



Policy Mapping on Ageing in Asia and the Pacific Analytical Report

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FOREWORD

Demographic trends in the Asia and Pacific region are expanding interest in addressing challenges and capturing opportunities related to population ageing. Most countries in the region are already experiencing rapid ageing, and that will only accelerate in the coming decades. Partly in response to the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) in 2002, most countries in the region began the process of developing policies and legislation on ageing and integrating older people's concerns into broad policy-making. Progress has been uneven across the region, with some countries already enacting laws on ageing and others having only basic decrees in place. Some approved policies are not yet being translated into practice.

With UNFPA's support, HelpAge International commissioned a mapping of policy and legislation on ageing and older people in 26 countries across the region. This document presents the findings of the review.

An analysis of the implementation or impact of these policies was beyond the scope of the review. The existence of policy within any country included in this study, even where implementation arrangements and mechanisms are detailed, does not mean that this policy has been implemented to any extent. Additional work is needed to review the implementation and impact of policy on ageing across the region.

HelpAge and UNFPA would like to thank their respective Country Offices and country associates from across the Asia and Pacific region for their support in providing information and giving advice on the policy mapping project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the findings of mapping research that documents the policy, legislation and action plans on ageing and older people in 26 countries across the Asia and Pacific Region. These countries are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Viet Nam.

In addition to policy, legislation and action plans focussed solely on ageing and older people, the review also included references to older people in a number of mainstream national policy documents. These were reviewed in order to capture government action on ageing beyond the policy documents focussed solely on older people. An annex to this report presents the full data collected during the review, by country.

National policy, legislation, and/or action plans focussed solely on ageing and older people were found in 18 of the 26 countries reviewed and are in progress in two others. Just under half of these countries (8 of 18) have only one type of document (a policy, legislation or an action plan), while a combination of these mechanisms are found in the other countries. When mainstream national policies covering the entire population are also considered, all the 26 countries reviewed have at least some policy explicitly addressing older people. Higher income countries included within the review do not appear to be more likely than the other countries to have national policy, legislation or action plans on ageing, nor to have greater breadth of policy addressing older people. Countries which are ageing more rapidly are somewhat more likely to have national policy, legislation and/or action plans on ageing and a greater breadth of policy addressing older people.

Among the 18 countries with national policy, legislation and/or action plans on ageing, their documents generally cover a wide range of issues related to later life. Policy documents in all those countries include social protection, healthy ageing, equal and universal access to health care, housing and the living environment, care and support for care givers, and images of ageing in society. Nearly all of these countries also mention training for health care workers and neglect; abuse, violence, rights and age discrimination; work and labour; and knowledge, education and training.

Most of the countries in the review (23 of 26) have clear focal points on ageing, and many countries have an institution, council, committee or commission focussed on ageing. However, many of the countries do not explicitly state that older people are included directly within these institutions or engaged in related processes.

The research used the broad framework of the 2002 Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) to capture and analyse the information. This study is framed by MIPAA's three pillars: Older persons and Development, Advancing Health and Well-being into Old Age, and Ensuring Enabling and Supportive Environments. Key findings related to each pillar are presented below.

Older Persons and Development

- Some policy explicitly addressing older persons and development was found in all countries (26/26). However, the range and depth of this policy varies dramatically across the region.
- In some cases, mainstream national policies make an explicit mention of effects on older persons. Policy referring to older people in relation to migration was found in only 4/26 countries; policy on emergency response and disaster risk reduction was found in 11/26 countries; policy on knowledge, education and training was found in 18/26 countries; and policy on work and labour policy was found in 20/26 countries.
- Half of the countries reviewed (13/26) have a social pension (a government provided, non-contributory cash transfer to older persons).
- Of the countries where national development plans or poverty reduction plans were found, 21/25 include older people within these, though this is often only a limited reference.

Advancing Health and Well-being into Old Age

- Policy explicitly addressing older people and advancing health and well-being was found in 22/26 countries. Health is the sector with the most in-depth policy of the areas considered in the review.
- Wide variation exists between countries by specific issue under health and well-being. For example, policy addressing HIV/AIDS was found in only 4/26 countries, policy addressing mental health in 12/26 countries, and policy addressing nutrition in 15/26 countries.
- Many countries address non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in health policy, though age-specific NCDs are not always explicitly targeted.
- All countries reviewed (26/26) have mainstream national policy that addresses disabilities, though older people are often not addressed explicitly within this.

Ensuring Enabling and Supportive Environments

- An enabling and supportive environment includes such considerations as housing, care, abuse, and positive societal and intergenerational relations. Policy explicitly addressing older people and ensuring enabling and supportive environments was found in 25/26 countries, although with significant variation between countries.
- Most countries have policy addressing care and support for care givers (24/26), housing and the living environment (22/26), images of ageing (20/26), and neglect, violence, abuse, rights and age discrimination (19/26).

Few countries have addressed cross-cutting issues, such as gender-specific policy, policy addressing the needs of the oldest old or policy addressing rural ageing populations.

The report presents a number of recommendations including these:

- Countries should ensure that where policy exists, implementation arrangements, monitoring and evaluation processes, research and data to inform policy, and details of budgets are included within this. These should be collected in one place and shared publicly to ensure good practice can be shared.
- Further analysis should be carried out to understand the choices governments make in adopting and designing national policy, legislation and action plans on ageing and to assess the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches.
- Countries should establish a clear focal point for ageing and older people, and the representation of older people should be prioritised within these structures.

The electronic version can be accessed through our website:

<http://ageingasia.org/mapping-of-ageing-policies/>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 About the study

This report outlines the findings of mapping research that aims to document the policy, legislation and action plans on ageing and older people in 26 countries across the Asia and Pacific Region. These countries are:

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Cambodia
- China
- Cook Islands
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPR Korea)
- Fiji
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR)
- Malaysia
- the Maldives
- Mongolia
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Pakistan
- Palau
- the Philippines
- Solomon Islands
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- Viet Nam

The report builds upon work undertaken by HelpAge International and UNFPA in their *Overview of Available Policies and Legislation, Data and Research, and Institutional Arrangements Relating to Older Persons*,¹ and *Ageing in the 21st Century: A Celebration and a Challenge*,² together with the work of individual countries and regional bodies for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) review process in 2012 and 2013. To ensure consistency with these documents and regional and international review processes, the research used the broad MIPAA framework to capture and analyse the information.

In addition to policy, legislation and action plans focussed solely on ageing and older people, the review also included a number of mainstream national policy documents. These were reviewed in order to capture government action on ageing beyond the policy, legislation or action plans focussed solely on older people.

This report brings together and critically analyses the findings of the review. It also includes some recommendations. The *Annex* documents the information collected for each country and the sources used for this mapping.

¹ UNFPA and HelpAge International 2012, *Overview of Available Policies, Legislation*, obtained from <http://www.unfpa.org/public/home/publications/pid/11584> on 3.05.2013.

² UNFPA and HelpAge International 2012, *Ageing in the 21st Century: A Celebration and a Challenge*, obtained from <http://www.unfpa.org/public/home/publications/pid/11584> on 3.05.2013.

1.2 Methodology

The study has been carried out by one researcher with the support of UNFPA and HelpAge Country Offices, and other in-country affiliates. The project involved a desk-based review, consisting of the collection and analysis of national action plans, legislation and policy focussed solely on older people and ageing in the countries reviewed, and also other key national policy documents addressing older people.

The following criteria were used to determine which countries to include in the study:

- The representation of each of the three sub-regions of the Asia and Pacific region: East and South East Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific.
- Countries in which HelpAge International is active, to ensure there are opportunities for building upon the study.
- Countries at various stages of development, with an emphasis on Lower Income and Middle Income Countries.
- Countries where it was anticipated that ageing policy was either in place or in development, and representing diversity in ageing policy development and depth.

Within the three broad pillars of the 2002 MIPAA, selected key issues were reviewed. These are listed below, under each pillar:

- *Older Persons and Development*: work and labour; migration; poverty reduction and/or national development plans; social protection (including social insurance and social assistance policy); knowledge, education and training; and emergency response/disaster risk reduction.
- *Advancing Health and Well-being into Old Age*: healthy ageing and non-communicable diseases; universal and equal access to healthcare services; older persons and HIV/AIDS; training of health and care professionals; mental health; disability; and nutrition.
- *Ensuring Enabling and Supportive Environments*: housing and the living environment; care and support for care givers; neglect, abuse, violence, rights, and age discrimination; and images of ageing, including policy on intergenerational relations and participation.

In addition to this, the following information was collected:

- Key demographic data (the proportion of the population over 60 in 2015 and projections for 2050, and the life expectancy of men and women in 2015) from the World Population Projections 2012 Revision of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).
- Details of the focal points on ageing within countries and institutional arrangements.
- Information on the existence of older people's self-help groups or older people's associations (included for information only in the Annex).

The issue sub-categories were chosen so as to align most closely with the broader work of the UNFPA/HelpAge programme and with consideration of time and resource limitations. Some issues that are included within the MIPAA sub-categories were therefore not considered in the review, including an in-depth consideration of rural ageing and urbanisation, and participation in society and development.

The resources drawn upon are outlined below:

- Review of the World Bank, UNFPA and World Health Organisation (WHO) country overviews
- Review of International Labour Organisation's (ILO) Social Protection Platform country information pages and/or the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Social Protection Index and related studies
- Review of national development or poverty reduction plans and/or strategies
- Review of national policy, legislation and/or action plans focussed solely on older people and ageing, including related documents such as implementation plans
- Review of national health strategies
- Search for plans, policy or legislation related to persons with disabilities within countries
- Word search for 'older people', 'elderly', 'senior', 'ageing', '60', '65' within the following documents where found/available: national migration strategies, national disaster risk reduction or emergency response strategies, national HIV/AIDS strategies and national nutrition strategies.
- Where additional plans or legislation of direct relevance to older people and ageing were referenced within the above documents, these were considered briefly too, where found/available.
- Where information was not found in the form of the above documents, other information sources were sometimes used. These included:
 - Reports or studies from UN agencies (especially UNFPA, UNDESA, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, WHO, ILO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, ADB, HelpAge International, Global Action on Ageing, and other government and NGO publications or websites
 - Country reports from MIPAA review 2007 and 2012 where available
 - Academic articles, obtained online
 - Online news articles

The above documents were all found online, such as through government or NGO websites, or, where information was not publicly accessible, through UNFPA or HelpAge International Country Offices. A list of sources used is included in the Annex within each country's information page. Where these are available online, a URL is given.

Once an initial draft was complete for all 26 countries, information was sent to UNFPA and HelpAge Country Offices and they were invited to review. Any amendments and additions received from Country Offices were incorporated into the final version. Once finalised, information was analysed both quantitatively and qualitatively.

1.3 How the findings are presented

The findings are presented below in narrative form, providing figures where possible – for example, detailing how many countries were found to have policy specifically addressing older people and work and labour, or the number of countries found to have policy specifically addressing healthy ageing and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Where percentages are given, these have been rounded.

Examples from different countries are also included in the narrative analysis. These examples were chosen simply to illustrate various approaches taken by countries. The absence of an example from a country should not be taken to mean that good practice does not exist there.

Two tables have been produced to give a simple overview of the findings. The first (*Table 1*) illustrates where policy, legislation and/or action plans focussed solely on older people and ageing were found within the countries studied, and the thematic areas that are covered within these. The next table (*Table 2*) takes a broader look, illustrating where policy explicitly addressing older people was found in a country, considering both documents focussed solely on older people but also including mainstream national policy documents – for example, in national health strategies or national development strategies. The data reflects the information that was accessible at the time of research and may be revised over time.

The annex to this report presents the full data collected during the review, by country. Figures that are given in the narrative of the main report but not included in the two tables have been reached through analysis of data included in the Annex. Within this data, information on older people's self-help groups and/or older people's associations within countries is included, where found. This information is not included within the tables. A full list of sources used and URLs, where available, for national policies on ageing are provided on each country's page.

1.4 Limitations

Due to limits of accessibility, particularly in terms of translation and public availability of documents, as well as variations in types of action plans, legislation and/or policy by country, the information in this study is not complete. Where national plans on ageing were not found, greater efforts were taken to find mainstream policy documents addressing older people. Where key documents were known to exist but were not accessible or not available in English, this is noted. Due to resource limitations, UNFPA and/or HelpAge Country Offices were not able to review every country's data. Where country data has not received a secondary review, a note has been included on the

country page. Data was retrieved between September 2014 and January 2015, so policy that was published after January may not be included in the report.

In light of these limitations, the absence of information in this document and its annex should not be taken to mean that policy, legislation, plans of action or other policy documents addressing older people have not been developed by a country.

