



Active Ageing Index Project

Presentation at the Expert Group Meeting
on Ageing, New York, 7-9 July 2015



Active Ageing Index 2014

A Legacy of the 2012 European Year for
Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations

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The latest report
released by the
UNECE / European
Commission during
the AAI International
Seminar, 16-17 April,
2015

Three data points
covered:

2008

2010

2012

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

Active Ageing Index 2014

Analytical Report

April 2015



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Acknowledgements

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The material does not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the funders.



Overview

1. Introducing the Active Ageing Index project
2. Five key messages from the latest AAI Analytical Report
3. Strengths of the AAI – Insights for EGM on Ageing
4. Future work areas



1

Introducing Active Ageing Index Project

Key features of the AAI project

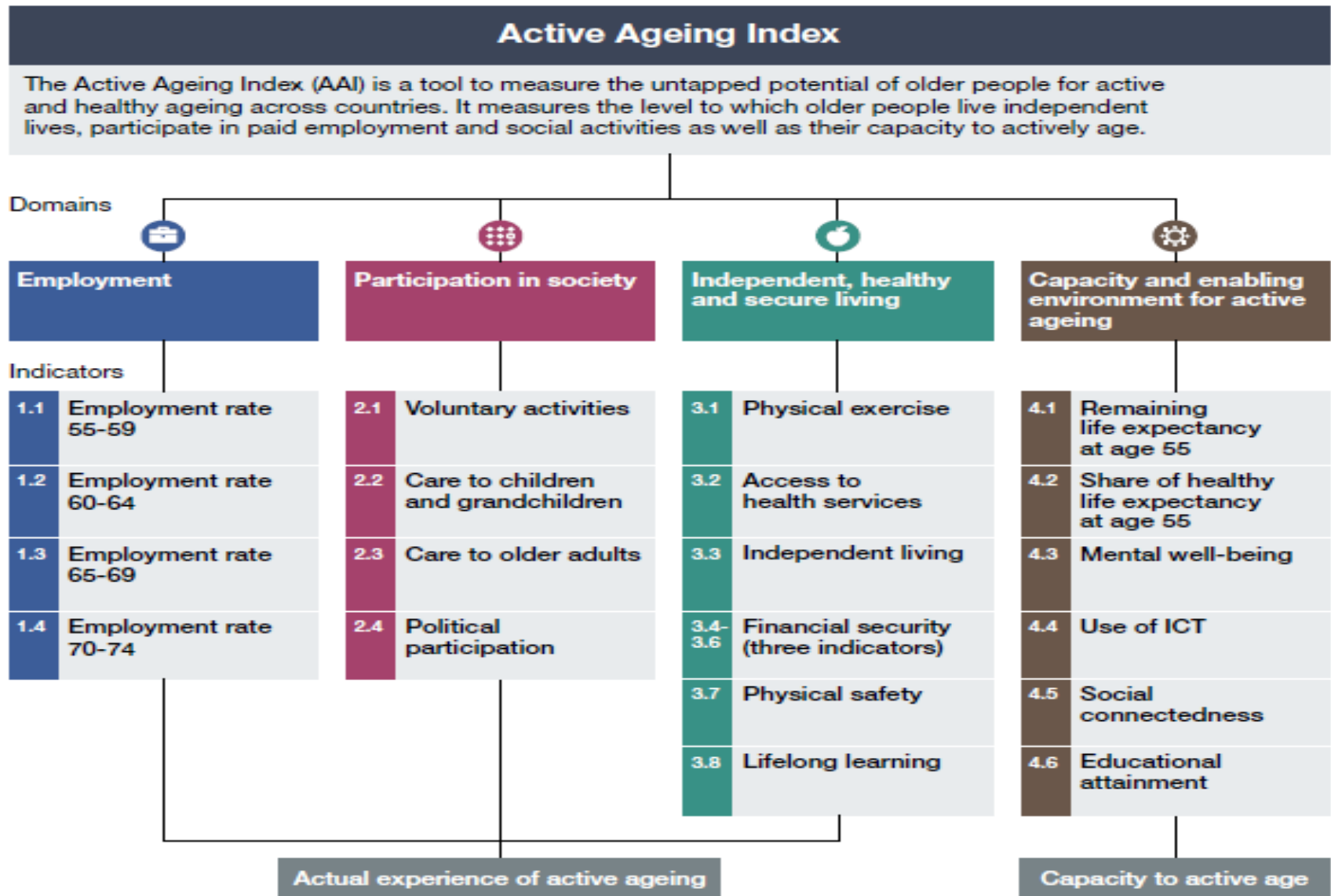
- I. Initiated during 2012, to contribute to activities of EY2012 and to MIPAA for its 10th anniversary;
- II. During its 1st phase (2012-13), the project was undertaken at European Centre in Vienna; the 2nd phase (2014-15) at Southampton University;
- III. Advised by the AAI Expert Group, comprising diverse group of international experts and stakeholders (including AGE Platform Europe)

