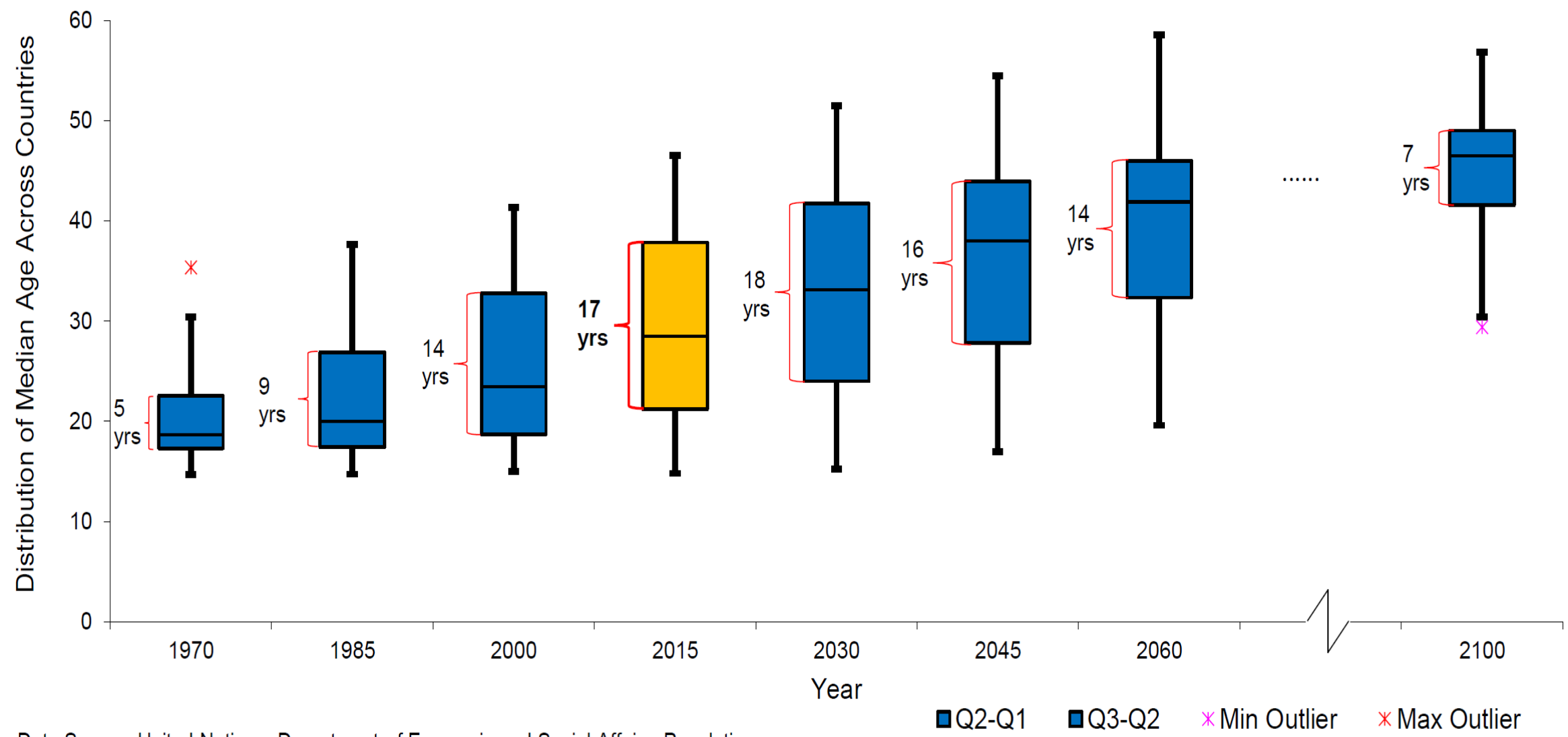


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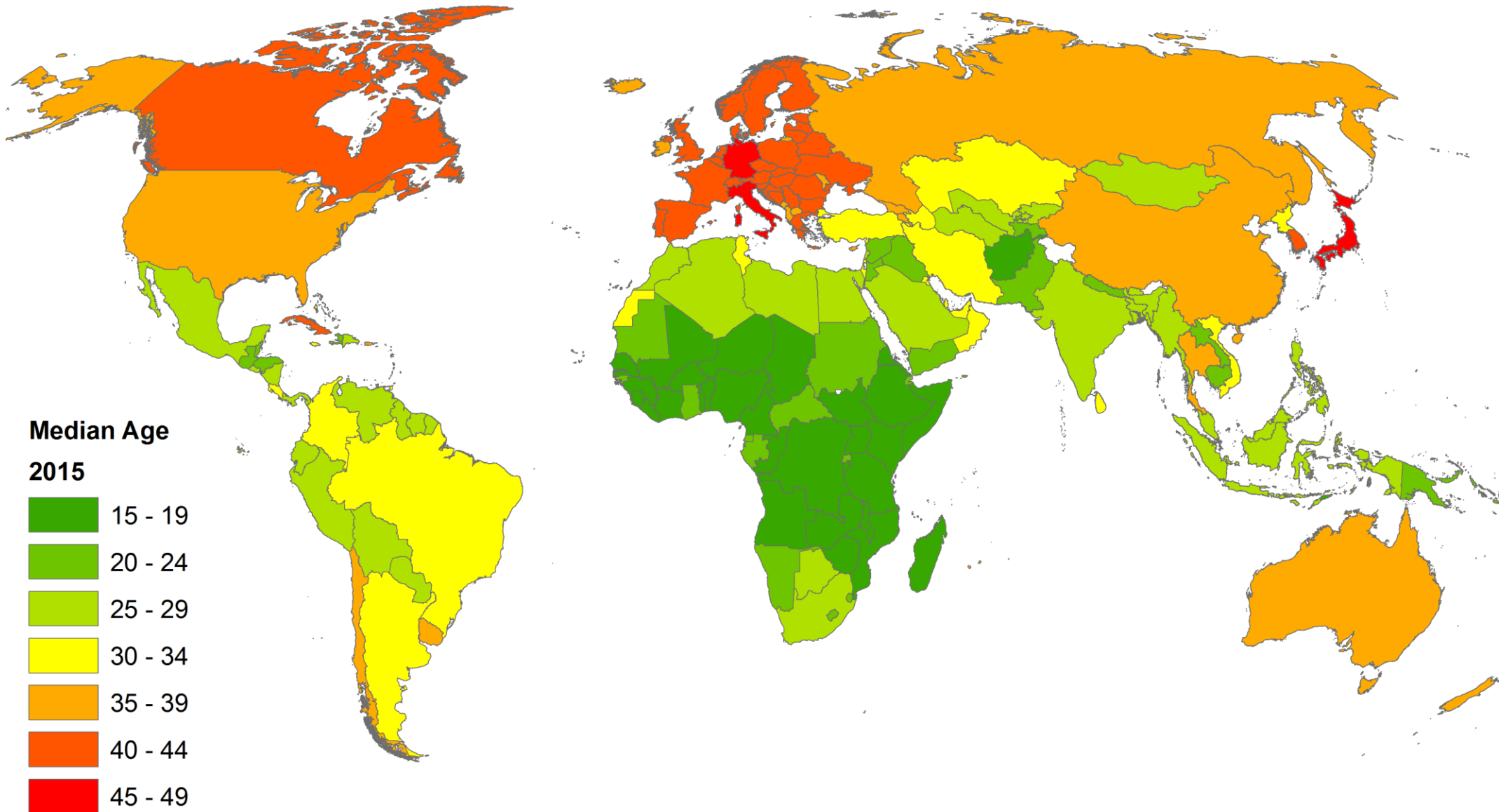
Changing Age Structure and Sustainable Development Policies and Programmes in the Context of the Full Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action

Rising Diversity in Age Structure



Data Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2015). World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision.

