

52nd
session

Commission on Population and Development

Review and appraisal of the Programme of Action of the ICPD and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General
(E/CN.9/2019/2)

Jorge Bravo, Population Division, DESA, United Nations
New York, 1 April 2019

01 – 05 April 2019



United Nations, New York

Introduction

There is much to celebrate on the 25th anniversary of the ICPD

Considerable progress observed in most areas of the Programme of Action



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Introduction

Areas of progress include access to sexual and reproductive health care, reduction of child and maternal mortality, better standards of living and access to education

Gaps remain in these areas and in gender equality, empowerment of women and in environmental sustainability



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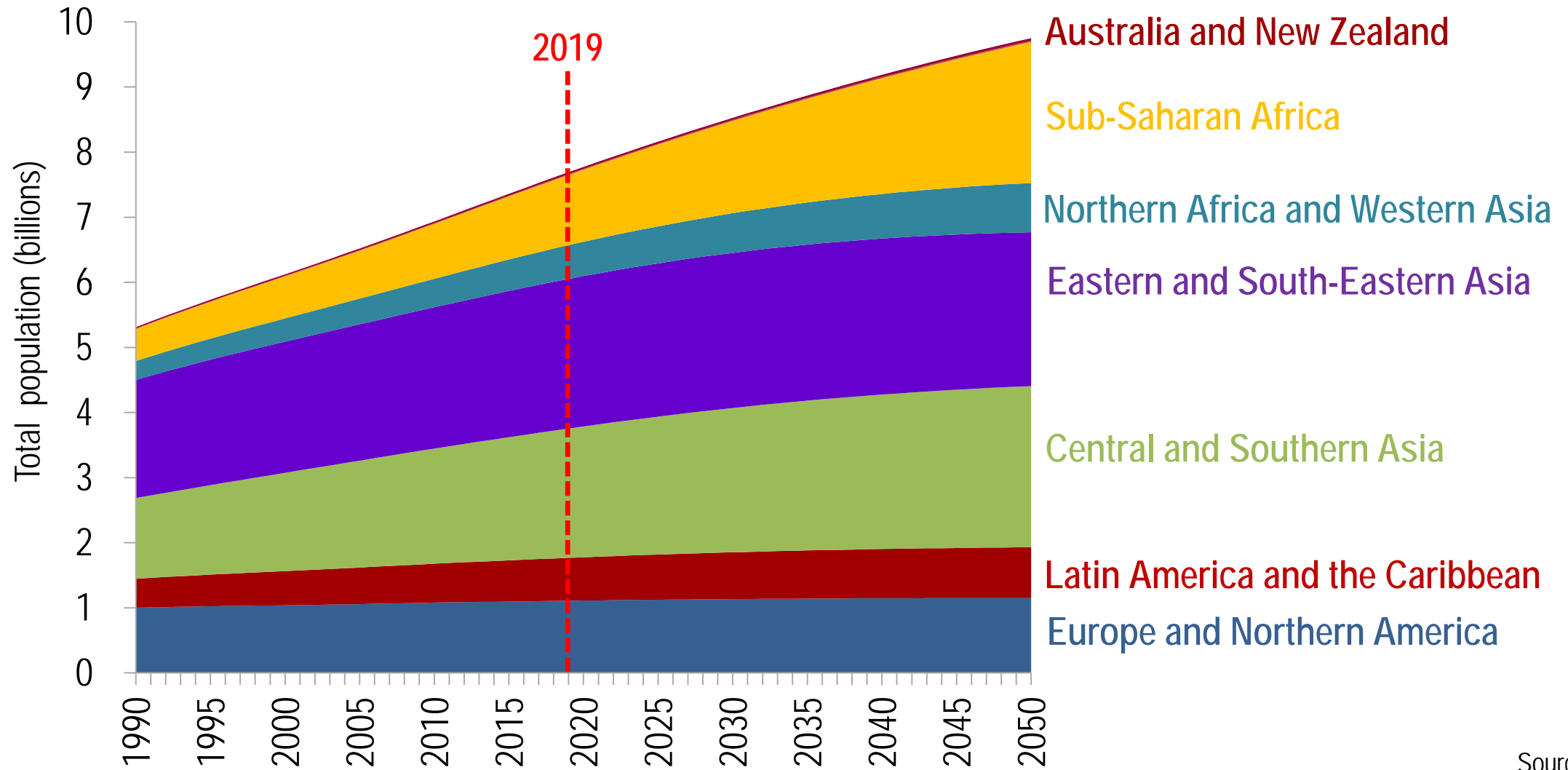