2. OVERALL FINDINGS

2.1 Overview

Overview of national policy, legislation or action plans focussed solely on older people and ageing

Table 1, below, presents the policy, legislation or national action plans focussed solely on older people and ageing (hereafter described as ‘national plans on ageing’) that were found within a country, along with the thematic areas these documents cover. For example, these include Myanmar’s National Action Plan on Ageing 2014 and the Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012–2017. An ‘X’ is given to indicate, first, whether a national plan on ageing was found, and then whether each thematic area is included within it. A blank space indicates no national plan on ageing was found or that where there is one, it does not cover a specific thematic area. An asterisk indicates countries where a document was not available in English or was inaccessible in full.

Overview of broad national policy explicitly addressing older people

Table 2 presents where policy explicitly addressing older people and ageing was found when population-wide, mainstream policy documents were considered in addition to national plans on ageing – for example, in national health strategies or national social protection strategies. The range of documents considered is outlined in the *Methodology*. ‘Policy explicitly addressing older people’ means policy in which older people are mentioned specifically in a document. Two additional columns are included in *Table 2*. The first, titled ‘National Development Plans’, indicates whether older people are mentioned specifically within national development or poverty reduction plans and/or strategies. The second, ‘Disability’, indicates whether policy or legislation on people with disabilities was found in a country.

Table 1: National plans on ageing
(National policy, legislation and action plans focussed solely on older people and ageing)

	National plans on ageing	OLDER PERSONS AND DEVELOPMENT					ADVANCING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING						ENVIRONMENT			
		Work & labour	Migration	Social protection	Education knowledge training	emergency response & disasters	Healthy ageing & NCDs	Health care access	HIV/AIDS	Health care training	Mental health	Nutrition	Living environ	Care & support	Neglect, abuse, rights	Images of ageing
Afghanistan																
Bangladesh	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Bhutan	D															
Cambodia	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
China*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Cook Islands	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X		X
DPR Korea*	X	X		X			X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Fiji	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
India	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Indonesia*	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Iran	D															
Lao PDR	X	X		X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X
Malaysia*	X	X		X	X		X	X		X			X	X	X	X
Maldives																
Mongolia	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
Myanmar	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X
Nepal*	X			X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Pakistan	X			X			X	X		X			X	X	X	X
Palau																

	National plans on ageing	OLDER PERSONS AND DEVELOPMENT					ADVANCING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING						ENVIRONMENT			
		Work & labour	Migration	Social protection	Education knowledge training	emergency response & disasters	Healthy ageing & NCDs	Health care access	HIV/AIDS	Health care training	Mental health	Nutrition	Living environ	Care & support	Neglect, abuse, rights	Images of ageing
Philippines	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Solomon Islands																
Sri Lanka	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Thailand	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Tonga																
Tuvalu																
Viet Nam*	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

Key:

Emergency response and Disasters: Emergency response and disaster risk reduction.

Health care access: Equal and universal access to health care.

Training health care: Training health care professionals.

Living Environ: Housing and the living environment.

Neglect, Abuse, Rights: Neglect, abuse, violence, rights and age discrimination.

D: National plans on ageing in development or approval stages.

***: Countries where one or more national policy, legislation and/or action plan could not be accessed.**

Table 2: All policy explicitly addressing older people (mainstream plus ageing)

	National plans on ageing	OLDER PERSONS AND DEVELOPMENT						ADVANCING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING							ENVIRONMENT			
		Work & labour	Migration	National development plans	Social protection	Education & training	Emergency response & disasters	Healthy ageing and NCDs	Health care access	HIV/AIDS	Training health care	Mental health	Disability	Nutrition	Living environment	Care & support	Neglect, abuse, rights	Images of ageing
Afghanistan				X	X								X			X		
Bangladesh	X	X	X	X	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bhutan	D	X		X	X			X	X		X		X		X			
Cambodia	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
China*	X	X	X	X	X*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	
Cook Islands	X	X		X	X*	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	
DPR Korea*	X	X		N/A	X			X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	
Fiji	X	X		X	X*	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
India	X	X		X	X*	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	
Indonesia*	X	X			X*	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Iran	D	X		X	X	X		X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Lao PDR	X	X			X	X		X	X				X	X	X	X	X	
Malaysia*	X	X		X	X*	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	
Maldives		X		X	X*								X		X	X		
Mongolia	X	X		X	X*	X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	
Myanmar	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	
Nepal*	X			X	X*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Pakistan	X			X	X		X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	
Palau		X		X	X			X	X				X		X	X	X	

Table 2 (cont.)

	National plans on ageing	OLDER PERSONS AND DEVELOPMENT						ADVANCING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING							ENVIRONMENT			
		Work & labour	Migration	National development plans	Social protection	Education & training	Emergency response & disasters	Healthy ageing and NCDs	Health care access	HIV/AIDS	Training health care	Mental health	Disability	Nutrition	Living environment	Care & support	Neglect, abuse, rights	Images of ageing
Philippines	X	X	X	X	X*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Solomon Islands					X								X					
Sri Lanka	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Thailand	X	X		X	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Tonga				X	X	X							X		X			
Tuvalu				X	X				X				X		X			
Viet Nam*	X	X			X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	

Key:

National Development Plans: National development or poverty reduction plans.

Emergency response and Disasters: Emergency response and disaster risk reduction.

Health care access: Equal and universal access to health care.

Training health care: Training health care professionals.

Living Environ: Housing and the living environment.

Neglect, Abuse, Rights: Neglect, abuse, violence, rights and age discrimination.

D: National plans on ageing in development or approval stages.

***:** Countries where one or more national policy, legislation and/or action plans could not be accessed in full.

X*: Indicates countries where a social pension is found.

N/A: Not accessible

2.2 Focal points and institutional arrangements

In 23/26 of the countries studied (see *Annex*) a named focal point for ageing was found. In all cases this means a government ministry or a number of government ministries being given responsibility for ageing and older people. In 19/26 of the countries a national council, commission, committee or office for older people was also identified. Of these countries, some have corresponding regional or local bodies, including Bangladesh, DPR Korea, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines and Thailand. In Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu it was unclear who the focal point for ageing is.

A description of implementation arrangements attached to policy, legislation and/or action plans on ageing is mentioned in the majority of cases. Most of the countries were found to include references to monitoring and evaluation processes. Over half of the countries include plans for research within these documents, though only some with a specific view to inform policy. Few countries provide detail on budgets to implement these policies. China, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand are some of the exceptions.

The level of detail on implementation arrangements varies significantly. Bangladesh, for example, includes the responsibilities of specific ministries, departments, committees and other organisations for the implementation, monitoring, review, development and assessment of policy, as well as plans for research and surveys to build on good practice. Older people are stated as being included directly in these processes. The Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012–2017 also provides a considerable amount of detail, setting out which agencies will lead on each action, the expected timeframe for implementation, and outcome measurements to be used to evaluate policy. The Philippines, meanwhile, indicates specific targets, responsibilities and timeframes for review in the National Action Plan for Senior Citizens 2006–2010, including undertaking a Senior Citizens Survey every year and the development of a common tool or system for monitoring and evaluating the Plan. Thailand's Second National Long-term Plan for Older Persons (2002–2021) includes a detailed framework for monitoring and evaluation, to be undertaken every five years. Thailand also includes discussion of the role of research in informing policies and services and the establishment of an elderly database in the 2003 Act on Older Persons.

Few countries were found to explicitly detail the inclusion or representation of older people within bodies and institutions on ageing or to state that older people are involved in the design and/or monitoring of national policy. Those that do so include Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Cook Islands, Fiji, India, Myanmar and Pakistan.

2.3 National plans on ageing vs policy mainstreaming

18/26 of the countries included in the study (*Table 1*) were found to have national policy, legislation and/or action plans on ageing. In addition, in both Bhutan and Iran one of these documents is in the process of development or approval (information for the areas of policy Iran's national plan will reportedly cover is included in the Annex).

Among countries with a policy, legislation or an action plan, an action plan was found in 10/18 of the countries, while national policy and legislation on ageing were each found in 9/18 countries. In 8/18 countries, only one type of document (a policy, legislation or an action plan) was in place, without the other two, with a combination of these mechanisms being found in other countries.

Where policy, legislation and/or action plans were found, these generally cover a wide range of areas. Documents in Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam are among the countries with the broadest range of areas covered in their documents.

While this review sought principally to map national policy, legislation and action plans focussed solely on older people, a broader consideration of country policies or pieces of legislation was necessary to ensure that those with detail relevant to older people were also captured. This is particularly important considering MIPAA's focus on mainstreaming ageing issues into the national policy agenda. While a comprehensive trawl of every national policy or legislation was not possible, key documents were studied where accessible, as detailed in the *Methodology*.

The value of expanding the review to incorporate these documents is clear in *Table 2*. Even where national plans on ageing were not found, a number of policies explicitly addressing older people were found within mainstream policy documents. This is the case, for example, in Bhutan, Iran, and Palau. In the Maldives, meanwhile, although there is no national plan on ageing, a social pension exists. Some countries have not included an issue within national plans on ageing, but have addressed older people in mainstream policy documents. For example, in Thailand, the 10th National AIDS Plan (2007–2011) included policy explicitly addressing older people, an issue that is not addressed in their legislation or action plan on ageing. Similarly, in Pakistan, neither their legislation nor policy focussed solely on ageing addresses older people in emergencies, though the National Policy Guidelines on Vulnerable Groups in Disasters 2014 does address older people explicitly. These examples illustrate the importance of considering mainstream policy documents when assessing the extent of policy development on ageing within countries.

2.4 Policy development by level of income and demographic trends

Two observations can be made regarding ageing policy development and the income levels of countries in this mapping exercise, as well as their level of population ageing. The countries in the review include 6 Low Income Countries, 10 Lower Middle Income Countries and 9 Upper Middle Income Countries according to the World Bank categorisation of countries by income. (The Cook Islands is not categorised by income level by the World Bank and was therefore not included in this analysis.) Higher income countries included within the review do not appear to be more likely than the other countries to have national policy, legislation or action plans on ageing, nor to have greater breadth of policy addressing older people.

The ratio of population ageing was also reviewed against the existence of national plans on ageing, by country. This was done by ordering countries by: a) the percentage of older people in the total population in 2015, b) the projected percentage of older people in the total population in 2050 and c) the size of the change in this percentage between 2015 and 2050, using age 60+ figures from UNDESA World Population Prospects 2012 Revision. (The UNDESA figures do not include the Cook Islands, Palau and Tuvalu so they were excluded from the analysis.) The analysis indicates that countries included in the review which are ageing more rapidly are somewhat more likely to have national policy, legislation and/or action plans on ageing and a greater breadth of policy addressing older people.

Chapter recommendations

- Countries should ensure a clear focal point for ageing and older people exists within their countries.
- Countries without separate institutes, councils or other bodies for ageing related matters should consider how ageing-related functions can best be addressed. If governments decide to establish new lines of responsibility and/or new institutions on ageing, they should study a number of examples.
- The representation of older people within these structures should be prioritised.
- Countries should ensure that ageing policy is accompanied by implementation arrangements, monitoring and evaluation processes, research and data to inform policy, and details of budgets. These should be collected in one place and shared publicly to ensure good practice can be shared.
- Further analysis should be carried out to understand the choices governments make in adopting and designing national policy, legislation and action plans on ageing and to assess the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches. Different policy mechanisms, including mainstreaming ageing issues into broad national policies, should be considered within this.

3. FINDINGS BY MIPAA PILLAR

As noted above, MIPAA comprises three “priority directions”, or pillars, which provide a framework for the findings of this study. The pillars are (I) Older persons and development, which states that older persons must be full participants in the development process and share in its benefits; (II) Advancing health and well-being into old age, which implies that the full benefits of healthy longevity should be shared by all; (III) Ensuring enabling and supportive environments, which states that older people are entitled to live in an environment that enhances their capabilities, including access to basic services. The discussion below presents how the countries in this study address these pillars through their national policies.

3.1 Older Persons and Development

Of the 18 countries that have national plans on ageing (*Table 1*), all of them address aspects of older persons and development within these, including either one or a combination of the following areas: work and labour; migration; social protection; knowledge, education and training; and emergency response and disaster risk reduction. When mainstream policy documents are also considered, all 26 of the countries included in this study (*Table 2*) had some form of policy addressing at least one of these areas.

The depth of policy addressing older persons and development varies significantly across the region, particularly in regard to social protection. Where only a minimum amount of policy is found, countries tend to have some form of government or formal sector contributory social security scheme alongside some population-wide social assistance measures for the most vulnerable, together with policy concerning work and labour. Countries which have the most developed policy cover all thematic areas and include older people in national development plans. They provide both comprehensive social protection schemes addressing multiple life-course risks and a social pension (a government provided, non-contributory cash transfer to older persons), as well as tailored programmes delivering a range of further support to older people. For example, this is the case in China and the Philippines. More detail on individual policy areas is included below.