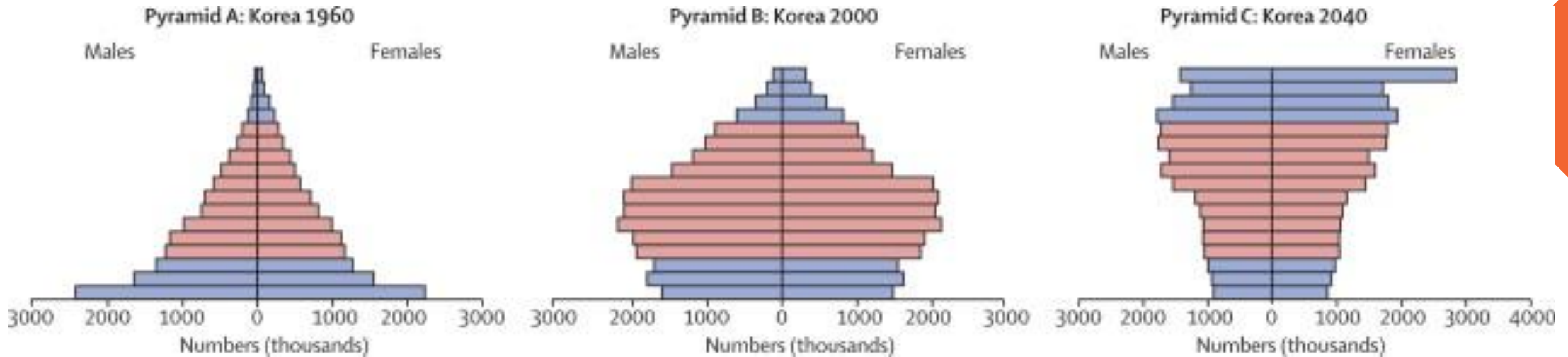
Rising Diversity in Age Structure



Development Returns to Age Structure: The Demographic Dividends



Rapid age structure change brings population “bulges”: high proportions of particular ages – children, young people, middle-aged or older persons.



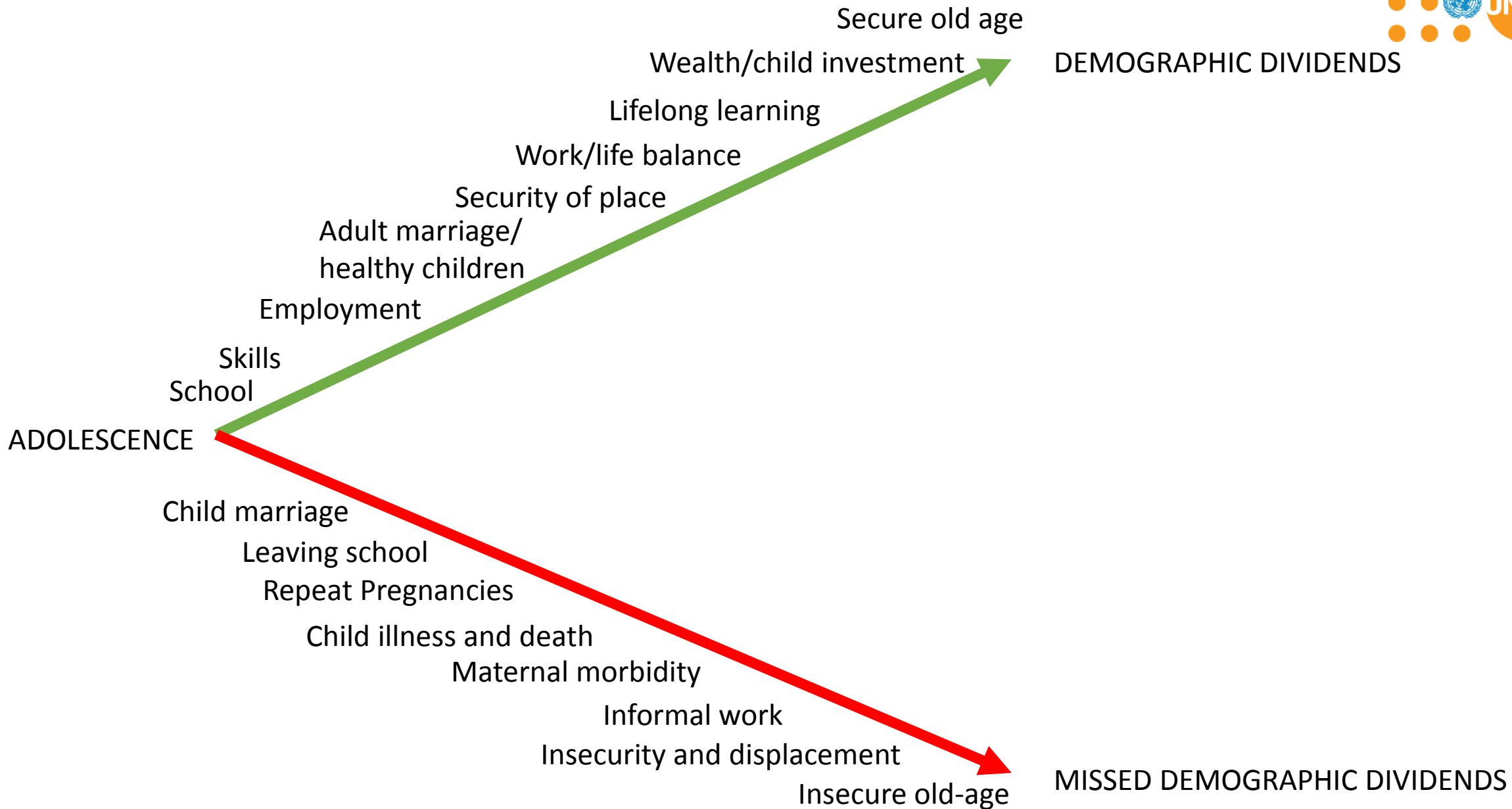
Development Returns to Age Structure: The Demographic Dividends