The world's population is larger, older, more mobile and more spatially concentrated than ever before

Population growth has slowed, but will most likely continue into the second half of the XXIst century...



Population of the world by region, 1990-2050



Source: WPP2017

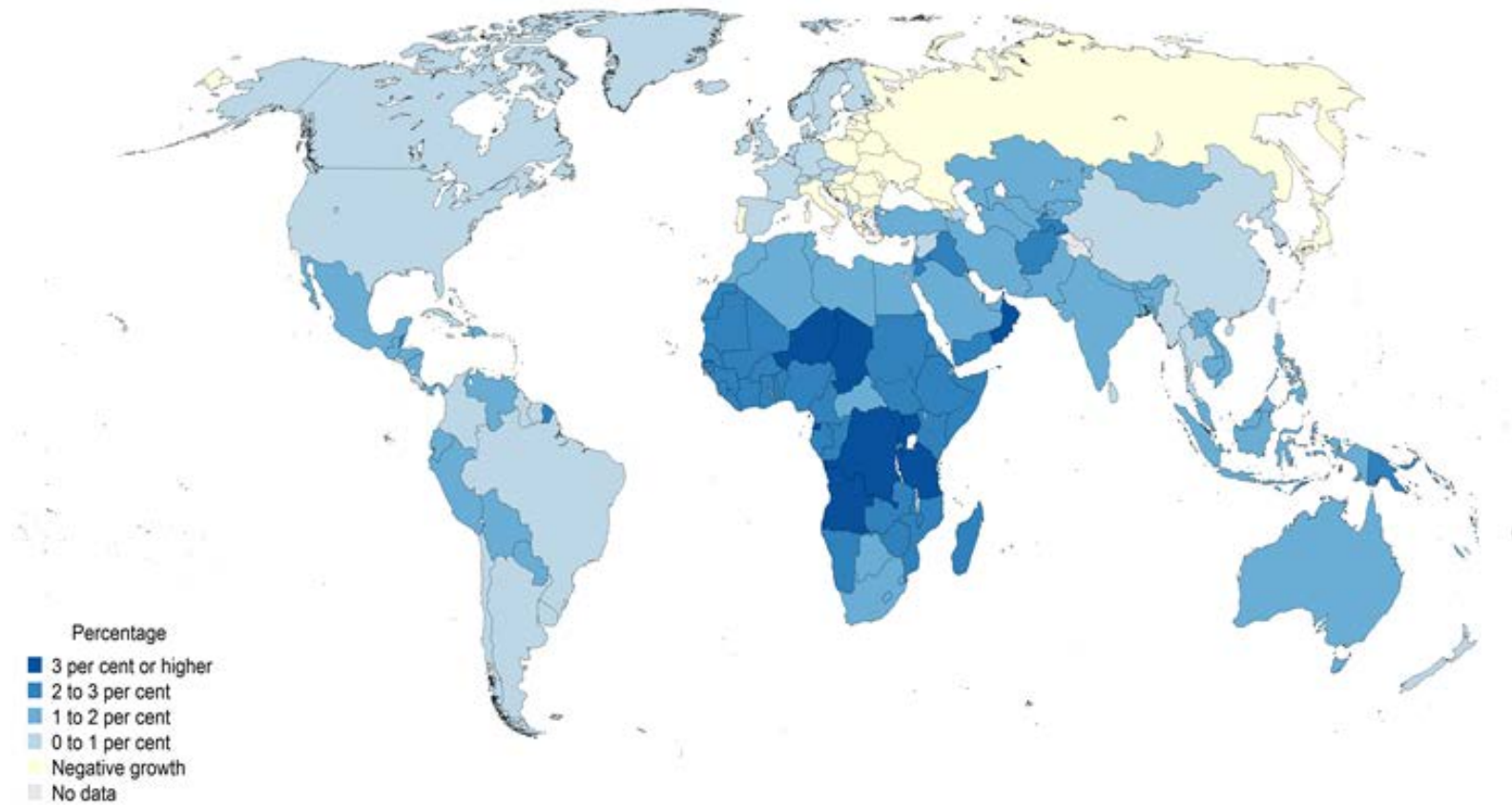


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Average annual population change (percentage), 2015-2050



Data source: World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).



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Global population growth results from declining mortality and, most critically, from continuing high fertility