Objectives of the AAI project

- I. To produce high-quality, independent, multi-perspective evidence on active & healthy ageing;
- II. To highlight the contributions of older people in different dimensions of their lives; and in the process identify the potential of older people that goes untapped;
- III. To offer policy makers comparative evidence and encourage them use it to develop strategies for making progress on active and healthy ageing.

Analytical framework

22 indicators, 4 domains



Selection of indicators

- **Focus on current generation of the older people:** to reflect experiences accumulated over the life course;
- **Measuring outcomes:** to focus on outcomes rather than processes and underlying explanatory factors;
- **Objectivity:** Choices discussed with experts from different backgrounds to ensure their policy relevance;
- **Sustainability:** to monitor progress towards active ageing over time;
- **Flexibility:** to offer a flexible framework for countries and their regions/municipalities to replicate the EU version;
- **Comparability:** Various comparisons ensured, e.g. over time, across countries, and between women and men.

Datasets used for the AAI indicators

19 Indicators available from four prime datasets

- ✓ EU Labour Force Survey, 2008, 2010 and 2012
- ✓ European Quality of Life Survey, 2007/8 and 2012/13
- ✓ EU Survey of Income and Living Conditions, 2008,2010,2012
- ✓ European Social Survey, mainly wave, mainly R4, R5 and R6

2 indicators 'RLE at 55' and 'HLE at 55'

Joint Action: European Health & Life Expectancy
Information system (JA EHLEIS), 2008, 2010 and 2012

'Use of ICT by older persons aged 55-74' (4th domain)

- Eurostat ICT survey, 2008, 2010 and 2012

One key exclusion is: the AAI not intending to measure the quality of life and well-being of older people. No such value judgement should be drawn that greater economic and social activity necessarily enhances welfare for older people