Work and labour provisions were found in 16/18 national plans on ageing (*Table 1*). When mainstream documents were taken into consideration, 20/26 of the countries studied were found to have policy explicitly addressing older people and work (*Table 2*). Some innovative practice emerged from across the region, with examples including age-specific employment programmes, training and skills development, credit access schemes, incentives for companies to employ older people, and anti-age discrimination policy. The Philippines, for example, has a government-funded training programme for senior citizens to promote appropriate skills development, livelihood training, and welfare or livelihood support, as well as government subsidies for organisations employing older people. The Thailand Elderly Fund, meanwhile, aims to provide loans without interest to older persons for their occupational capital, and it also funds occupational training

projects for older persons. Myanmar's Action Plan on Ageing 2014 encourages incentives for employers to hire older people. Mongolia is one of few countries to discuss age discrimination in employment. Its National Strategy for Population Ageing 2009–30 aims to improve employment conditions, including tackling age discrimination. DPR Korea highlights measures for flexible working hours for people in later life. Indonesia's Law No. 13 on Ageing Welfare includes the right for elderly to obtain employment, including training. A number of countries were found to set mandatory retirement ages, sometimes varying by profession, as is the case in China, Indonesia, Iran, Thailand and Viet Nam.

In total, 21/25 countries whose **national development or poverty reduction plans or strategies** were located included older people within these (*Table 2*). However, where this is the case, it is often minimal, frequently with older people included within 'vulnerable groups'. Good practice is found in Nepal, where older people have been included in national development plans since 2007. Bhutan's Eleventh Five Year Plan includes older people as one group for whom an independent strategy will be delivered, committing to a study to be conducted to determine the baselines and targets. A number of national plans on ageing commit to including older people in national development plans. Bangladesh's National Policy for Older Persons 2013, for example, aims to include older people in social security, safety, poverty reduction strategies and the broader development agenda.

All countries mapped (26/26) have some **social protection policy** specifically addressing older people in the form of social insurance or social assistance schemes or both. However, the breadth and depth of policy varies dramatically. Countries with the least policy provide a provident fund for government or formal sector workers or single, small-scale assistance schemes to targeted groups of older people; others provide comprehensive and multi-layered social protection systems. Many countries without organised social protection schemes have or are developing social protection plans or strategies which seek to address this gap.

Policy measures adopted by the countries studied include government and formal sector social security and pension schemes; private and public insurance schemes, including both mandatory and voluntary contributions; micro-credit programmes; social assistance schemes ensuring minimum levels of or provisions of in-kind or cash benefits for income, food, housing, and/or health care, funeral expenses and widows support; welfare funds and/or benefits for targeted groups of elderly and/or disabled people; and discounts for older people for products and services.

In total, 50% of countries reviewed (13/26) have a **social pension**: Bangladesh, China, Cook Islands, India, Indonesia, Fiji, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Thailand, the Philippines and Viet Nam.

Some countries have considered different groups and varying needs of older people within social protection arrangements. Both China and India provide additional pension payments for the 'oldest old' (defined as those over the age of 85), recognising the escalating financial hardship that can face people in their later years. A number of others have some policy specifically addressing older women, including Bangladesh, Cambodia,

India, Iran, Nepal and Sri Lanka. In many, this is delivered through benefits for widows. In India, social protection policy recognises the vulnerability of older women, ensuring that single women are eligible for all schemes of government assistance.

Policy on **knowledge, education and training** was found in 16/18 national plans on ageing (*Table 1*). When mainstream documents were also taken into consideration, policy explicitly addressing older people and knowledge, education and training was found in 18 of the 26 countries in the study (*Table 2*). Of those that did have policy in this area, this covered lifelong learning opportunities, skills and training development for older workers (overlapping with work and labour policy), and policy designed to ensure that the knowledge of older people was utilised in the development process. For example, China has universities for the aged in most cities and online schools for the elderly, while the 12th Five Year Plan for Ageing includes multiple measures to expand and improve education and activities for older people, including increased government funding. Nepal's Thirteenth Plan promotes opportunities to use the knowledge, skills and experience of senior citizens in the development process. In Malaysia, both the National Policy for the Elderly (1995–2005, 2010–2015) and the Plan of Action for Older Persons 1999 address education, aiming to encourage continuous learning for the elderly. The 10th Malaysian Plan gives a 100% tax rebate on costs to retrain older persons.

Policy addressing **migration** and older people was found only in Bangladesh, China, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, all within national plans on ageing (*Table 1*). Policy approaches include addressing the breakdown of the traditional family system in light of migration, as in Bangladesh and the Philippines. China aims to ensure that pensions can be transferred across different localities to serve older people who have either been left behind by families or who want to join them following migration. Sri Lanka aims to ensure health services targeted at vulnerable groups include displaced people and parents of migrant workers.

Policy addressing **emergency response and disaster risk reduction** and older people was included in 9/18 of the national plans on ageing that were found (*Table 1*). When mainstream documents were taken into consideration, 11/26 of the studied countries had policy explicitly addressing older people in this area. For example, Bangladesh and Myanmar include older people in both ageing specific documents and within mainstream plans.

3.2 Advancing Health and Well-being into Old Age

Across the 26 countries reviewed, policy specifically addressing older people and health is covered by 22 governments (*Table 2*). In Afghanistan, the Maldives, Solomon Islands and Tonga, no policy explicitly addressing older people's health was found. Where national plans on ageing were found, all addressed health (18/18 countries, *Table 1*). In eight countries reviewed, independent policy focussed solely on older people and health was found: China, Cambodia, India, Iran, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and Viet Nam.

Overall, a considerable amount of work is being carried out in health policy, specifically addressing older people both in regard to **healthy ageing and NCDs** and in regard to **financing and accessing health care**. However, a wide gap is evident between countries in the coverage and depth of their policy. Some countries have basic policy in this area – at a minimum considering life-course approaches to health, tackling population-wide non-communicable diseases and expanding health services and access to health care for the population. Others have more detailed strategies addressing older people’s health needs specifically, including policy on infrastructure development plans, tackling age-specific NCDs, support for older people’s access to health care, and research and data collection to inform policy design. India, for example, has policy addressing specialist health care for older people, training and research; infrastructure and human resource development; support for meeting health care costs; protocols for palliative care; gender-specific policy for older women; and reference to addressing age-related NCDs. Countries with a strong policy framework provide useful case studies of good practice across a wide range of health issues. More detailed discussion on the policy areas covered under health is included below.

It is clear that a significant amount of work is being done by countries on policy related to **healthy ageing and non-communicable diseases**. All countries (18/18) where national plans on ageing were found include healthy ageing and NCDs within these (*Table 1*). When mainstream policy documents were also taken into consideration, 21/26 of the countries were found to have policy explicitly addressing older people in this area.

The majority of countries discuss life-course approaches to health, generally focussing on improving the health of the population at all ages. Across the region, a number of countries frame this discussion in concepts such as ‘independent living’, ‘productive ageing’, ‘quality of life’ and ‘well-being’ – themes that are also referenced in relation to enabling and supportive environments. Within life-course approaches to healthy ageing, health education was a priority for most countries, with multiple governments drawing upon the media, the education system and wider public, private and voluntary services to help spread information. Many policies also discuss wider behavioural change policies and campaigns, with the aim of encouraging healthier lifestyles.

A number of countries have focused more specifically on NCDs in improving population health, some developing independent strategies to address these. This was commonly found in Pacific Island countries: Fiji, Palau, Solomon Islands and Tonga all have independent strategies on NCDs. NCD policy often does not address age-related NCDs specifically.

Many countries have developed policies to improve community health care with a view to promoting disease prevention and healthy ageing. In Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010 in Sri Lanka, for example, a ‘patient-focussed system that provides services closer to the client and increasingly in the community’ has been designed. The aim to spend 40% of the public health care budget on prevention by 2020 is also included in this document. In the Maldives, the government has introduced policy to decentralise primary health care to achieve similar ends, transferring public health workers, previously employed under the

central Ministry of Health and Family, to their respective islands or city councils. In Malaysia, the continuum of care has been prioritised in the National Health Policy for Older Persons 2008.

As part of this approach, countries often have policy that aims to promote regular check-ups, screenings, medical examinations, monitoring and management of older people's health to improve disease prevention. Viet Nam's Law the Elderly 2009/10, for example, gives state, commune, ward, and township health stations responsibilities to provide specialised and regular medical examination and treatment to the elderly. DPR Korea's Law on the Elderly gives public health organs and medical institutions responsibility for registering every single older person and ensuring regular visits to patients' houses, health examinations and medical treatment.

Other countries have introduced policy to promote home care, older people's centres, medical care centres, physical exercise clubs and older people's clubs to improve population health. In Thailand, for example, the 2005 'Healthy Thailand' programme introduced policy mandating the Ministry of Public Health to co-ordinate and ensure health promotion activities through senior citizens groups and older people's participation in these, while the Ministry of Tourism and Sports arranges sports activities. A similar approach is seen in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia and Viet Nam.

Approaches to healthy ageing and community health care for older people, discussed here, have considerable crossover with services to promote enabling and supportive environments and to deliver care and support. (See the below section on *Care and Support*.)

In some countries, policy on healthy ageing or NCDs includes no explicit mention of older people. This was the case in Afghanistan, Maldives, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu. All of these countries, however, have some policy to address NCDs, while the Maldives, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu have policy regarding health promotion and improving community health care approaches.

Policy addressing **equal and universal access to health care** is included in all the national ageing plans that were found (18/18, *Table 1*). When mainstream documents were also taken into consideration, 21/26 of the countries were found to have such policy explicitly addressing older people (*Table 2*). Health care provision varies significantly across countries, with only a very limited number having access to universal, free health care. Even where this does exist, it is often not for all levels of care, and problems with access remain. Most countries have a mixture of arrangements for health funding to ensure access, including social security insurance, social assistance, and micro-credit and health equity schemes. A range of service providers are also evident in many countries, with the state, private, and non-government sectors delivering services which vary widely in levels of care and coverage across the region.

The majority of countries studied have some form of policy addressing older people and access to health care specifically. Policies include provision of dedicated facilities for older people, special or preferential treatment, reduced or waived costs for health care, and special programmes providing medical care to all or certain groups of older people. In Bhutan, the Eleventh Plan Programme includes outcome measurements for the number of health facilities providing community-based medical care for the elderly. In Viet Nam, the Law on the Elderly 2009/10 and Law on Health Protection for Citizens include priority treatment for older people. The Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012–2017 includes the aim to ensure older people have access to free medical consultations, specialist treatment and medicine from local hospitals. In Nepal, the Senior Citizens Act 2006 states that organisations providing health services must give priority to senior citizens and concessions of at least 50% on treatment of senior citizens.

In addressing the treatment of older people in health services, a number of countries have also considered access to mainstream facilities, emphasising the necessity for the needs of older people to be integrated into all health sector planning and programming. This is the case in Fiji's National Policy on Ageing 2011–15, for example. Thailand includes the aim of developing and promoting quality and efficient health security for all elderly persons, while ensuring their access to health services. Malaysia's National Health Policy for Older Persons in 2008 includes provisions for ensuring health services are elderly friendly.

A number of countries consider physical access to health care, including through policy to provide home visits and mobile health units. Health care access in remote areas is given particular attention in Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu (though policy does not always explicitly address older people). In Malaysia, transport to bring older persons to hospitals or clinics is provided through the 'We Care Services' initiative.

Countries where no policy was found explicitly addressing equal and universal access to health care for older people include Afghanistan, Iran, Maldives, Solomon Islands and Tonga. However, population-wide health policy, which includes older people, was found in these countries to varying degrees. In the Maldives, the universal health insurance scheme Aasandha was introduced in 2012 and covers all Maldivian citizens, and the National Development Plan 2006–10 aims to ensure all citizens have equitable access to comprehensive primary health care. In Tonga, government health services are provided free of charge. In Iran, the first phase of a new health plan (Tarh-e Salaamat) was introduced in April 2014 covering up to 90% of costs for patients' medical bills at public hospitals and making extra provision for remote areas and people with rare diseases. In Afghanistan, however, only policy on access to health services for the most vulnerable groups was found.

Of those countries where national plans on ageing were found, 17/18 included policy on **human resource training and development** (*Table 1*). When mainstream documents were taken into consideration (*Table 2*), 19/26 of countries were found to have policy explicitly addressing the needs of older people in this area. Such policy includes the

establishment of geriatric institutes; research; strengthening decision-making concerning health care for the elderly; the introduction of standards and qualifications for professional nurses for the aged and the mainstreaming of geriatric care into the medical syllabus; and promotion of information on care for older people.