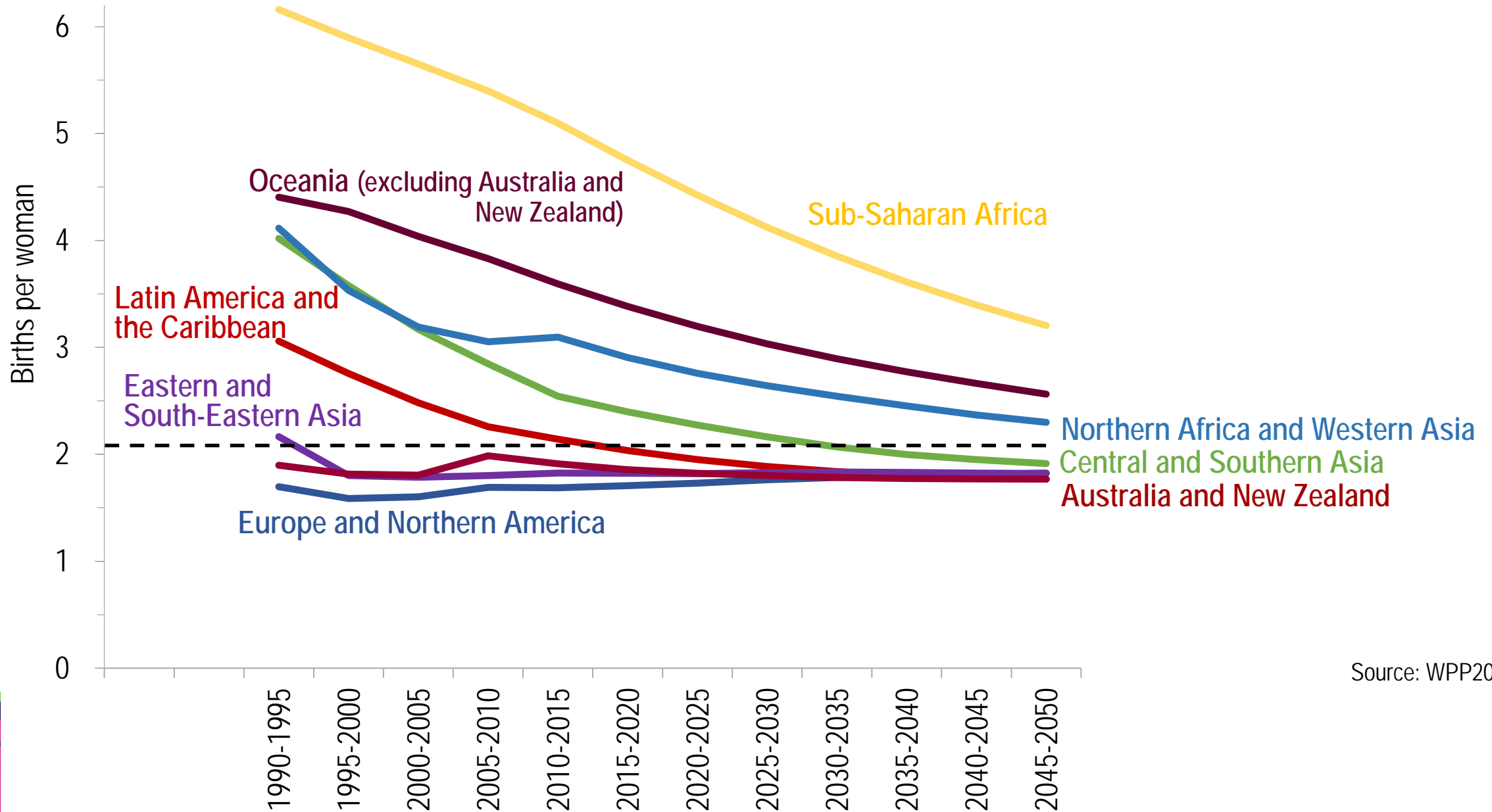


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Total fertility rates (birth per woman) by region, 1990-2050



Source: WPP2017



While the number of children per woman is declining, challenges remain

Adolescent fertility* remains high in some regions (Africa, LAC) and countries

Substantial unmet need for family planning, and insufficient access and use to modern methods*

* SDG indicators, 3.7.1 and 3.7.2



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Major progress in health and reducing mortality leading to longer and healthier lives

However, the ambitious ICPD goals for child and maternal mortality and life expectancy not yet met...

while widespread rise (increased prevalence and cause of death) of non-communicable diseases (highest in Eastern Europe)

