



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Women's Economic Empowerment, Ageing and Unpaid Care Work

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Expert Group Meeting on "Care and Older Persons: Links to Decent Work, Migration and Gender"

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Some facts

- **Older women:**
 - **Continue to work**
 - **Continue to provide unpaid care**
 - **Receive overall less pensions:**
 - **Live longer**
 - **Re-marry less**
 - **Are poorer**
 - **Are less protected**

Women's Economic Empowerment



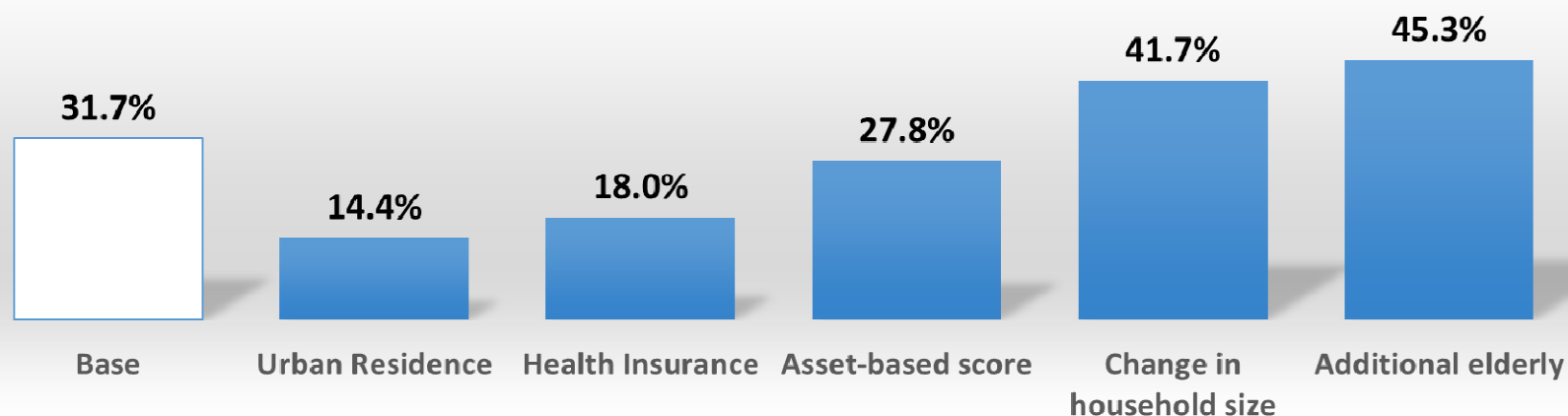
Cycle of
Unpaid Care
Work is
Reinforced.

- **Older women continue providing unpaid care in their families**
- **In turn may require care, often long-term care.**
 - From families if cannot pay for services.
 - Usually provided by other women.
- **UNDP research** (LACHDR 2016 18 countries and 6 other case studies)
 - **Absence of care services and/or systems and**
 - Presence of an older adult in the household can make household vulnerable to fall into poverty

Absence of care and poverty

- Jamaica:
 - Between 2009 and 2010, the median household has an overall probability of 31.7% of moving from vulnerability to poverty.
 - The probability of falling back into poverty increases by 10 percentage points (from 31.7% to 41.7%) by adding one member to the household —particularly one elderly individual, which increases the probability by 14 percentage points.

Changes in the probability of moving from vulnerability to poverty between 2009-2010



What to do?

- Start in early life
 - Adopt a life-course approach
 - Equality of education and skills
 - Reduce gender wage gap
 - Reduce discriminatory hiring rules and practices as well as retirement rules
 - Promote financial literacy and inclusion

Recognize,
redistribute
and reduce
unpaid care

- Invest in care- address care deficit
- Care as a right: the right to care, and the right to receive care.
- Long term care
- Promoting greater participation of other household members
- Infrastructure investments

Social protection

- **Universal old age pensions**
- **Health care-social health insurance**
- **Care-giver credits-cash transfers**
- **Maternity benefits**



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Thank You

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