A number of countries include plans to base human resource development upon evidence of disease trends and the health needs of older people. In China, for example, the National Health Work for Seniors Leading Group and the Experts Consultative Committee for Health Work for Seniors aim to strengthen the guidance, coordination and scientific decision-making concerning health care provision for the elderly. The Philippines National Action Plan on Senior Citizens 1999–2004 organised the Committee on Ageing and Generative Disease National Institute of Health as a national centre for research on health that includes various programmes including gerontology. The Bangladesh National Policy on Older Persons 2013 and the Pakistan Senior Citizens Act 2014 both include measures to introduce geriatric care into the medical syllabus. In Bhutan, the National Health Plan 2011 calls for human resources projections and deployment to be based upon epidemiological and demographic profiles and evolving needs. In Malaysia, the Health Care for the Elderly Plan (2001–2005) aims to expand the scope of health care services including the integration of geriatric medicine and the extension of geriatric services to more hospitals. The Cook Islands National Development Plan 2010–15 aims to address the lack of specialists in the health sector by engaging with New Zealand to provide specialist health programmes and continuing professional development, increased training and employment opportunities for Cook Islanders in the health sector through nursing school.

Of the 18 countries where national plans on ageing were found, 11 address the **mental health** needs of older people within these (*Table 1*), while 12/26 of all reviewed countries were found to have policy explicitly addressing the needs of older people in this area when mainstream documents were also taken into consideration (*Table 2*). Only nine countries were found to include references to dementia or Alzheimer’s disease in policy documents: China, India, Fiji, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. Others focus on addressing the general mental health and well-being of older people. For example, Fiji’s National Policy on Ageing 2011–15 aims to review training programmes for health professionals, including those working in psychiatric services.

10/18 countries with national plans on ageing included **nutrition** needs of older people within these (*Table 1*), while 15/26 of all countries studied were found to have policy explicitly addressing older people’s nutrition when mainstream documents were also considered (*Table 2*). These countries’ references to the importance of nutrition for healthy ageing most often include the provision of education and information on nutrition for older people.

Only two countries in which national plans on ageing were found included HIV/AIDS within these (*Table 1*), with the number of countries addressing this issue in relation to older people rising to four when mainstream policy documents were also considered (*Table 2*). Thailand and Bangladesh address this issue most comprehensively, addressing

knowledge and awareness of HIV and AIDS among the older population and improving access to treatment, care and support. Thailand addresses older people who have HIV/AIDS and also those who are affected by it as carers.

Some form of mainstream policy for **people with disabilities** was found in all countries reviewed (*Table 2*), with most having legislation and/or a national policy document. Yet some countries have established laws, policy, action plans and institutional arrangements for people with disabilities, while others were found to have only signed or ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled Persons or to possess a single piece of legislation on disability. Mainstream policy in this area often focuses only on children or people of working age, failing to include older people specifically. Where national plans on ageing address disability, this is detailed according to thematic area – for example, in care and support or in housing and the living environment.

3.3 Ensuring Enabling and Supportive Environments

Where national plans on ageing were found, all 18 of the countries reviewed include policy addressing enabling and supportive environments within these (*Table 1*). When mainstream policy documents are also considered, 25/26 of the countries in this study were found to have policy explicitly addressing older people on this issue (*Table 2*). Again, significant differences are found in both the breadth and depth of policy between countries. Countries with the scarcest amount of policy tend to have only a scheme providing some sort of care to vulnerable older people, or plans regarding accessibility to public transport and/or age-friendly communities. Governments with the most expansive policies illustrate a comprehensive consideration of the issues affecting older people within housing and the living environment; care and support for care givers; neglect, abuse, violence, rights and age discrimination; images of ageing; and well-designed systems of care and support. More detail on individual areas is included below.

Provisions on **housing and the living environment** were found in all national plans on ageing (*Table 1*) and in 22/26 countries when mainstream policies were also considered (*Table 2*). Across the region, policy in this area includes homes for the aged, support for independent living, home building regulations and design standards and home adaptation provisions; meals on wheels; age-friendly environments and accessibility to all public places, including transport and reduced fees for travel; discounts and/or priority access to goods, facilities and services; and support for a range of social activities.

Some form of old age or nursing homes was found in the majority of countries, with the level of provision varying significantly across the region. Some countries have as few as one older persons home or provision for only temporary respite care. In others, more developed services are provided by the public, private or voluntary sector and regulations for their establishment and monitoring have been adopted. This is the case in China, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

Policy regarding housing and older people was found in about half of the countries reviewed. In India, the National Policy for Older People 1999 aims to increase housing for certain income segments, with 10% of this earmarked for older persons. The Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012–2017 includes the commitment to make funds available for alterations to bathrooms and toilets. In Sri Lanka, the Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006 commits to create awareness of housing options for senior citizens, provide loans and incentives for home adaptations and encourage construction of parental annexes. A similar approach has been taken in Myanmar’s Action Plan on Ageing 2014, which promotes incentives allowing older people to acquire low interest loans to renovate or buy their homes. In Malaysia, the National Housing Policy 2011 aims to enhance the capability and accessibility of people to own or rent houses by offering affordable housing to low income groups, especially the disabled, senior citizens and single mothers. The government also encourages housing developers to establish senior citizens activity centres within their housing projects. A number of other countries also addressed social and recreational activities for older people within policy addressing housing and the living environment, or in policy addressing care and support, including Bhutan, Cambodia, Mongolia, the Philippines, and Thailand (more information on this is included below).

Policy addressing age-friendly environments was found in most countries reviewed. In China, extensive policy promotes ‘ageing in place’, including design codes for roads, buildings, and other public places; criteria to expand accessible buildings and services; and the promotion of barrier-free homes and communities. The DPR Korea Law on the Elderly also includes provisions for creating barrier-free environments and city planning and house design for good living environments. India and Thailand embrace loan schemes and/or tax incentives to encourage the construction or modification of housing and public facilities accessible by the elderly. In Malaysia, the National Housing Policy 2011, the 10th Malaysian Plan from 2010–15 and the National Policy for the Elderly aim to create age-friendly, barrier-free environments.

Provisions related to discounts and/or priority access in goods, facilities and services were also found in a number of countries. They generally address transport costs, though some countries have discounts or priority services in other areas as well. In Nepal, for example, the Senior Citizen Act 2006 mandates that organisations providing public services, including drinking water, electricity and telephones, shall give priority to senior citizens. In four countries no policy regarding older people and housing and the living environment was found: Afghanistan, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu.

Policy on **care and support for caregivers** was found in all (18/18) national plans on ageing (*Table 1*) and in 24/26 of countries when mainstream policies addressing older people were also included (*Table 2*). Across the region, policy in this area addresses the responsibilities of families, relatives and the state for caring for older people; the provision and co-ordination of multiple and varied care services; and support and training for informal and professional carers.

Policy addressing the responsibilities of the family, relatives and the state varies across countries, with governments taking different approaches in terms of where responsibility lies and the policy mechanism. In some countries, legislation mandating the care of older people by family members was found, including in China, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam, DPR Korea, Pakistan and the Philippines. In other countries, policy aims to encourage the care role of the family through, for example, tax incentives or media efforts (see also *Images of Ageing*, below). In some countries, a mixture of these mandating and encouraging approaches was found.

The extent of policy in the area of care services varies considerably. Some countries focus on single programmes providing home care, often with volunteers, as is the case in the countries adopting the home care approach funded by the Republic of Korea in ASEAN countries. Others, such as China, possess multi-layered social service systems delivered by a range of providers (including policy to encourage the private sector to invest in care), in addition to regulation and monitoring of services. India, Iran, Nepal, Viet Nam and the Philippines also have policy on the regulation of care services.

Across the region, care services available include institutional care and day care centres, and multi-purpose senior citizens centres. Crossover is evident with community health services promoting preventative approaches to health care, as discussed above, as well as with improving living environments and the provision of social and recreational activities. Malaysia evidences a holistic approach to care service design, explicitly addressing the interaction of care services with health services and wider services in the community. Another example of a joined-up approach was found in the Philippines, where the Republic Act No. 7876 aims to bring together health services, social and recreational services, and care services.

Other countries have strategic plans focussed on the provision of care services, including Thailand and Palau. Palau and Malaysia are also two of the few countries that were found to address end-of-life and palliative care provision. India, meanwhile, includes consideration of how individuals pay for care within the National Policy on Older People 1999, including within it the aim to encourage long-term savings instruments and health insurance to relieve the financial load on families.

Many countries have policy regarding support for care givers. Examples of such support include tax incentives as provided in India, Malaysia and the Philippines; counselling services as provided in Iran, India and Sri Lanka; carer's allowances and carer support groups as in the Cook Islands; and education and training for informal carers and care professionals as in Fiji, DPR Korea, Myanmar, Viet Nam, China, India, Iran and Sri Lanka. Fiji also explicitly addresses support for older women carers.

17/18 countries where national plans on ageing were found include **neglect, abuse, violence, rights and age discrimination** within these (*Table 1*). When mainstream documents are also considered, 19/26 of all the countries reviewed have policy explicitly addressing older people and neglect, abuse, violence, rights and age discrimination (*Table 2*). However, discrimination on the basis of age is seldom discussed explicitly within

sectoral policy, such as health, social protection, work and labour or the housing and living environment. A number of countries with policy in this area address the protection of older people's rights to family support, as well as legal provisions for those who experience neglect, abuse and violence. Countries tend to have either policy to promote, or legislation to enforce, older people's rights and to protect them from abuse and discrimination, though some countries have both. Some policies include detail on how these measures will be delivered, including implementation at the local level. Pakistan's 2007 Senior Citizens Act, for example, includes the sensitisation of police regarding the security of older persons, the establishment of senior citizens help lines and verification of domestic helpers. Sri Lanka promotes legal awareness at community level and the provision of facilities for senior citizens to obtain legal services and advice.

The Philippines, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam are some of the countries that appear to take a broader approach to neglect, abuse and violence of older people, including addressing age discrimination and ensuring equal treatment for older people across a range of areas. The Philippines' National Action Plan for Senior Citizens 2006–2010 prioritises the protection and enhancement of the rights of senior citizens to human dignity, to the reduction of social, economic and political inequalities, and to the removal of cultural inequities. In its National Policy on Older Persons 2014, Bangladesh aims for a life for older persons which is free of social discrimination and abuse, ensuring their access to educational, cultural, religious, moral and entertaining social activities. Viet Nam's Elderly Law 2009 and Sri Lanka's National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006 include provisions related to preventing discrimination, abuse, neglect and violence against older people.

All countries where national plans on ageing were found have policy addressing **images of ageing** within these (*Table 1*). When mainstream documents were also included, 20/26 countries were found to have policy in this area. Images of ageing is the term used in the MIPAA document to describe the enhancement of public recognition of the authority, wisdom, productivity and other important contributions of older persons. For the purposes of this study, images of ageing includes consideration of policy to promote intergenerational relationships.

Policies under the category of images of ageing most frequently include celebrating older people's day, promoting respect towards and a culture of caring for older people, enhancing and celebrating their contribution to society, and promoting intergenerational relationships. A number of countries specify the role of mass media and education and training curriculums. The latter are also frequently used in promoting intergenerational relationships. Bangladesh's National Policy on Older Persons 2014 mentions mass media under social and corporate responsibility to promote ageing issues in society. The policy also includes ageing under educational and training curriculums in order to create mass awareness. Bangladesh's policy also prioritises recognition of older persons' productivity and contribution to the family, population and economics. It aims to promote the use of their skills in both public and private sectors and enable their full participation in social and economic life.

Indonesia emphasises intergenerational relations and is one of few countries to discuss ageism directly. The National Commission for Older Persons is tasked with arranging intergenerational workshops for young and old activists with a view to changing images of ageing and tackling ageism. Thailand also provides an example of good practice in policy on images of ageing. It conducted research specifically looking at attitudes to older people within the country in 2007 as part of the monitoring and evaluation framework of the Second National Long-term Plan for Older Persons (2002–2021). Mongolia’s National Strategy for Population Ageing 2009–2030 details a scheme to share former workers’ experience with younger colleagues. Mongolia, like a number of other countries, also encourage the practice of traditional customs and celebrations to highlight older people’s contribution to families and society.

Chapter recommendations

- Countries should ensure that older people are included within national development and poverty reduction strategies, properly reflecting the contribution older people can make to development and the relationship between age and poverty.
- Within healthy ageing policy, more attention should be given to age-specific NCDs, while the positive developments in delivering preventative, community health services alongside curative, institutional ones should continue, considering the ‘continuum of care’.
- More should be done to address the needs of older people in regard to HIV/AIDS, which has a significant impact on older people as both carers and sufferers; mental health policy, including dementia and Alzheimer’s disease; and nutrition, recognising the role it plays in healthy ageing.
- Countries should ensure older people with disabilities are included explicitly within mainstream disability policy, and that their particular needs are addressed.
- Attention should be given to recognising the interaction of policy addressing enabling and supportive environments with policy addressing healthy ageing and NCDs, and equal and universal access to health care. To enhance the impact of policy, a joined-up approach that considers the continuum of care should be promoted.

4. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

4.1 Older women

Despite discussion on the feminisation of later life in the Asia and Pacific region and calls for older women to be addressed specifically within national policy, very little gender-specific policy was found in regard to ageing in the countries reviewed. In most cases, one programme or one direct mention of older women in the area of social protection is the limit. A number of countries make no specific mention of older women in national plans on ageing or mainstream policy documents. Bangladesh, India, Fiji, the Philippines and Sri Lanka are some of the exceptions to this, with policy on older women in a number of areas.

Bangladesh's National Policy on Older Persons 2014 aims to support older persons, especially older women, in initiating economic activities, as well as to support older women and men with disabilities, ensuring no discrimination or exclusion takes place. The Sixth Five Year Plan 2011–15 outlines existing social protection programmes, including the protection of older women from physical, mental, sexual repression and financial exploitation in emergencies. It also includes the commitment to ensure community clinics, satellite clinics and outreach centres provide appropriate gender-inclusive services in hard to reach areas.

India's policies for older women include ensuring all senior citizens – especially widows, single women and the oldest old – are eligible for schemes addressing the needs of senior citizens living below the poverty line. There is also a waiver of the income criteria for old age pensions for women above the age of 75 years in rural areas and urban slums. The Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012–17 includes a commitment to a pension fund for elderly women in the informal sector who are jobless and without any savings when unable to work. It also commits to improving awareness of various diseases that older women are more susceptible to such as osteoporosis, breast cancer and cervical cancer.

Sri Lanka's National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006 includes older people in all poverty reduction strategies, with emphasis on the most vulnerable groups, such as women. It also includes a commitment to open up job opportunities for women and avoid discrimination in employment and pension systems; enhance support for family carers, the majority of which, it notes, are women; and eliminate all forms of discrimination against women. Fiji's National Policy on Ageing 2011–15 aims to support the care-giving role of older persons, particularly for older women, and awareness raising to protect the rights of older persons, particularly the rights of older women.

In the Philippines, the National Action Plan on Senior Citizens 2006–2010 includes a gender equality programme for women senior citizens in all government offices. Attention is given to developing data-banking and research on senior citizens with particular emphasis on sex-disaggregated data collection.

4.2 Oldest old

Only a handful of countries reviewed in this study were found to have considered the oldest old (often defined as those over the age of 80 or 85) within policy on ageing. This is despite the fact that the oldest old will make up an increasingly large part of the population of older people in the future and have needs that should be considered by policy makers. This is particularly true in regard to health and care, income support and social protection. People are more likely to suffer from ill health or disability at the oldest ages, resulting in higher medical costs at a time when their income may be more insecure.

While a number of countries considered the provision of services or social assistance for different age groups to some extent, occasionally giving higher priority to older cohorts, countries where this study found more detailed policy for the oldest old include China, India, Thailand and DPR Korea. In China, increasing cash subsidies for the poorest older people are tiered into provisions for those aged 80, 90 and 100. India has an additional pension for the oldest old in the case of disability, loss of adult children and/or concomitant responsibility for grandchildren and women. Health insurance aims to cover all senior citizens through publicly funded schemes, especially those over 80, and the initiation of a twice-yearly screening of the 80+ population is provided. In DPR Korea, the government grants a range of subsidies to older people who are aged 90+ in addition to their pension. The value of Thailand's old age allowance (a social pension) rises with each decade of age, reaching a maximum monthly amount by age 90.

4.3 Older people in rural areas

Despite increasing urbanisation in many countries, resulting in large numbers of older people with reduced family support in rural settings, few countries included in the review were found to have developed policy specifically addressing the situation of ageing populations in rural areas.

China may have the most comprehensive consideration of the situation of older people in rural communities, with a number of policies specifically addressing this group. These include tailored pension and social security arrangements, poverty reduction schemes and social assistance programmes, access to health care and health insurance, and social service provision. Some other countries also highlight rural communities, though to a lesser extent. Cambodia's National Policy for the Elderly addresses the welfare of women in rural communities. India has specific budgetary allocations for welfare provision earmarked for the special needs of rural senior citizens living below the poverty line, special criteria for women above the age of 75 in rural areas in pension provision, and long term savings instruments targeted at both rural and urban areas. In Mongolia, the National Strategy for Population Ageing 2009–2013 includes support for rural enterprises, groups, cooperatives and collectives, and prioritises the establishment of mobile health services for rural areas. In the Philippines, the National Action Plan on Senior Citizens 2006–2010 includes the aim of ensuring data and research on senior citizens disaggregated by gender and geography is collected in every Local Government Unit.

Chapter recommendations

- Actions specifically tailored to older women, matched with clear outcome measurements and budgets should be included in policy documents, not merely a reference to their needs. It is especially important that older women are considered independently in regard to employment, social protection, and health and care policy, where gender plays a considerable part in shaping people's experiences of old age.
- Data on older people should be disaggregated by gender, age cohort and rural-urban location of residence.

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Annex: Country information

Afghanistan
Bangladesh
Bhutan
Cambodia
China
Cook Islands
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Fiji
India
Indonesia
Iran
Lao PDR
Malaysia
Maldives
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Palau
Philippines
Solomon Islands
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Tonga
Tuvalu
Viet Nam

Note: In this annex, OP means older persons

Afghanistan

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
4	8.5	4.5	59.49	62.03

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • The Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Martyrs and Disabled (MOLSA) is the responsible institution for older people.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **NO NATIONAL STRATEGY/LEGISLATION FOUND**

WORK AND LABOUR: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • Labour Market programmes in Afghanistan include: • **The Food for Work Program**. • **National Skill Development Programme** - targeting special groups such as the unemployed who do not have special marketable skills, women, and the disabled • **National Emergency Employment Programme for Rural Access** - aims to provide particularly vulnerable rural groups with a social safety net based on cash for work.

MIGRATION: • No policy specifically explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: • The **Afghanistan National Development Strategy** (ANDS) includes the aim of developing the design and implementation arrangements for a scalable and sustainable basic safety net programme and pension programmes. It makes no specific reference to the elderly other than this.

SOCIAL PROTECTION • Article 53, Section 2 of the **Afghan Constitution** provides that, “The State guarantees the rights and privileges of pensioners and disabled and handicapped individuals and as well renders necessary assistance to needy elders, women with caretakers, and needy orphans in accordance with the law.” • The **social assistance programmes** in Afghanistan consists of: • social welfare programmes for children, orphans and very poor families including in-kind benefits and cash transfers, legal support, housing in special safety houses until they are integrated in their families, and enrolment in schools, kindergartens or orphanages • Support to Very Poor Families (Shelter and other Needs) who do not have houses and no one in the family has the ability to work or learn skills to be employed. Those that are mentally ill who do not have caregivers • Disaster relief and assistance • food for tuberculosis patients program • food for education program • There is a **contributory social insurance scheme** covering **old-age benefits**, disability and survivor benefits, and sickness and maternity benefits for employed persons in the government and formal sector • The **Afghanistan National**

Development Strategy (ANDS) includes the aim of developing the design and implementation arrangements for a scalable and sustainable basic safety net programme and pension programmes.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • **National Priority Programme for Health 2012-2020** includes the aim to support health promotion and community empowerment through: • the promotion of healthy behaviours in communities • expanding the evidence base for health-related knowledge, attitudes and behaviours and effective strategies that promote support positive health behaviours/healthy lifestyles are expanded • the design of clear, simple and understandable health education messages for communities to facilitate the integration of community health workers into pre-service and in-service education • monitoring and evaluation of health communication activities • non-communicable diseases prevention and awareness • promoting health environments • **National Strategy on Health Financing 2009** aims to: • implement effective preventive services (public health / population health).

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • **Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS)** and the **Essential Package of Hospital Services (EPHS)** focus on providing various health services to the population • **The National Strategy on Health Financing 2009** notes the BPHS is currently being offered in districts in which 82% of the population lives. Due to limitations of geographical access, financial access, and insecurity, not everyone in these districts can benefit from the availability of the BPHS however • **National Strategy on Health Financing 2009** aims to: • expand population access to health care, particularly for the most vulnerable groups • improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of health services • ensure appropriate access to and utilization of health care services • pool the financial risk of illness to avoid catastrophic health expenditure • improve predictability and allocation of funding streams through the establishment of **National Health Accounts**.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HIV/AIDS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

MENTAL HEALTH: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • The National Priority Programme for Health 2012-20 states a focus will be given to Mental.

NUTRITION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

DISABILITY: • Law on the Rights and Benefits of Disabled Persons • Physical Rehabilitation Strategy • Afghanistan National Disability Action Plan

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • The National Priority Programme for Health 2012-20 states a focus will be given to Nutrition.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: • Article 53, Section 2 of the **Afghan Constitution** provides that, "The State guarantees the rights and privileges of pensioners and disabled and handicapped individuals and as well renders necessary assistance to needy elders, women with care" • **Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women.**

IMAGES OF AGEING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

Bangladesh

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
7.1	22.3	15.2	69.75	71.28

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Ministry of Social Welfare** has lead responsibility on issues regarding older people • **National Policy for Older Persons 2014** established committees at all levels for the implementation, monitoring and development of ageing policy. These include: • **National Committee for Older persons** • **District level elderly welfare committee** • **Thana/upazilla (sub-district) level elderly welfare committee** • **Ward/union level elderly welfare committee**

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **National Policy for Older Persons 2014** covering: • contribution of older people • intergenerational communication and solidarity • social facilities • security in life and property • poverty reduction • financial security • healthcare and nutrition • HIV and AIDS • DRR/ER • education and training • welfare activities • The policy gives responsibility to specific ministries, departments, committees and other organisations for the implementation, monitoring, review, development and assessment of policy, and for conducting research and surveys to build on good policy. Older people are involved directly in this process.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Vision 2021** commits to: • policies and initiatives to support people with disabilities to work • An Employment Guarantee Act exists • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aims to: • ensure equal access to older persons in employment, income generating activities, micro credit, market and property • support older persons, especially older women, in initiating income generating and economic activities • ensure sustainable social and economic development for older persons • create job opportunities • reduce unemployment and create financial security for older persons • support programmes creating employment opportunities for older people • arrange credit facilities for older people for employment/self-employment • special savings rates for older persons in financial institutions.

MIGRATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Population strategy appears to focus mostly on fertility and no mention is made of ageing and migration issues specifically in the **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aim to: • legislate to secure the protection of vulnerable older persons who are victimized due to urbanization and disintegration of the traditional joint family system

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S • Older people are prioritised as some of the most vulnerable members of society in the **National Social Protection Strategy** • They are included specifically in the **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** and

Vision 2021 • **Vision 2021** includes: • Increase of life expectancy as key goal • older people are named specifically in regard to delivering a more inclusive and equitable society, in terms of vulnerable groups and those needing care; states that the Government is responsible for ensuring their maintaining a decent livelihood • gender equality is prioritised • **National Policy for Older Persons 2014** includes aim to: • include ageing issues in relevant National Policies and develop specific work plans • reduce incidents of older persons living in extreme poverty by 2015 • including older people in social security, safety, poverty reduction strategies and development agenda • **Bangladesh Population Policy 2012** includes a small section on Welfare Services for the Elderly, Poor and Disabled People, stating a special programme for the elderly and disabled will be undertaken with regard to health, education and social security/safety nets.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION – SOCIAL PENSION • Constitution gives the Government responsibility for providing citizens with the basic necessities of life • **Vision 2021**: • states that the Government is responsible for ensuring vulnerable sections of society, including the elderly, are able to maintain a decent livelihood, ensuring a minimum level of food, housing, education and healthcare allowances for them • **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** outlines social protection programmes that exist, including: • **Old Age Allowance** • Allowances for the Widow, Deserted and Destitute Women • Pension for Retired Government Employees and their Families • Housing Support • Food Security Programmes • Micro-credit programmes • Universal Pension Insurance Scheme • National Nutrition Programme • Economic Empowerment of the Poor • Disaster Risk Mitigation • Social Empowerment programmes • special programmes for groups including the elderly • **National Social Protection Strategy (draft 2015)** aims to introduce a three-tiered pension system, including: a public expenditure-financed benefit that provides senior people that belong to the poor and vulnerable group with a minimum income guarantee. (Current Old Age Allowance will be renamed the Citizens Pension. This will include an increase in payment at age 90); a mandatory contributory pension scheme for the formal sector workers; voluntary pension schemes into which people can opt into • **Bangladesh Population Policy 2012** includes a small section on Welfare Services for the Elderly, Poor and Disabled People, stating a special priority programme for the elderly and disabled will be undertaken with regard to health, education and social security/safety net • **Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes additional aims to: • introduce a range of welfare activities for most vulnerable, including a special “welfare fund” for older persons • to increase the money allocation and grants for older persons in the national budget.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aim to: • create opportunity for older persons through appropriate training • developing curriculum on ageing • eliminate all forms of discrimination from the education and training system • create opportunities for the elderly labourers on training and refresher training.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** states that vulnerable groups, including the elderly, will be primary beneficiaries of all disaster management efforts • **National Policy for Older Persons 2014** includes aim to: • ensure priority for older persons in risk reduction plan including disaster alerts, rescues, shelter, relief and also in post-disaster rehabilitation initiatives • provide support and protection to older persons in allocating emergency humanitarian aid • to locate older persons during emergencies and identify their needs, location and vulnerability • to make the people associated with different relief agencies aware of the physical and health concerns of older persons and identify ways to support their basic needs • prioritize older persons during emergencies and post disaster