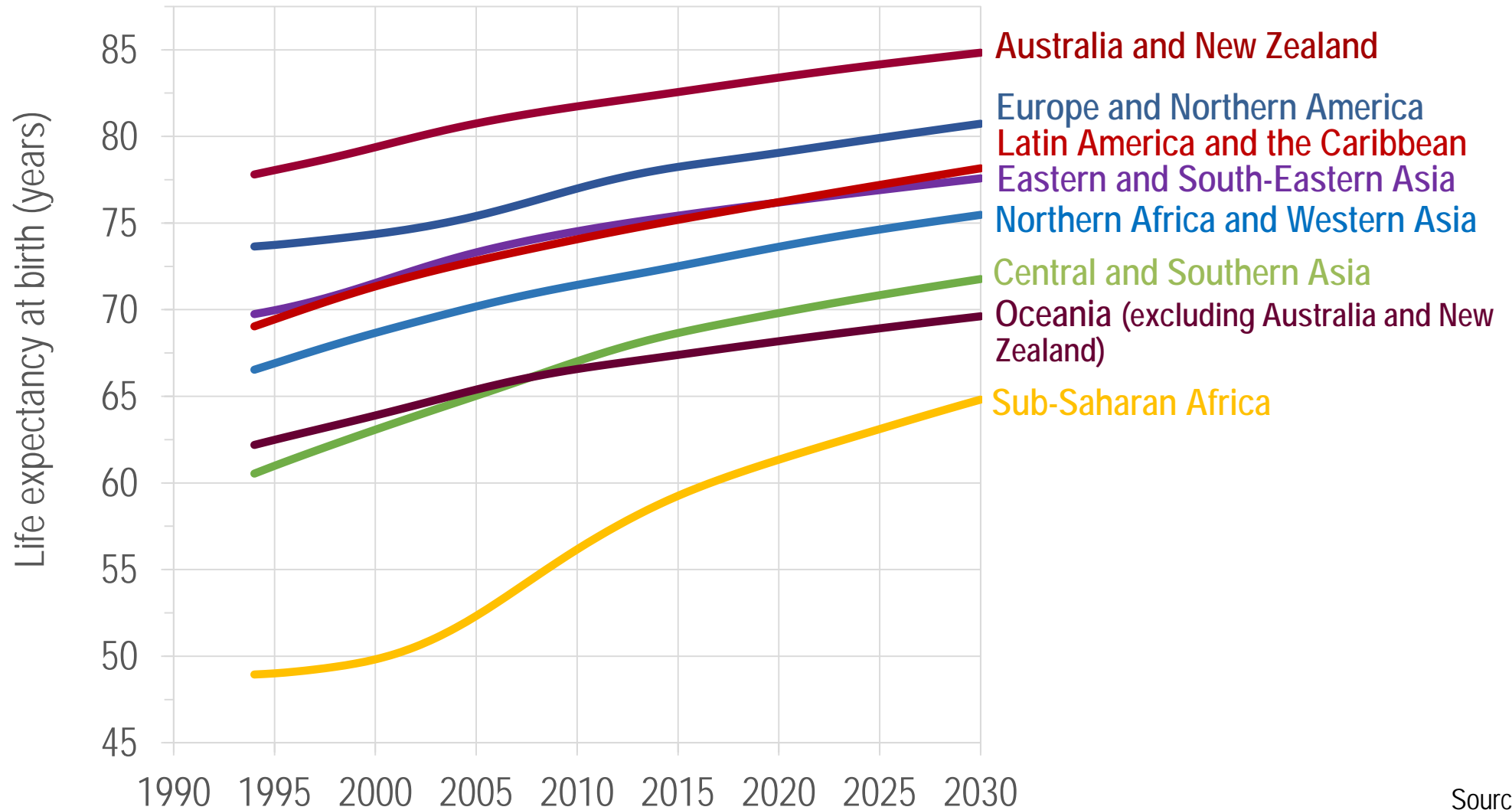


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Life expectancy at birth (years) by region, 1994-2030