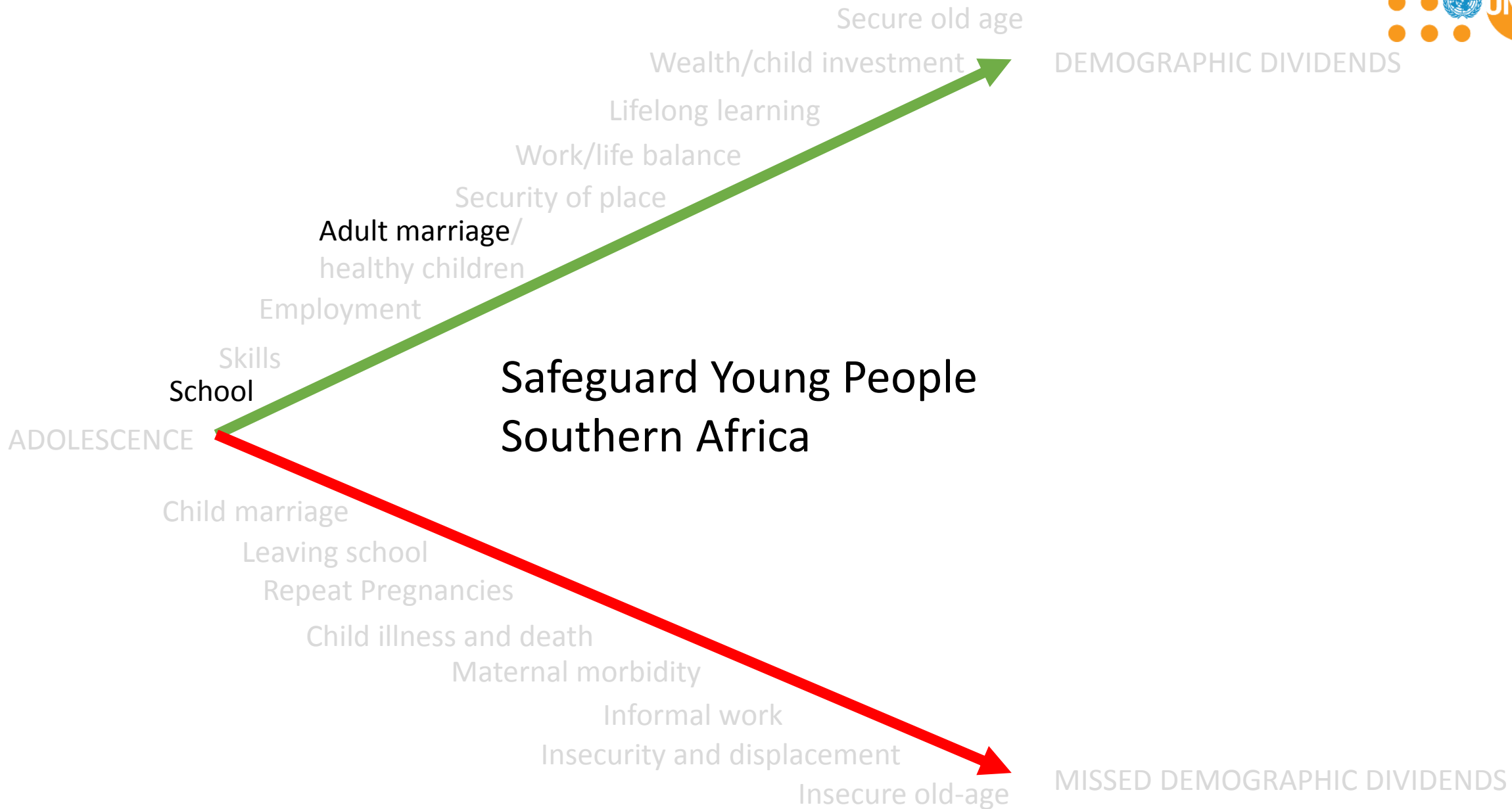


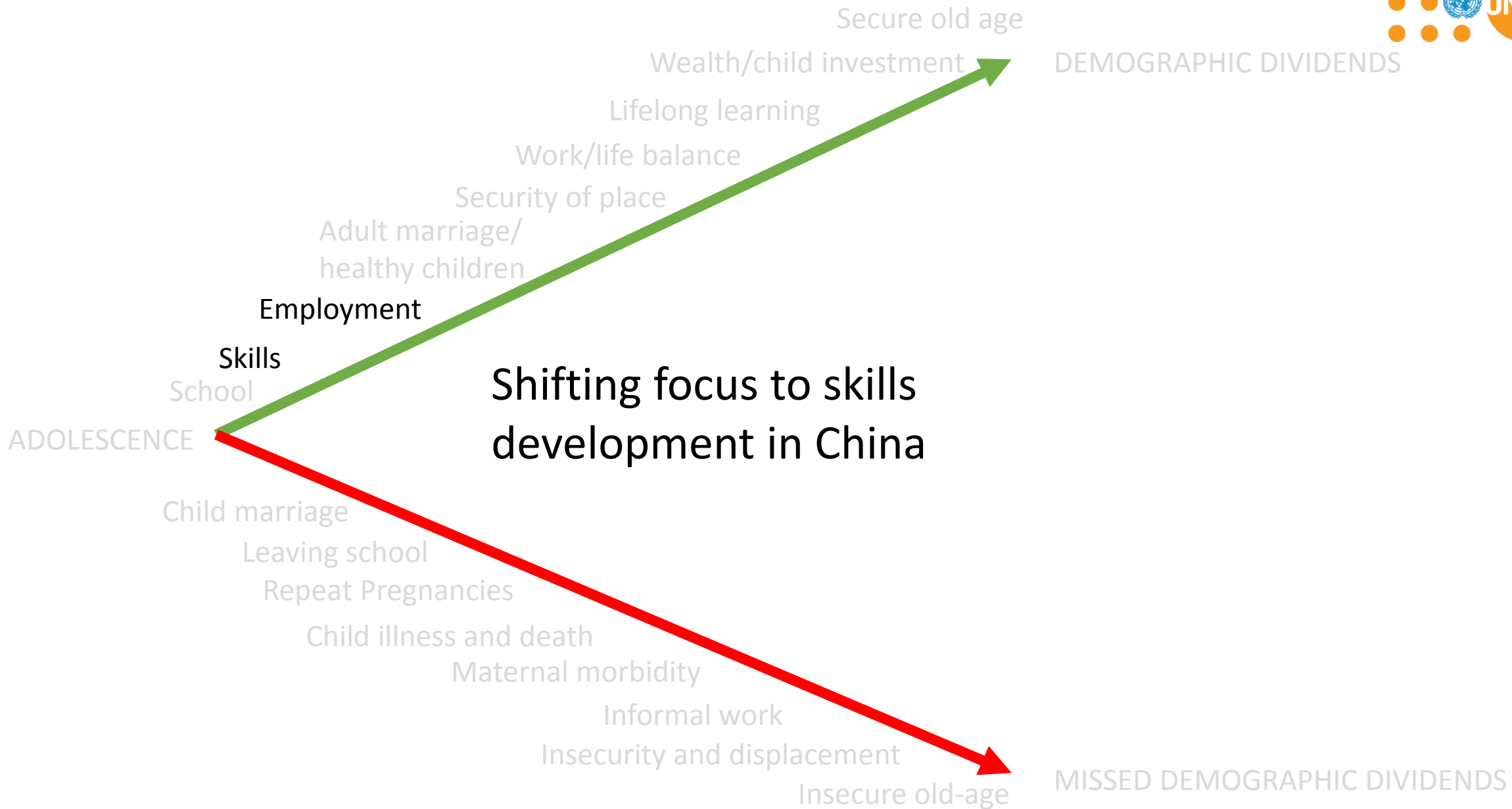
First demographic dividend: For countries with young populations, when investments in empowerment, education and employment coincide with a bulge in young people due to declining fertility, the result is a surge of human capabilities into society, accelerating development.