rehabilitation • protect older women from physical, mental, sexual repression, financial exploitation in emergencies also considering the potential risks, and raise public awareness • identify the adverse effects of climate change on older persons and mitigate them • consider the aspects of older persons in all the programmes of climate change and ensure their participation • initiate the utilization of older persons' knowledge and experiences in climate change • engage older persons in disaster risk reduction plans at all level and consider ageing issues in them • ensuring accessibility for older persons during relief, adopting policy and programmes to ensure selecting age-friendly relief by both government and non-governmental organisations • adopt age-friendly rehabilitation programme.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Vision 2012:** • discusses the role of health education and media and delivering improved basic health service to contribute towards a healthy population, with focus on a healthy life course and NCDs • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** aims to: • introduce and strengthen health care services for older persons for primary health care support and arrange age-friendly and useful medicines at the health centres • include geriatric health tests through health inspectors and health assistants to bring basic health care support to the doorstep • introduce health related training programmes for health workers and nurses to educate the family members of older persons • initiate referral service and ensure age-friendly health care system in the existing health care infrastructure • conduct temporary mobile camps for older people in remote areas • promote healthy ageing through media and health education from young to old • take older women in to special consideration and ensure appropriate medical services • **Sixth Five Year Plan** includes: • promotion of health education to the population including on non-communicable diseases and caring practice for the old age • creating awareness on nutrition, personal hygiene, use of safe water and proper sanitation • the promotion of community health care to deliver one stop integrated health services • access to gender inclusive services in hard to reach areas • **Bangladesh Population Policy 2012** includes a small section on Welfare Services for the Elderly, Poor and Disabled People, stating a special priority programme for the elderly and disabled will be undertaken with regard to health, education and social security/safety net • includes plans to conduct regular surveys and research on population, health and nutrition; encourage regular communication among the population, health and nutrition researchers, policy makers, planners, managers and stakeholders, and ensure use of information received from the researches.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** • includes older people in vulnerable groups and ensuring access for all • individuals receiving old-age stipends from the government will get full free treatment in all public hospitals • review and scale-up of the Hospital Social Service Program where the needs of elderly patients are emphasized • **Vision 2021** states that: • a basic set of essential quality healthcare services will be made accessible to the entire population • a nation-wide health insurance policy with GO-NGO (Government Organisation and Non-Government Organisation) partnership will be put into service • non-profit group-based insurance schemes will be available to provide quality healthcare for the resource poor. The insurance industry will be charged with designing such a scheme • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aim to: emphasise priority-based quick medical services for older persons in all public and private hospitals, clinics, and health centres • allocating government grants in favour of establishing private as well as government health care centres, disease control centres, elder health service centres and allowing poor older persons to receive treatment at special rates/free of cost in these centres • initiate health access vouchers, health service card for older persons in public and private medical facilities.

HIV/AIDS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No specific mention of older people in National AIDS Strategy • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aims to: • create social awareness of HIV/AIDS through mass media • spread awareness and encourage positive knowledge and religious instruction through educational and religious institutions • encouraging the youth through the older persons to grow their interest in leading a healthy life • ensure proper treatment and rehabilitation of older persons suffering from HIV and AIDS.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Vision 2021** and **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** places a strong emphasis on general medical education, nursing, and medical research • **Vision 2021** includes the implementation of institutional development plans, including community health workers. No specific mention of older people • **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** states prioritise for geriatric care is to create awareness for geriatric care management, train the geriatric caregivers and increase service facilities for elderly at all levels. • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aim to: • integrate “Geriatric Care and Medicine” in the conventional medical curriculum for improved health care system for older persons and ensuring a Geriatric ward in all medical college hospitals and district level hospitals • initiate courses on Geriatric Medicine, Gerontology, Ageing and Development in the higher education system of the country.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** states: • the Government will, in partnership with local government administration and private sector create greater awareness of, and provide services for lifestyle related NCDs, including mental illness. Existing preventive and curative measures with respect to all NCDs will further be expanded and strengthened to increase access to all for health care services • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aims to: • emphasize and expand appropriate mental health care for the elderly and make the family members and the community of older persons aware of geriatric health care facilities and procedures.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Vision 2021** states: • special policies and resources will be committed for infrastructure investment and affirmative action to accommodate the special needs of the disabled to ensure that their disabilities do not limit their employment opportunities or possibilities of social and economic integration and inclusion. • **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** includes section on people with disabilities • **National Disability Action Plan** exists • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aim to: • provide special support to older women and older persons with disabilities ensuring no discrimination and no exclusion.

NUTRITION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Sixth Five Year Plan 2011-15** states that: • the health, population and nutrition (HPN) sector aims to achieve sustainable improvement in health and nutrition naming the elderly as one of the key vulnerable groups. • **Bangladesh Population Policy 2012** includes plans to conduct regular survey and research on population, health and nutrition; encourage regular communication among the population, health and nutrition researchers, policy makers, planners, managers and stakeholders, and ensure use of information received from the researches.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Vision 2021** includes: • plans for specialised assisted living arrangements to be put in place for groups, including the elderly and the establishment of old-age homes • the aim of creating a physically-challenged friendly environment • **National Policy for Older Persons 2014** includes aims: • to increase the existing facilities and system in public

transport for older persons and make them age friendly • to ensure proper housing for older persons of all groups and make all the infrastructure age-friendly • to arrange ramps in all the terminals, stands, hospitals and other service providing organisations and also to make sure slanting down of footpaths, high-road ends, in the city • secure special seats and special discount/reduced fare for older persons in all transports and also to build up separate counters for older persons to reduce their harassment in collecting tickets.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aims to: • motivate and encourage every generation to serve their older parents and relatives • establish day care centres and old homes for older persons • launch voluntary home care system for older persons who are bed ridden and incapable of conducting their day-to-day activities.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aims to: • ensure a social discrimination and abuse-free living for the older persons • ensure all older persons' civil rights • ensure access for older persons to educational, cultural, religious, moral and entertaining social activities • ensure rights to enjoy liberty and human rights for older persons • places emphasis on preventing neglect, disrespect, discrimination and abuse • ensure rights of both older men and women to enjoy their properties in their respective families and ensure full legal support to them • provide legal or other form of support to older persons through different voluntary/development organisations or any other appropriate institute in protecting their interests and enjoy their properties • ensure security provisions when the lives of older persons are exposed to a risk or security breach.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Older Persons 2014** includes aims to: • bring mass media under social and corporate responsibility and include ageing in both educational and training curriculums in order to create mass awareness • to establish inter-generation linkage and solidarity • to recognize older persons contribution to the family, population and economics and motivate such recognition • to recognize the productivity of older persons and utilize their skills in both public and private sectors • to enable full participation of older people • eliminate disagreement and variance between the old generation and the new one through textbooks, mass media, meeting, seminar, discussion sessions, among all age groups and nurture the relationship between the two generations • ensure the family system and the social system for transforming knowledge and expertise of older persons throughout generations.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • No legislation or government policy referring specifically to OPAs. • The Resource Integration Centre's Promoting Older People's Participation in Development in Rural Bangladesh (POPP) Programme, run by HelpAge with European Union support notes on their website that they are working with 338 village-based civil society organisations led by older people.

Bhutan

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
7.3	23.5	16.2	67.71	68.4

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Gross National Happiness Commission** and **Ministry of Health** • Royal Society for Senior Citizens is a registered Civil Society Organisation to address the issues of ageing.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **IN PROGRESS** • **National Population Policy of Bhutan** is currently being drafted.

WORK AND LABOUR: • The legalized age for retirement is 60 in the country as per the **Royal Civil Service Act** • There is only one labour market program in Bhutan implemented under the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources – the training component of the **Urban Poor Development Program**, supporting various vocational training programs.

MIGRATION: • No policy related specifically to older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: **INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S** • **Eleventh Five Year Plan** includes: • consideration of the need to implement special programmes to address the challenges of the growing number of older population, differently-abled persons and migratory trends and includes the commitment to a Special Programme for vulnerable groups, including senior citizens • states a study will be conducted to determine the baselines and targets based upon which appropriate interventions will be formulated.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: • Insurance such as pensions and provident funds are mandatory for the private sector • Most Government Ministries and Public Corporations have a welfare scheme programme for their staff members which is not mandatory • Some disaster relief programmes exist, these have included food, temporary shelter, clothing, and welfare grants to the poor and vulnerable • **The National Pension and Provident Fund Plan (NPPFP)** was established as a mandatory savings plan for employees of the civil service, public corporations, and the armed forces in 2002 • Various insurance schemes safeguard the loss of employment income in the event of old age, invalidity, or death • **The Group Insurance Scheme (GIS)** is a mandatory scheme for all Government organisations, corporate bodies and the armed forces • For the private sector organisations and CSO's, **the Group Savings Link Insurance (GSLI)** is compulsory • Employers can insure individuals or groups under the **Group Personal Insurance (GPI)** against work-related accidents or illnesses.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • No policy related specifically to older people was found.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy related specifically to older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • **The Eleventh Year Plan:** • states that investments will be made in working towards fulfilling the global monitoring framework for prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), intensifying awareness programmes, enhancing cross-sectoral coordination, and advocating for health in all policies to address public health challenges • includes the promotion of mobile health services to elderly and vulnerable populations of society as a KPI • includes publication of medical check-up guidelines and conducting annual review meetings to improve geriatric care services as key activities • **The National Health Policy 2011** includes the prioritisation of: prevention, promotion, treatment and rehabilitation • Prioritises tackling NCDs with a prevention strategy focusing on addressing the impact of unhealthy dietary habits/life style/traditional practices on the health of Bhutanese people and their prevention and control through advocacy, risk surveillance and analysis; strengthening health promotion, disease prevention and health care services; appropriate measures to intensify health promotion interventions that address social determinants causing life style related diseases • Healthy ageing shall be promoted through social communication and community involvement • Ministry of Health shall institute Bhutan specific strategies and mechanisms to address geriatric problems by strengthening social values and encouraging community participation • healthy public policies shall be formulated to address the public health problems through multi-sectoral collaboration.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • **The Eleventh Plan:** • states that free health services from primary to tertiary level health care is a right guaranteed by the **Constitution of Bhutan** • states that the Ministry of Health shall strive towards achieving universal health coverage by focusing on providing improved and equitable access to quality health care services • lists Public Health Services including preventive, promotive and rehabilitative programmes as a key focus of the Health Strategy • states that service infrastructure must be disability, elderly and gender responsive • **The Eleventh Plan Programme** includes outputs for: • geriatric health care services to be promoted and integrated with primary health care, with a KPI being the number of Health Facilities providing Community-based Medical Care for the Elderly • **The National Health Policy 2011** includes the following measures: • all health infrastructures shall be of sustainable design and user-friendly thereby integrating disability, women, child and elderly friendly and other necessary features • Ministry of Health shall address the health services for special needs, vulnerable at risk groups, including the elderly.

HIV/AIDS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • The Programme for the **Eleventh Plan** for the Ministry of Health includes budget allocations for capacity building of health workers on elderly care and the conducting of annual review meetings to improve geriatric care services • human resource is discussed as a challenge in the Health Strategy within the **Eleventh Plan** • **The National Health Plan 2011** includes aim for: • Human Resource projection and deployment to be based on epidemiological, demographic profiles and evolving needs.

MENTAL HEALTH: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

DISABILITY: • Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation (DPR) and Life Style Related Disease (LSRD) Programme

NUTRITION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • **The Eleventh Plan** includes the provision and development of disabled, elderly, children, youth, gender, and environment friendly infrastructure /facilities (services, sports, recreational) as an outcome measure.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

IMAGES OF AGEING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • No information found.

Cambodia

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
8.3	21.2	12.9	68.83	74.22

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY)** • **National Committee for the Elderly (NCE)** established in 2011 by sub decree • **Ministry of Health (MOH)** • **Ministry of Labour, Vocational Training (MoLVT)** is in charge for social security for employees in the formal sector including work injury, health care and in the near future pension) • **Council for Agriculture Rural Development (CARD)** coordination of social protection floor).

