

Toward an 'evidence revolution'
on ageing in Kenya:
initiative, implications for SDG data
revolution

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Outline

- Policy context: regional, national
- The initiative
- Implications for SDG data revolution on ageing?



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CONTEXT



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Regional advances

- 2002 AU Plan of Action
- 2012 African Common Position on Older Persons Rights
- 2014 Ageing recognized as key trend in CAP post-2015
- 2014 AU Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons
- 2015 M&E framework for AU Plan



National advances

- Policy frameworks on ageing
- Some provisions on older persons in:
 - Sectoral strategies
 - Development plans
- Some programmes: focus on social protection



Kenya – policy responses

- National Policy (NPOPA), implementation framework
- Institutional:
 - Health and Ageing Unit, MoH
 - Division on Older Persons and Social Welfare, MLSSS (coordinating function)
- Legal: drafting of older persons' bill
- Programmatic: older persons cash transfer scheme



Gaps

- Specific sectoral policy
- Implementation
 - ➔ Limited awareness, political will, budget allocation
 - ➔ Uncertainty about approaches
 - ➔ Insufficient cross-/within-sector, and government-civil society, exchange and coordination

Wide evidence gaps



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THE INITIATIVE: RATIONALE, APPROACH



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Rationale

- Foster routine generation of priority evidence on Kenya's older population, to:
 - Support (cross)sectoral policy/programme action
 - Offer model for other SSA countries



Modalities

- Collaborators
 - APHRC
 - Ministry of Labour, Social Security & Services (MLSSS)
- Partners
 - HelpAge EWCARDC
 - Centre for Research on Ageing, Uni. Southampton
- National steering group:
 - Key ministries, Treasury, KNBS, NCPD, UNFPA



Approach

Step 1 Scoping study: pinpoint priority evidence needs

Step 2 Validation

Frame: NPOPA thematic areas



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NPOPA thematic areas

- Older persons and the Law
- Poverty and sustainable livelihoods
- Health, HIV and AIDS
- Family, community and culture
- Food security and nutrition
- Infrastructure
- Education
- Training and ICT
- Employment and income security
- Social protection and services
- Cross-cutting issues.



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Methods

- Mapping; conduct of systematic consultations with:
 - Relevant government bodies (incl. NBS/NCPD) across NPOPA areas (N=20)
 - Key civil society actors (N=4)



Questions

- Scope of/barriers to current awareness/action on ageing?
- What are priority evidence / information needs?
- What relevant data platforms/sources exist and (how) can they be built upon?



FINDINGS



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Key findings I

- Lack of (sub)national evidence situation, contributions of older people impedes stakeholders' ability to:
 - 'Make case' for resource allocation on ageing
 - Identify specific approaches for policy, advocacy, programming



Key findings II

- Stakeholders identify priority evidence ‘wish-list’: 17 topic areas and associated sub-themes



Key findings III

- Lack of such evidence ***not*** simply result of lacking data generation, *per se*.
- Reflects:
 - Limitations in data collection/analysis approaches in existing national survey/administrative data systems
 - Shortcomings in sharing/use of generated national data



Key findings IV

- Existing national data-platforms (survey / administrative) *can* and *should* be built upon to meet national priority evidence needs
- Requires systematic and step-wise effort



1. Examine existing survey/administrative tools, data-sets
2. Perform secondary analysis on relevant data
3. Establish regular, cross-sectoral mechanism for synthesis, sharing, exchange of generated evidence
4. Design protocols to enhance ageing-sensitivity of routine survey/administrative data collection
5. Prepare for national survey to address remaining evidence needs



IMPLICATIONS FOR SDG- DATA REVOLUTION ON AGEING?



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- Engagement with national policy context
- Integration: ageing-related SDG and national policy frameworks/priorities
- Data for (cross-country) monitoring **and** data to enable policy/programme formulation
- Critical role for government agencies in consolidating raising political/ national demand for:
 - Data
 - Capacity building/adaptation for data generation