Global AgeWatch Index

Measuring well-being and QOL of older people

Developed by working with team at
HelpAge International



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Five Key messages

Active Ageing Index 2014 Analytical Report April 2015

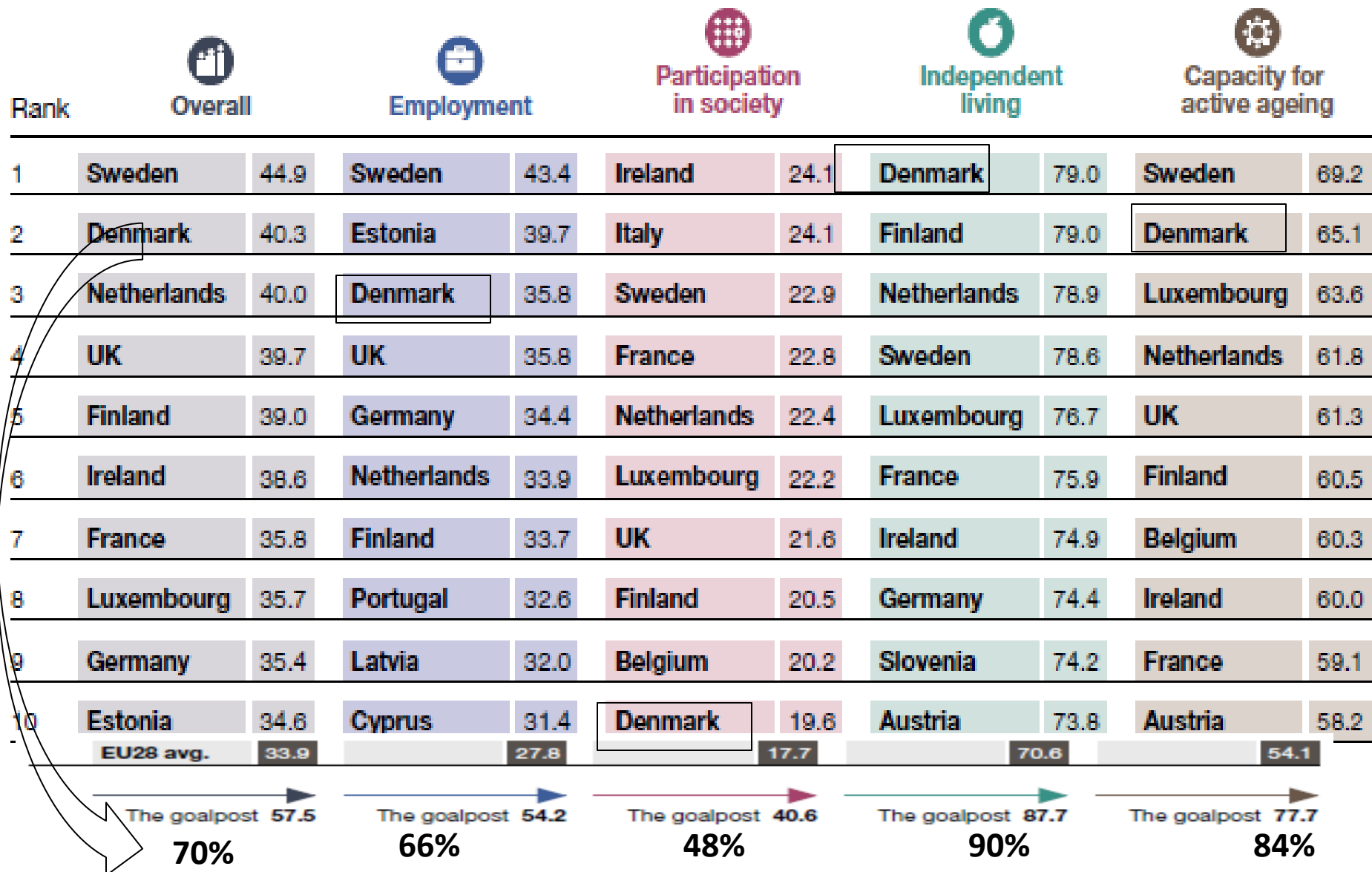
Key message 1: Affluent EU States in the Northern and Western Europe have had greater success

2014 AAI	Country
44.9	Sweden
40.3	Denmark
40.0	Netherlands
39.7	UK
39.0	Finland
38.6	Ireland
35.8	France
35.7	Luxembourg
35.4	Germany
34.6	Estonia
34.4	Czech Rep.
34.2	Cyprus
34.1	Austria
34.0	Italy
33.7	Belgium
33.5	Portugal
32.6	Spain
31.6	Croatia
31.5	Latvia
31.5	Lithuania
31.5	Malta
29.9	Bulgaria
29.8	Slovenia
29.6	Romania
28.5	Slovakia
28.3	Hungary
28.1	Poland
27.6	Greece















Also, stability
observed in the
relative position of
EU countries over
the period 2008-
2012

Key message 2: Top-ranked countries not at top of each domain and indicator, falling short of goalposts



Key message 3:
AAI scores for men are higher than women, especially where employment and incomes are involved