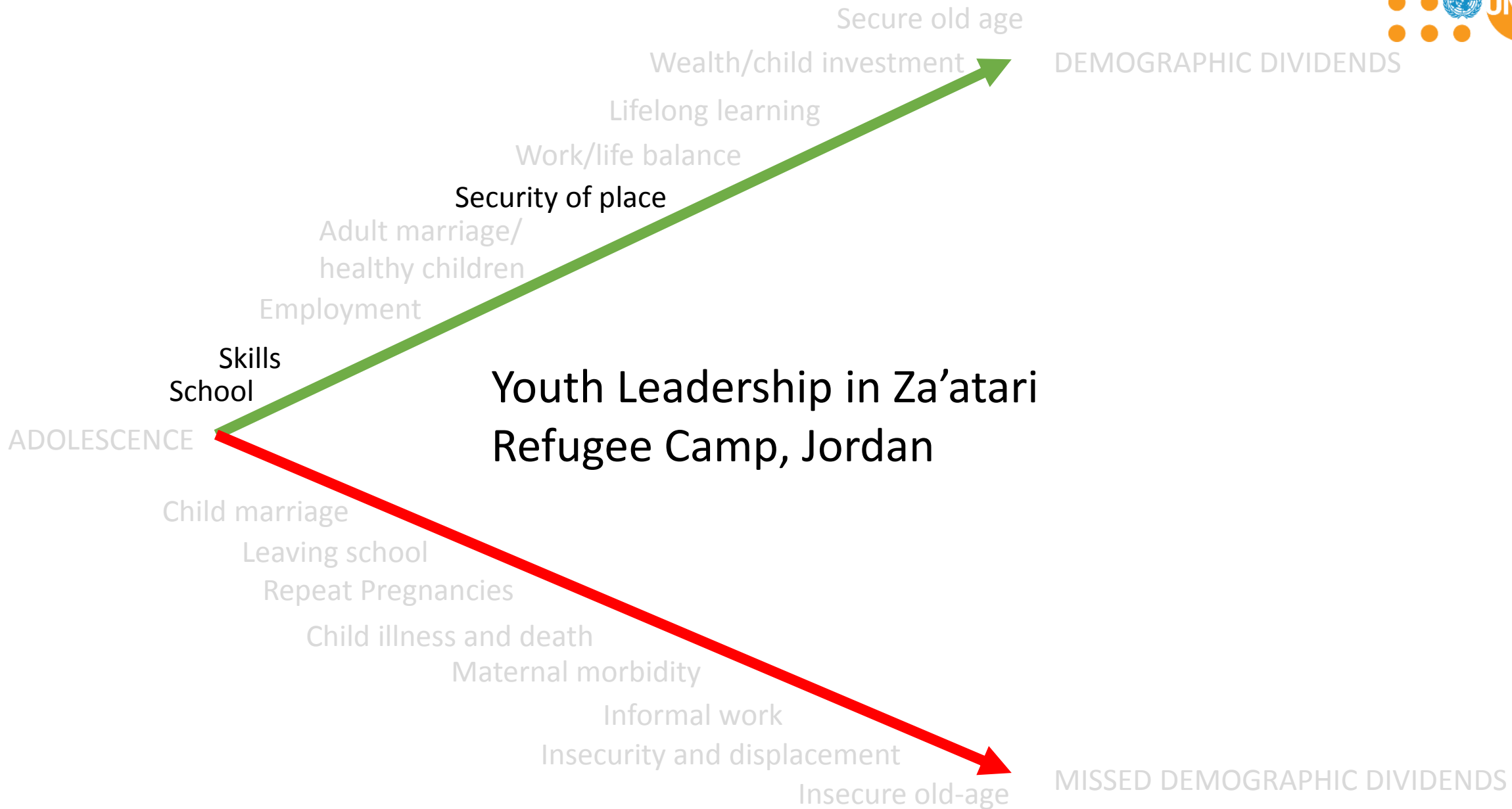
Second demographic dividend: Greater health and savings throughout the life course can sustain this accelerated development as population ageing – the bulge among older persons – occurs.