Source: WPP2017

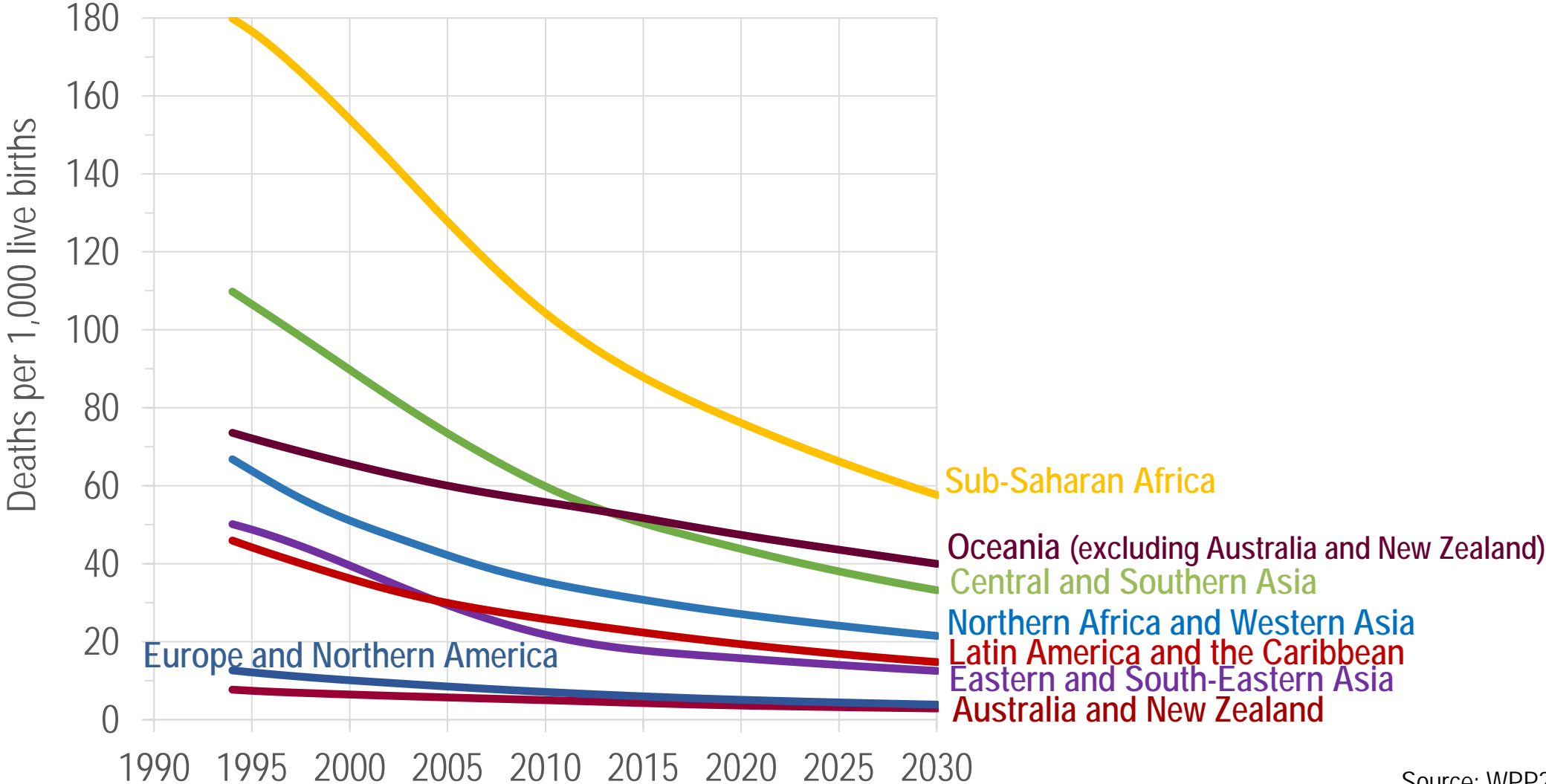


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Under-five mortality rate by region, 1994-2030



Source: WPP2017



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Population ageing: A major demographic trend

Share of people aged 65 years or older, currently around 9% globally, projected to accelerate in the coming decades (more than doubling in Asia and LAC)

Calls for increased attention to social protection systems, long-term care, life-long learning and inclusive cities*

* Recognized in the 2030 Agenda, under SDGs 1, 4 and 11



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Urbanization

Demographic: Almost all future growth of the human population will take place in urban areas, mostly in developing countries

Development: many advantages as well as challenges, including environmental impact of unplanned urban growth, including greater exposure to risks of natural disasters