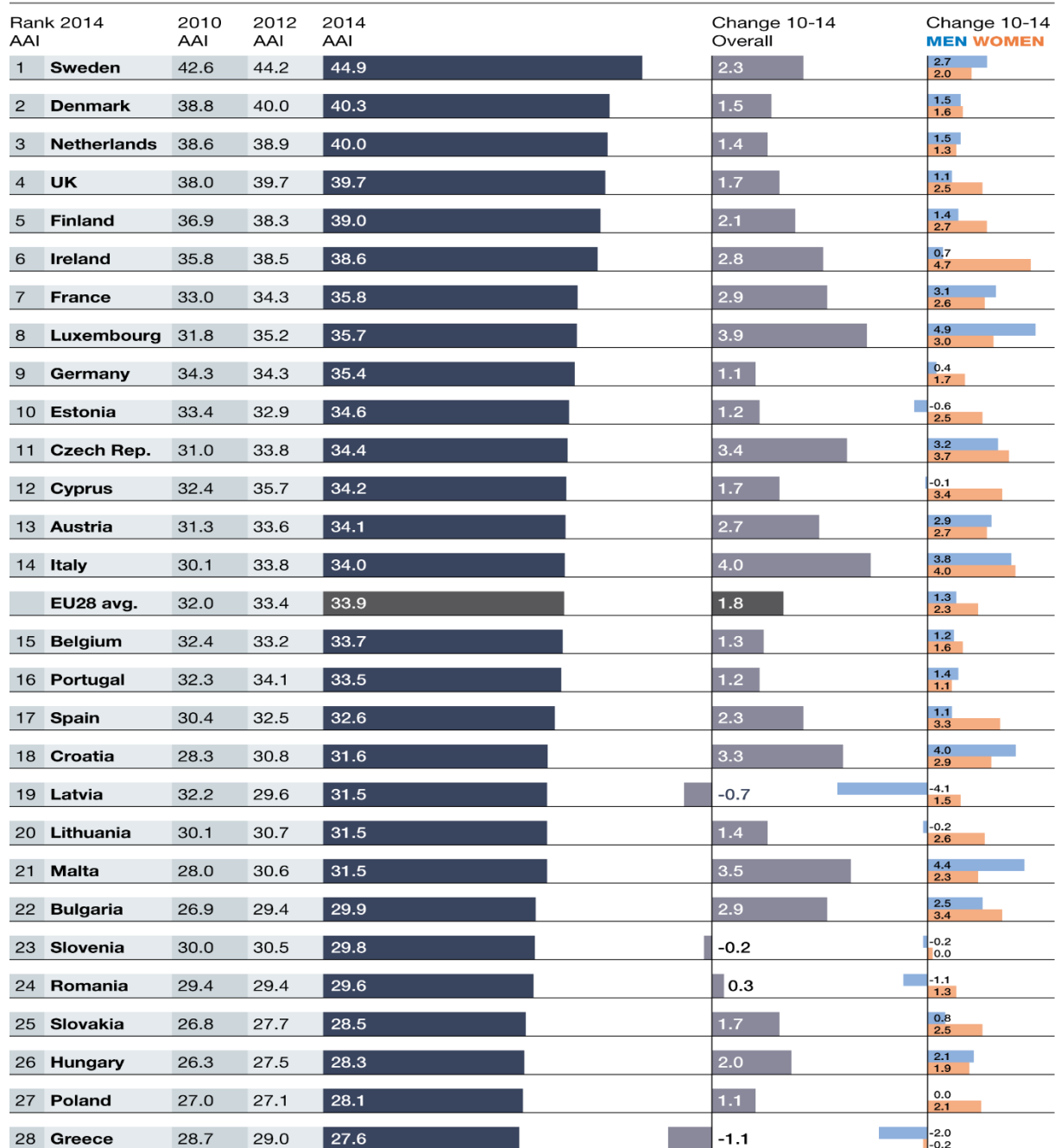
Gender gap 2014		 Employment	 Participation in society	 Independent living	 Capacity for active ageing
Rank 2014-AAI		+   +	+   +	+   +	+   +
1	Sweden	7.1	0.8	1.9	0.7
2	Denmark	9.1	2.6	0.2	0.5
3	Netherlands	13.8	1.9	2.4	2.1
4	UK	10.6	1.7	1.5	1.5
5	Finland	1.5	3.4	2.2	2.8
6	Ireland	12.3	3.8	3.4	0.3
7	France	3.8	2.1	4.0	1.8
8	Luxembourg	7.6	8.9	2.8	3.0
9	Germany	9.3	1.9	3.3	0.5
10	Estonia	0.8	1.8	3.0	6.1
11	Czech Rep	12.4	4.1	1.7	1.9
12	Cyprus	18.1	1.0	2.8	6.1
13	Austria	11.0	2.1	0.9	1.8
14	Italy	13.1	0.5	2.7	2.6
	EU28 avg	9.5	0.1	2.8	0.5
15	Belgium	7.6	3.0	3.9	1.3
16	Portugal	11.2	0.0	2.5	2.8
17	Spain	8.5	2.2	2.8	1.4
18	Croatia	11.6	1.5	4.5	2.1
19	Latvia	2.4	6.3	3.8	1.2
20	Lithuania	5.3	2.0	1.9	2.6
21	Malta	22.9	1.1	1.2	1.5
22	Bulgaria	6.0	0.4	7.5	0.5
23	Slovenia	9.2	1.7	2.5	0.3
24	Romania	10.5	1.6	4.0	2.9
25	Slovakia	10.6	1.3	2.7	1.1
26	Hungary	6.0	0.6	2.9	1.3
27	Poland	12.5	2.3	3.2	2.0
28	Greece	13.1	3.7	3.4	3.2