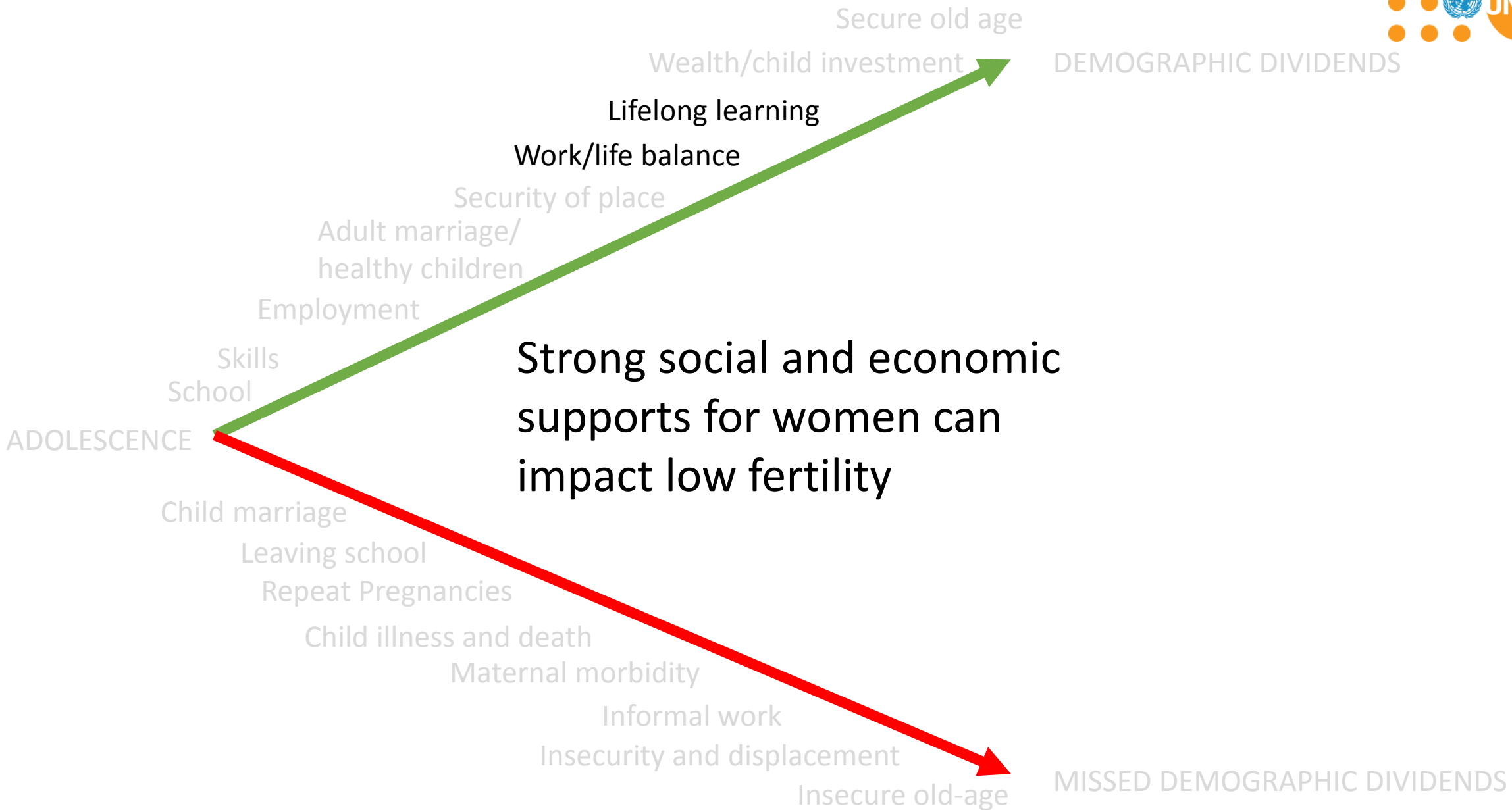
Only by maximizing planning and preparedness for coming age structures can these dividends be realized. **Good population data and knowledge systems** are essential.