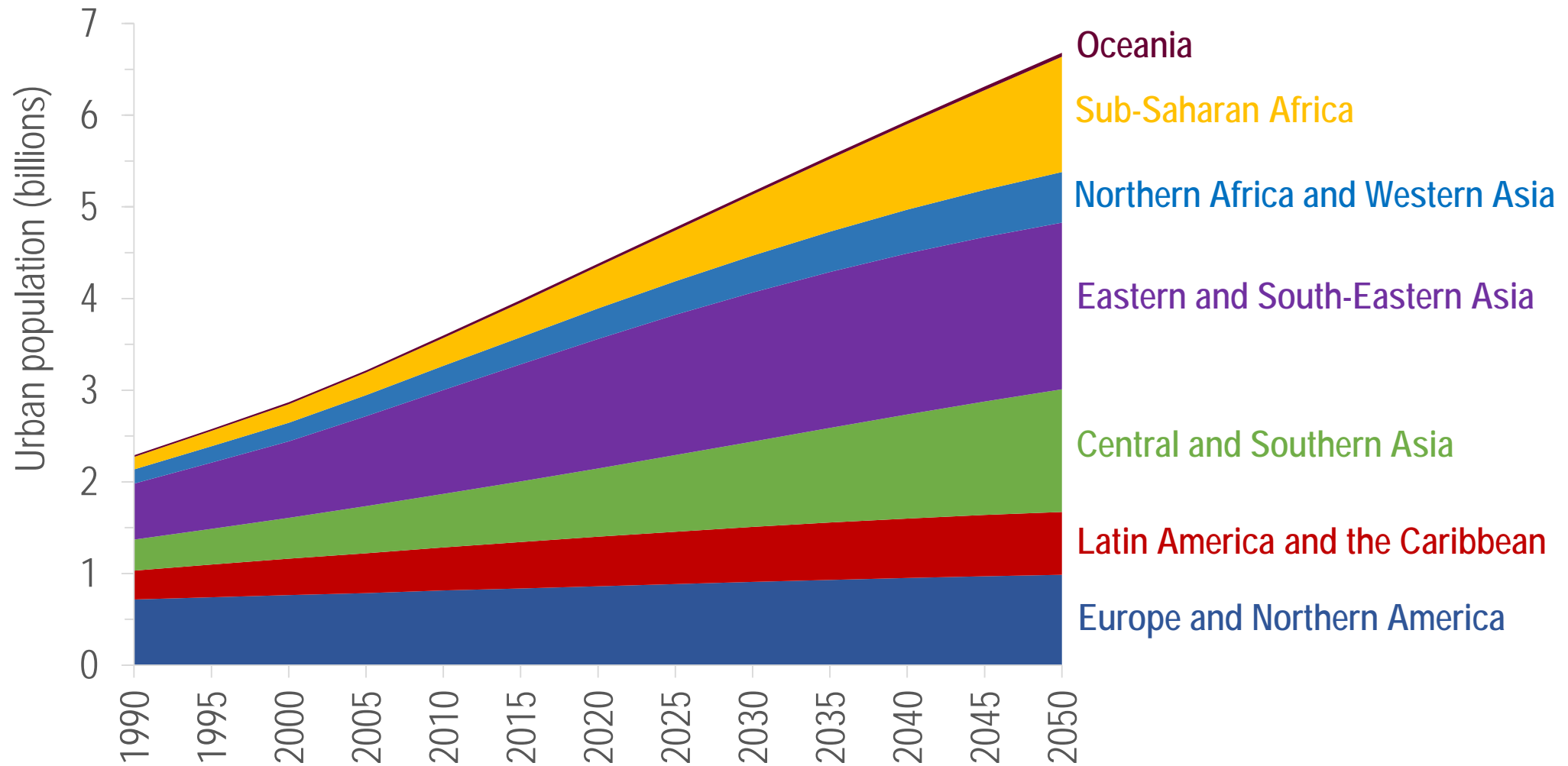


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Urban population by region (billions), 1990-2050



Source: WPP2017



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Increased mobility of the world population

Number of internal and international migrants

Some challenges but also many opportunities for migrants and countries of origin and destination, provided it is well managed

International migration contributes significantly to population growth in more developed regions



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Role of demographic data

Critical for development planning and policy formulation
recognized in PoA and 2030 Agenda

2020 round of population and housing censuses especially
important for disaggregation by age, sex, marital status,
migratory status, education, occupation, etc.

Combined with registration, surveys and other data sources



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Conclusions and recommendations

Continued efforts towards achieving universal access to SRH-care services, including family planning, per the Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda;

Support the realization of reproductive desires by couples with fewer children than desired, by providing access to parental leave and especially affordable childcare, to help parents balance work and family obligations;

These policies have proven synergies with improved completion and quality of education: They reinforce each other, amplify the demographic dividend, and support a virtuous cycle of development;



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Conclusions and recommendations

Strengthen national data systems to provide data disaggregated by key demographic characteristics, especially age, sex, marital status and migration status, in line with the 2030 Agenda.

Improved collection, analysis and dissemination of migration data should leverage the 2020 round of population censuses, making better use of data from administrative sources, establishing regional training centres and promoting cooperation and partnerships, among others;

Considering the interlinkages of the Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda, population trends should feature prominently in voluntary national reviews presented at the high-level political forum on sustainable development;



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