Key message 4:

Active ageing has been increasing in the EU, despite economic crisis and austerity measures

On average, an increase of nearly 2 points in the EU, while an increase of nearly 3 points or more in nine EU countries (during 2008-2012).

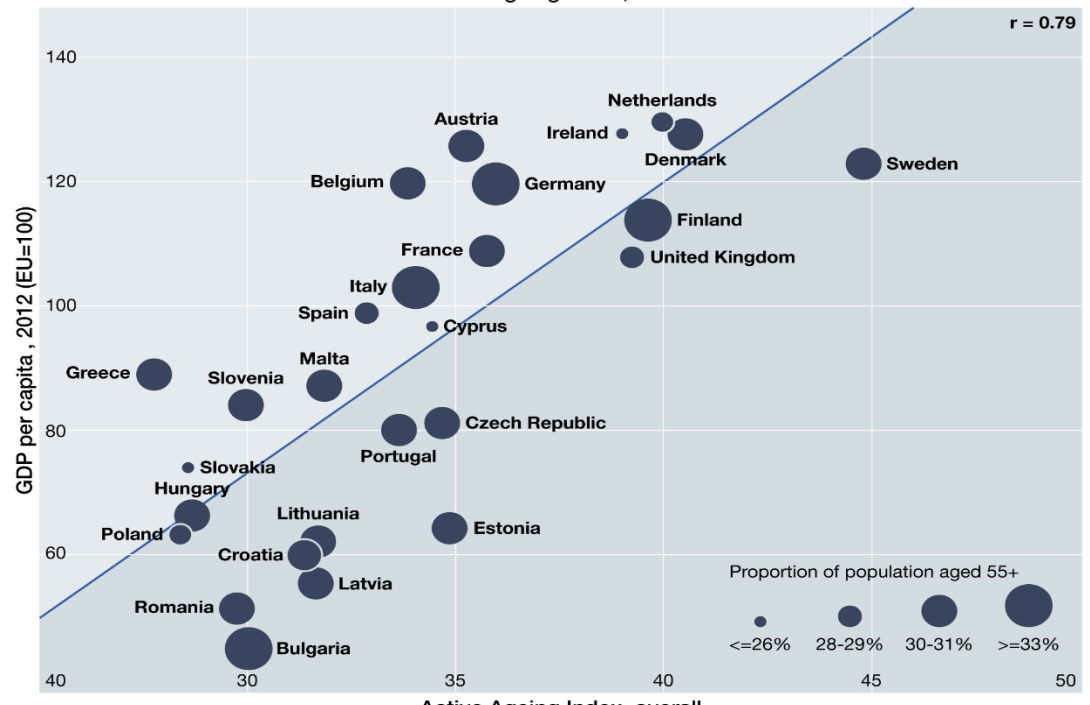
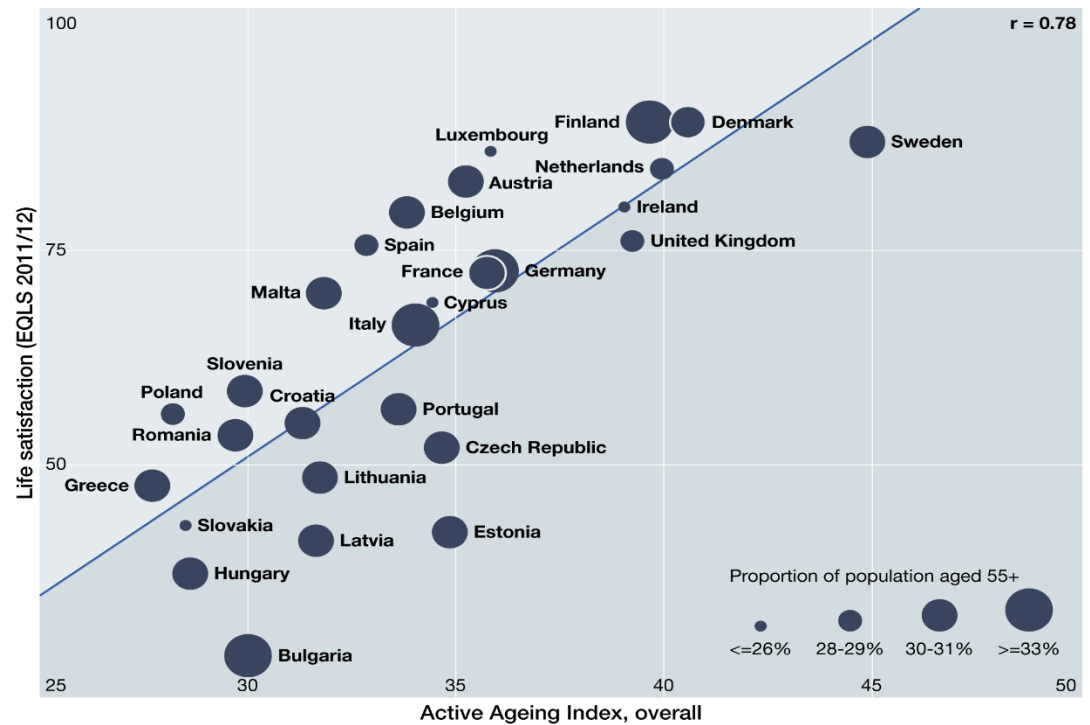
iii Active Ageing Index 2010, 2012 and 2014-AAI



Key message 5:

A push towards active ageing does not imply a worsening of older people's quality of life, and it brings real benefits to the economy

No cause-and-effect direction implied!





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Strengths of the AAI

A transparent numerical exercise, helping to **identify policy priorities** for each country to address common longer term challenges of population ageing.

Detailed cross-country comparisons of domains and individual indicators to help **identify successful and innovative policy instruments**.

Added value in terms of composite multidimensional analysis, but also offering substantive data on many individual perspectives of active and healthy ageing for in-depth country-specific analysis.

Framework now used in various EU countries to also undertake sub-national analysis (e.g. Poland, Italy and Germany).



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Future work areas

Further work on the subgroup analysis of certain dimensions (across **education** groups, across **age** cohorts, across **disability status**) – **MOPACT**

Further work on inequality in active ageing, by using individual-level AAI – **MOPACT**

Extension for other non-EU countries, already done for US (with AARP), now for CA, NO, CH, IS, TK, and SB

Further analysis in terms of breakdown of AAI changes across domains and indicators, and in the process develop AAI to serve as a policy evaluation tool!

Further analysis of AAI indicators to reflect human rights and quality of life of older people! – **6th OEWG**



Thank you

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The results and their interpretations are my responsibility and my co-authors of the AAI Analytical Report. The UNECE or the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained here.