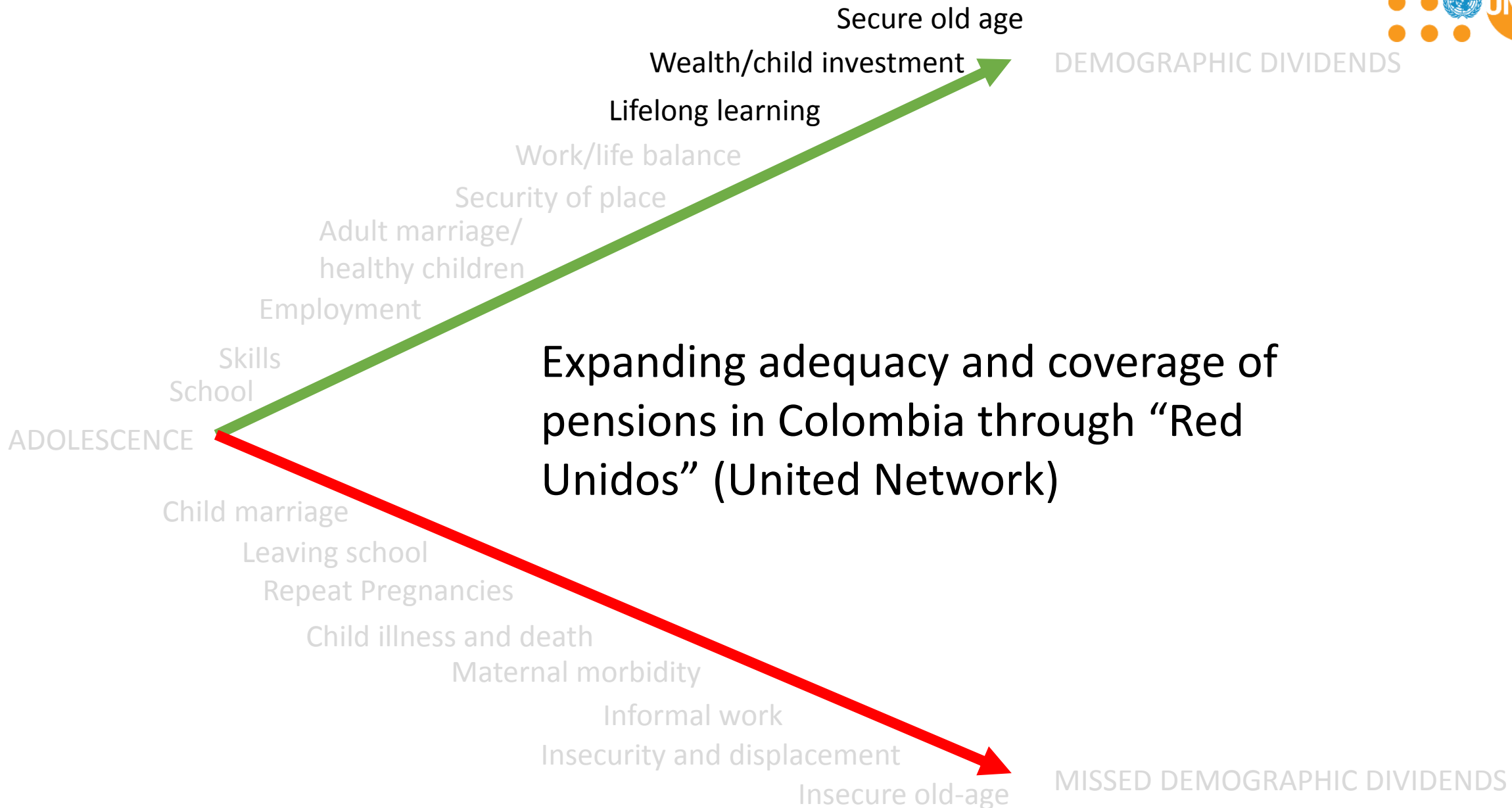












Age Structure, Poverty and Prosperity

Investments in the area of population and development, including access to sexual and reproductive health (SDG 3) and gender equality including reproductive rights (SDG 5), are necessary to eliminate major barriers to poverty reduction and prosperity.

Without these investments and interventions, individuals, communities and societies will be haunted by lost lives, health, productivity and prosperity.

As populations age and lifespans get longer – a triumph of development – keeping people across generations prosperous and out of poverty will require new, lifelong investments and strong social protection systems.

The two demographic dividends outline paths to poverty reduction and prosperity built on investments in human capabilities that account for age structural change, with strong data and evidence-based policy at the centre.

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