Multiple Indicator Survey on Ageing (MISA): Findings from Malawi 2017 Survey

Presented by

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At

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Introduction

• Projected population 16.8 million (NSO, 2010)
• TFR 4.4 children per woman (MDHS 2015/16, 2017)
• Rapid population growth (2.8%) per annum (NSO, 2018)
• HIV prevalence has remained stable, 10% (NSO, 2017)
• Improvements in mortality, ART
• Proportion of persons aged 60+ will increase from 4.9% (2015) to 7.6% (2050), (United Nations, 2017).
• In absolute terms this equates to 0.85 million to 3.3 million persons
Need for data and statistics on older persons

• The increase in proportion of older persons has both opportunities and challenges

• Opportunities: knowledge and skills which they can use to help families or communities deal with different challenges

• Challenges: Population of older persons steadily increases in the country, the social, economic and cultural challenges associated with ageing populations are likely to multiply
Collaborators

• United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Division of Social Policy and Development in conjunction with Malawi Government,

• Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare (Department of Disability and Elderly Affairs),

• National Statistical Office

• University of Malawi
Methodology

• Consisted of household and individual questionnaires
• 1886 Household interviews and 2238 individual interview
• Information captured using Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing platform
• Surveys in Malawi use the sampling frame from the 2008 Malawi Population and Housing Census (MPHC)
• Budget constrains - sample was representative at the district level.
Demographics: Age and sex distribution of OP

- 40% of the household population was under the age of 15 years
- 60 and over contributed to 25%
Living arrangements

• Slightly more older women (9%) live alone compared to older men (6%)

• Proportion of OP living alone increases gradually as the age increases.

• Lilongwe has the highest proportion of OP living alone (migration?)

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• Older persons were more likely to report that they live with minor age children whose parent is not present in the household

• 34% OP cared for orphans (children orphaned by AIDS)


• Majority never had opportunity to attend school
• 52% never attended school
• Higher among Women (66%)
• 41% attended some primary education
Living environment (type of roofing material)

- 54% of households reported that the roofs of their houses were made of thatch/palm leaf
- 37% of households had their roofs made of metal
- Traditional houses still dominate because more than half of the households reported using thatched roof.
Living environment (toilet facility)

- Non-existent of Flush/pour toilets
- 58% and 31% of older persons households use pit latrine with slab and pit latrine without slab/open, respectively.
- Most of the households have toilet facilities which are located outside their houses
Most older persons’ households use tube well /borehole (79%).

Those who use piped into dwelling, piped water into yard/plot and public tap/standpipe are less than five percent.
Abuse of older persons

- Emotional/psychological abuse (36%) is the most pervasive form of abuse.
- People aged 70-79 years and aged 80 years or older experienced similar levels of overall mistreatment, double that of people aged 65-69 years.
Ever been tested for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS

• 38% of older persons have ever been tested for HIV
• More male (48%) than female (32%) older persons have ever been tested for HIV
• More male older persons are HIV positive compared to female
• 60-64 age group has the highest self-reported HIV positive
Access to social protection

- Overall, 37 percent of older persons reported that they accessed and benefited from the Malawi Social Cash Transfer.
- Only 5% pensionable scheme (privileged to have worked in the civil service)
Health and Well-being

Walking, Vision and hearing impairments

• Impaired vision could lead to older persons having trouble with visual and spatial abilities in the way of judging distance and depth.

• Sight (45%) is one of the most challenges affecting older persons in carrying activities of daily life.
Conclusion

• All are entitled to live in an environment that enhances their capabilities.

• **Living environment**: poor access to safe drinking water

• **Health**: OP have elevated HIV risk factors.

• **OP abuse** remains pervasive in the society

• **Social Protection**: coverage remains low; only 37 percent of older persons are accessing the social benefits

• **Health and Well-being**: As older persons age, they have difficulties in carrying out activities of daily living because of a health or physical problem.