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **National Policy on the Health Care for Elderly and Disabled People (NPHCED) 1999** aims: • To improve the health of the elderly and disabled people • To provide human resources trainings • To promote healthy ageing and disabled people through health education • To provide special care for older people in the community • **National Policy for the Elderly (NPE) 2003** covering: • Welfare and Social Participation • Health care • Human resources • Income and market • Participation • Research into ageing and involvement of older people to inform policy • Established a National Committee to: • carry out surveys, studies, academic discussions • to assist relevant departments to develop and implement measures for older people's human rights • to promote employment opportunities • to co-ordinate older people's issues between ministries and departments • to strengthen international cooperation • Established an inter-ministerial working group for the International Day of Older People and to provide managerial and technical support for the development of policy for the elderly • Prioritises engagement and working with civil society at all stages of policy development, implementation and review • international cooperation • formation of older people's associations • Gender issues including analysis in research, planning and project evaluation • Implementing plans including mention of need for more human and material resources.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NPHCED 1999** includes the aim to encourage the elderly and disabled to earn a living by their ability • **NPE 2003** includes: • the establishment of micro-credit schemes to support the elderly in income-generating activities • tax relief for products produced through community based elderly associations and lower rates of transport fees • assistance in finding buyers of products made by elderly associations • encouragement of elderly working as consultants • retired public servants to engage in government services on a contractual basis • elderly to take part in social development activities.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S • The National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) Update 2009-2013, recognizes ageing as a priority area • NPHCED 1999, the National Poverty Reduction Strategies (NPRS) 2003-2005, the National Social Protection Strategy (NSPS) of 2011, and the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2006-2010 and NSDP Update 2009-2013 have included the elderly into the most vulnerable groups affected by poverty • Older persons are not included in the Cambodia Millennium Development Goals.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Constitution states “Every Khmer citizen shall have the right to obtain social security and other social benefits as determined by law” • **Social Security Law** in September 2002 - contributory social insurance system granting workers social security benefits in case of employment injury, retirement, invalidity, death, and other circumstances • **Law of Pension Fund** to retired government officials and government officials who are frail and disabled (1987) • **The National Social Protection Strategy for the Poor and Vulnerable** was announced in **2011 NSPS** covering: • affordable, quality health care and financial protection in case of sickness or illness for poor and vulnerable • special vulnerable groups, including orphans, the elderly, single women with children, people living with disabilities, and people living with HIV and tuberculosis, receive income, in-kind and psycho-social support, and adequate social care • Prioritises social pensions for poor and vulnerable elderly people as an area for action • range of public social assistance projects and programmes • **NPE 2003** includes: • developing services for the welfare of the elderly • promoting social safety for all elderly, especially women in rural communities • supporting activities and good practices for the next generation • protecting vulnerable elderly people • establishing micro-credit schemes that will support elderly people to develop income-generating activities.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NPE 2003** • encourages elderly to use knowledge in social development activities.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No specific mention of older people in 2008 Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction • **NPE 2003** includes aim of protecting vulnerable elderly who are victims of calamities.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NPE 2003** includes: • Education on illnesses affecting the elderly • The Government shall encourage the elderly in the community to participate in the use of the existing health services and provide information on the elderly to health workers • The Government shall make available educational, physical exercise, sports, recreational programmes and daily survival activities and rehabilitation and medical programs for the elderly in the community and pagodas • **NPHCED 1999** aims to: • Ensure good health of Cambodian citizens at middle age and improve health conditions of the elderly and disabled • To improve the welfare of elderly and disabled people • To promote healthy ageing through health education, including through food, body, environmental hygiene and regular exercise • report and monitor elderly and disabled people's health through Operational Districts offices • To prevent and reduce the prevalence of non-communicable diseases and the negative consequences of non-communicable diseases in older life • Establish elderly and disabled care services in the community • prevent and treat the elderly's critical illnesses, such as blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, respiratory disease, etc. • have a regular 6-month check-up for the elderly to detect diseases.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2003 includes: • Government, International Organisations (IOs) and Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to work together to provide medical care to the elderly, especially in remote areas • Government to strengthen health care for the elderly through education on illnesses affecting older people • provision of free medical treatment to older people with disabilities and those who depend on external support • provision of training to healthcare workers on older people's needs and availability of medication • Government to encourage IOs and NGOs to support health services in national hospitals and provincial referral hospitals • **NPHCED 1999** includes: • Government to provide free medical treatment to the elderly with disabilities and those unable to support themselves • to provide special care for older persons in the community with participation of village health focal persons • provide treatment according the elderly's age through dental health programme, vision protection programme and mental health programme • referral hospitals to apply first-aid for the elderly and disabled and prevent common illnesses causing disability • Study elderly's health conditions in each area • Prepare to include the elderly and disabled care service in the national health service system, operational districts, and health centres by choosing one national hospital, three operational districts, and three health centres in the growing province to test and then expand • Cooperate with Commune Development Committee in order to promote community involvement to report the disability of people in each commune and to inform the elderly and disabled to have a check-up as scheduled • Apply the disease analysis and treat as soon as possible • Create a team to compile a guide that gives information about the disease, how to treat, and prevention as well as restoration • Monitor the application of the elderly and disabled care service by check-up teams in central and provincial level to strengthen the good, equal and effective service provision • Prepare the referral system for elderly and disabled who are severely sick in order to get a prompt treatment. • **Health equity funds (HEFs)** provide access to free health-care services to poor people identified by the national targeting system • **Community-based health insurance (CBHI) schemes target the near-poor** who can afford to pay a minimal premium in exchange for a pre-defined health-care benefit package.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2003 includes training of health personnel • **NPHCED 1999** includes aims for: • The Ministry of Health shall provide technical training to personnel on how to take care of the elderly in the community as well as to ensure the sufficient medicines for the elderly • To expand knowledge of health care of older persons to health staff at all levels • Include the elderly and disabled care programme in the fundamental training program of high school and college of University of Health Science • Keep training all medical practitioners on how to take care of the elderly and disabled • Have skilled trainers trained overseas in the elderly and disabled health promoting division, adult treatment division and long term labouring restoration.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NPHCED 1999** includes aim to provide treatment according to the elderly's age, including through a mental health programme.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Policy on the Health Care for Elderly and Disabled People (**NPHCED**), 1999 • **Cambodian Law on the Protection and the Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2008** includes reference to elderly with disabilities.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPHCED 1999 includes aim to promote healthy ageing through health education, including through food.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2003 includes: • the provision of educational, physical exercise, sports, recreational programmes and daily survival activities and rehabilitation and medical programmes for the elderly in the community and pagodas. • No policy on housing.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION NPHCED 1999 includes: • Establish the elderly care service model in an appropriate area with the involvement of the government, communities, international organisation, NGOs (Non-Government Organisations), and the elderly associations • Improve the elderly care service in communities by providing regular care to the disabled • Promote community involvement to assist, monitor, and report to health centres about the elderly's conditions • Cooperate with the Commune Development Committee to train the commune focal people to know how to take care of the elderly and disabled • Improve the elderly care service in communities by providing regular care to the disabled.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2003 includes measures to promote social safety for all elderly, especially women in rural communities.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2003 includes measures to encourage and motivate the elderly to take part in social development activities and participation in other ways.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS (OPAs)/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • OPAs have been promoted by the Government with support from HelpAge Cambodia. They are reported to exist in different forms across the country though numbers are unknown • 2012 Guidelines for the establishment and management of older people's associations (OPAs) - 2014-2018 MoSVY National Action Plan.

China

(Nb. Not all documents available in English)

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
14.9	32.8	17.9	74.01	76.59

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **China National Working Commission on Ageing (CNWCA)**, established in 1999. Coordinating organisation which formulates major ageing policies, coordinates the relevant government departments, leads and supervises implementation of policies related to elderly • **China National Committee on Ageing (CNCA)** is an executive office under supervision of CNWCA. Responsibilities include: conducting research on ageing for policy making purposes, exchanging information and participating in international events, and conducting routine work concerning ageing and the elderly entrusted by the state council • **Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China (MOCA)** • **Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of the People's Republic of China (MOHRSS)**

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **National Law on Protecting the Rights of Older Persons (1996, revised in 2012)**

(http://www.china.org.cn/government/laws/2007-04/17/content_1207404.htm), covering: • Maintenance and support by families • Social Security (including medical provision) • Social services • Social supporting environment • Participation in social development • Legal Responsibility • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015)** includes: • Framework of strategies for responding to the ageing population • Implementation plan for long- and mid-term development of programmes for the elderly • old-age insurance system covering urban and rural residents • health services • development of ageing services and the care industry • living environments for the elderly, including accessibility and extended facilities • elderly care models • older people's activities and wellbeing • culture, education and sports • family support policies and images of ageing • social administration for the elderly • associations of senior citizens • local systems and accountability • ageing industry development • legal system and legal services to the elderly and the rights of older people • scientific research • international exchange and co-operation • improving leadership and implementation • detailed budgets • **Other pieces of policy, legislation, regulation include:** • Plan of Constructing Social Service System for the Elderly (2011-2015) • Decisions on the Strengthening of the Work of Aging' (2000) • Opinions about Accelerating the Development of the Service Sector for the elderly (2006) • Opinions of Comprehensively Promoting Home-based Services for the Elderly (2008) • Opinions of the State Council concerning Accelerating the Development of the Service Sector for the Elderly (2013) • Announcement of Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and MOCA on encouraging foreign investors to establish for-profit senior care institutions to engage in senior care services in China (Announcement No.81 of 2014) • Notice of MOCA, National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) and other four ministries on carrying out the

information management pilot in elderly service and community service (Min Han [2014] No.325) • Notice of National Health and Family Planning (NHFPC) on carrying out the family-based elderly care service pilot for one-child families (G.W.B.J.T.H. [2014] No.834) • Notice of MOCA on carrying out the pilot reform of public senior care institutions • Notice on speeding up the construction of health care and elderly care service system • Notice of Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD) and other four ministries on promoting the reconstruction of barrier-free homes and communities for senior citizens (Jian Biao [2014] No.100) to promote ageing-friendly houses and barrier-free public spaces to serve the elderly • Decision of the State Council on the pension reform for staff at government agencies, communist organs and public institutions (Guo Fa [2015] No.2) • Interim Measures for Convergence of Urban and Rural Pension Insurance System (Renshe Fa [2014] No.17) • Opinions of the State Council on establishing a unified basic pension insurance system for urban and rural residents (Guo Fa [2014] No.8) • Guidance opinions of China Insurance Regulatory Commission (CIRC) on carrying out a reverse elderly housing mortgage endowment insurance pilot (Baojian Fa [2014] No.53) Guidance opinions on promoting liability insurance for nursing homes Opinions on strengthening preferential treatment for the elderly (Laolingban Fa [2013] No.97) • Notice on cultivating and practicing socialist core values and strengthening propaganda and education practice on ageing.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Varying retirement ages for different professions • Policies are established to encourage and support retired older people to engage in formal and informal work • From 2003, “The Silver Hair Action” programme encourages senior intellectuals and experts to provide aid to the western regions and other under-developed areas • Policies to support younger, healthy and abled elderly to be engaged in planting, breeding and manufacturing.

MIGRATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015)** includes aims to: • improve the basic pension insurance for urban workers – putting this insurance under unified planning at the provincial level, putting basic pensions under unified planning at the national level, and ensuring transfer of pension accounts between localities • Improve policies allowing the elderly to be registered as permanent residents in cities where their children live.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S • Older people are included in **China's Twelfth Five Year Development Strategy (2011-15)** within social security development aims.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • Social security organized by scheme, by region and by groups of population • In general, three formal social insurance schemes and a social assistance programme, complemented by supplementary schemes • Since 2007, every household is protected from falling below defined poverty lines by the Minimum Living Standard programme. Rural poor elderly who do not meet the requirements of the “five guarantees” system, are included in this • Full coverage of basic old-age insurance and basic medical insurance in China reportedly almost been realized, but at a very low level • Cash subsidies for the poor population under the poverty line (including the elderly) and cash subsidies for the oldest old (above 80,90 or 100) by local governments • **Universal old age allowance schemes** exist in many provinces in China and the oldest old get free allowance. In Shaanxi Province all OPs above 70 years older are covered by old age allowance scheme • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015)** includes aims to: • Achieve full coverage of the new old-age

pension system for rural residents and the old-age pension system for non-working urban residents • Improve the basic pension insurance for urban workers • Work in phases to link the old-age insurance systems in urban and rural areas, and promote reform of the old-age insurance system for government bodies and public institutions • Establish a regular mechanism for increasing the basic pensions of retirees in step with rises in wages and prices • Develop enterprise annuities and occupational annuities • Encourage commercial insurance as a supplement to social security • Improve the system of subsistence allowances for urban and rural residents, and extend the coverage of this system to all eligible senior citizens • Raise the subsistence allowances for needy urban and rural residents and financial support for childless and infirm rural residents who receive subsidies for food, clothing, medical care, housing, and burial expenses • Improve urban and rural medical assistance programmes and strive to ensure basic medical services for poor senior citizens • Improve the temporary assistance system, and ensure the basic living conditions of senior citizens who lead hard lives because of disasters or medical problems • Explore ways to develop social welfare to benefit senior citizens • Introduce policies of government procurement of services for senior citizens with special difficulties • Further improve the method of preferential treatment for the elderly, give them various kinds of special consideration, precedence and preferential treatment, and gradually increase the level of social welfare for them • Localities where conditions allow will grant living allowances to people of advanced age and old-age subsidies to senior citizens living a hard life • **Decision of the State Council on the pension reform for staff at government agencies, communist organs and public institutions (Guo Fa [2015] No.2)** ends the dual-track pension system that favours staff at government agencies, communist organs and public institutions and discriminates against others working in businesses, creating a fairer retirement-savings system • **Interim Measures for Convergence of Urban and Rural Pension Insurance System (Renshe Fa [2014] No.17)** - allowing people to transfer their pension insurance according to their employment status, benefiting migrant workers • **Opinions of the State Council on establishing a unified basic pension insurance system for urban and rural residents (Guo Fa [2014] No.8)** to comprehensively promote the construction of the basic pension insurance system covering all urban and rural residents under the guiding principles of full coverage, meeting basic needs, flexibility and sustainability • **Guidance opinions of CIRC on carrying out a reverse elderly housing mortgage endowment insurance pilot (Baojian Fa [2014] No.53)** allowing people who are older than 60 years old and have complete independent property right house to mortgage his own house to achieve a certain amount of pension regularly • **Guidance opinions on promoting liability insurance for nursing homes** to enable the construction of a risk sharing mechanism for senior care service industry, improve the operation capacities of the nursing homes and ensure the interests and wellbeing of elderly people.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Universities for the aged in most cities • Online schools for the elderly • The fee for poor elderly is remitted in elderly college • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015)** includes aims to: • Strengthen education for the elderly • Make innovations in the system of education for the elderly, find new patterns for elderly education, and enrich their curricula • Increase government spending on colleges and schools for senior citizens • vigorously support the participation of non-governmental capital in elderly education • expand the scale of colleges for senior citizens of various levels and types • Make full use of the role of Party branches, primary-level self-governing bodies and organisations of senior citizens, and implement ideological and education work concerning the elderly in this new situation.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015) includes aims to: • Improve the temporary assistance system, and ensure the basic living conditions of senior citizens who lead hard lives because of disasters or medical problems.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • China /UNFPA country programme 2011 includes target of: • improved capacity of policymakers to coordinate and manage gender-sensitive, multisectoral interventions to address an increasing ageing population and to support active and healthy ageing in programme areas • Health information and knowledge is promoted and provided through mass media • China's 12th Five Year Plan on Ageing, includes aims to: • improve the system of basic medical services for the elderly, and get community-level clinics to provide health management services for local people aged 65 and over and keep health files on them. • Community-level clinics will provide the elderly with services such as medical treatment, nursing, health care and health monitoring, as well as home visit nursing services • Community-level clinics shall strengthen provision of their medical and health care workers and become better capable of providing health services for the elderly • Community-level clinics will provide health management services for local people aged 65 and over and keep health files on them • Organise periodical assessments of the elderly's lifestyles and health conditions and physical examinations to ensure early treatment • Disseminate knowledge on the prevention and control of ageing-associated diseases, and provide health guidance and comprehensive intervention concerning common ageing-associated diseases and chronic diseases • Extensively carry out education regarding the health of the elderly, disseminate health knowledge, and enhance the awareness of the elderly about the need to take part in sport and physical activities and maintain mental health • Provide the elderly with physical and mental health services such as disease prevention, mental health, self-health care, injury prevention, and self-aid; and pay close attention to the mental health of those who are of advanced age, left behind by their children, or suffering from illness • Facilitate special training and support for family members of the elderly to ensure they receive good care and psychological support at home.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015) includes aims to: • Improve the temporary assistance system, and ensure the basic living conditions of senior citizens who lead hard lives because of disasters or medical problems.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Health Work for Seniors Leading Group and the Experts Consultative Committee for Health Work for Seniors aim to strengthen the guidance, coordination and scientific decision-making concerning the health care provision for elderly • Standards and qualifications for professional nurses for the aged • By the end of 2005, nearly 20,000 people had obtained qualifications for professional nursing of the elderly, more than 60000 service station for elderly • Hualing International Training and Exchange Centre on Ageing • Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015) includes aims to: • improve the ideology, organisation, work style, and competency of the ranks of personnel serving the elderly train people for elderly services, especially old-age care nurses and old age services management personnel • carry out vocational training and certification of old-age care nurses in line with

national vocational standards • enable regular colleges and universities, as well as vocational schools with appropriate conditions to offer courses such as gerontology, geriatric nursing and psychology of ageing in their relevant programmes • vigorously develop ranks of social workers serving the elderly.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015) includes aims to:** • Extensively carry out education regarding the health of the elderly, disseminate health knowledge, and enhance the awareness of the elderly about the need to take part in sport and physical activities and maintain mental health • Provide the elderly with physical and mental health services such as disease prevention, mental health, self-health care, injury prevention, and self-aid; and pay close attention to the mental health of those who are of advanced age, left behind by their children, or suffering from illness • Work to ensure 40 per cent of those with Alzheimer’s disease and mental illnesses such as depression among the elderly will be diagnosed in the early stages.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Disabled Persons 1990 (revised 2008)**, covering: Rehabilitation, Education, Employment, Cultural Life, Welfare, Environment, and Legal Liabilities.

NUTRITION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Privileges in accessing public services • Comprehensive activity centres • Government promotes “ageing in place” and services in the community • Multi-layer social service system for the elderly is promoted and established • Promotion of constructions of senior citizens’ lodging houses, elderly homes and nursing homes • design codes for roads, buildings, and other public places, and barrier-free facilities • Some criterion has been taken to enhance the development of accessible buildings • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015) includes aims to:** • Improve the living conditions of the elderly • Guide the development of liveable homes for the elderly and encourage their family members to live together or nearby • Facilitate and support the installation of barrier-free equipment in their homes • Improve policies allowing the elderly to be registered as permanent residents in cities where their children live • Strive to ensure that the elderly live a happy retirement with their families • More quickly developing senior activity centres and making facilities more convenient • - Allocate new resources and make better use of existing resources, to address inadequate living infrastructure for the elderly • Parks, greens and squares will provide places for the elderly to do sport and other physical activities • Improving the system of technical standards for construction projects for the elderly and the system of construction supervision • measures to accelerate the development of barrier-free facilities • Efforts to make cities and communities more liveable for the elderly • Promoting the development of products, supplies and services for the elderly • Developing tourism services for the elderly • multiple measures to strengthen sport and physical activities of the elderly • **Opinions on strengthening preferential treatment for the elderly (Laolingban Fa [2013] No.97)** to provide various fiscal subsidies, preferential treatment and convenience services for the elderly in all aspects of every-day life including political services, medical services, transportation, consumption services, entertainment and legal services • **Notice on speeding up the construction of health care and elderly care service system** encouraging construction of health care services, elderly care services and sports and exercise utilities through expanding market-entry standards, implementing the leading role of strategic plans, improving government investments, encouraging market-oriented operations of the projects and

promoting trainings and regulating practices of caregivers • **Notice of MOHURD and other four ministries on promoting the reconstruction of barrier-free homes and communities for senior citizens (Jian Biao [2014] No.100)** to promote ageing-friendly houses and barrier-free public spaces to serve the elderly.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015)** includes aims to: • combine family care and social services for the elderly. We will make the best of family care and community services, consolidate the position of families in taking care of the elderly, and give priority to the development of social services for the elderly, in order to put in place an old-age service system that is based on families, reliant on communities and supported by government agencies – a new old-age services model with Chinese characteristics • multiple action to develop and expand home care services for the elderly • Coordinate the development of elderly care institutions • Developing rehabilitation nursing services as a priority • Improve policies on elderly care industries and guide the healthy development of elderly care industries. • **Law of the PRC on Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly 1996**, mandates the provision of maintenance and support of the elderly by their families. Updated in 2013 to: • change families' central position in providing services for the elderly, incorporating diverse service suppliers • Legally establish an elderly social service system based on families, relying on communities, and supported by institutions • provide regulations on improving urban and rural community facilities, enriching contents of community services, enhancing service suppliers' skills and knowledge, and set standards for service charging • encourage local governments to provide subsidies to the needy elders for elder services • **2000 'Decisions on the Strengthening of the Work of Aging'** proposed to establish a provision system for the elderly based on family support, community care services, and supplemented by social support, laying a policy foundation of community services for the elderly • **2006 'Opinions about Accelerating the Development of the Service Sector for the elderly'** encouraged the development of home services for the elderly. Based on life care, housekeeping services, cultural and sports activities, disease treatment and rehabilitation, and psychological counselling, this policy added emergency assistance to service contents • **2008 'Opinions of Comprehensively Promoting Home-based Services for the Elderly'** defined home-based services for the elderly, proposed to establish home-based service centres in urban and rural areas and to improve the community service network by community care, home-based care, telecommunication services and other forms of services • **'Plan of Constructing Social Service System for the Elderly (2011-2015)'** describes the main task of constructing social service system for the elderly including home-based, community and institutional care. The plan includes aims: • to increase community day-care centres and other service facilities • to further establish an information network and service platform for the elderly • to assist needy families to build barrier-free facilities at home, and encourage local governments to give special subsidies to disabled elders for home-based care • deliver a new subsidy from central government to help construct community day-care centres and care intuitions • **'Opinions of the State Council concerning Accelerating the Development of the Service Sector for the Elderly' 2013** states: • all elderly will receive home-based services by 2020 • all urban communities should have up-to-standard day care centres, the elderly activity centres and other service facilities by 2020 • more than 90% of the urban and 60% of rural communities should build comprehensive services facilities and sites which include elder services • Other programmes include: **'Golden Sunshine Action'** encouraging people, especially teenagers, to take care of the elderly nationally • Volunteers provide various services for elderly • **'Starlight Plan'**—national community welfare service for elderly people provide various activities and services • Community service amenities and comprehensive social service centres in most urban and some rural areas • **Announcement of MOFCOM and MOCA on encouraging foreign investors to establish for-profit senior care institutions to engage in senior care services in China**

(Announcement No.81 of 2014) offering foreign investors favourable conditions to enter the senior care market in China to meet the rising demand of the aged population • **Notice of MOCA, NDRC and other four ministries on carrying out the information management pilot in elderly service and community service (Min Han [2014] No.325)** to promote the wide usage of the internet and other information technologies in elderly service and community service through innovate management mechanism and policy environment, constructing pilot information service network and deepening the application of information technologies for community services • **Notice of NHFPC on carrying out the family-based elderly care service pilot for one-child families (G.W.B.J.T.H. [2014] No.834)** to establish a comprehensive support system on elderly care services for one-child families to improve the health levels and living qualities of the elderly people • **Notice of MOCA on carrying out the pilot reform of public senior care institutions** clarifying that public senior care institutions shall serve the vulnerable elderly groups such as the poor with high age and disabilities, strengthen functions of the institutions and encourage private sectors operating the institutions.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The “**Law of the People’s Republic of China on the Protection for the Rights and Interests of Elderly**” was promulgated in 1997. Includes: • family responsibility for providing help and support for elderly • provides legal protection for elderly who are victims of neglect, abuse and violence • Laws and regulations relating to senior citizens are reinforced to clarify and protect their rights and stipulate the legal punishments for acts infringing on their rights • The government provides legal aid and assistance to senior citizens • China/UNFPA programme 2011 includes target of increasing awareness of older persons’ legal rights • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015)** includes aims to: • Strengthen laws and regulations concerning the elderly • Improve mechanisms for protection of the rights of the elderly • Provide improved legal services for the elderly.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **China's National Committee for the Wellbeing of the Youth**, which was established in 1990 and mainly constituted by elderly, aims to educate younger generations and encourage the communication between old and young people • Central and local governments encourage “five groups of senior citizens” to give education and care for younger generation • Senior Citizen’s Day receives media coverage • Educational activities to realize older people's role in social participation and development • **Notice on cultivating and practicing socialist core values and strengthening propaganda and education practice on ageing** - to promote positive attitude towards ageing and create an atmosphere of respecting the elderly through strengthening education on basic national conditions of ageing and traditional virtue of respecting the elderly, conducting spiritual civilization on respecting the elderly, encouraging volunteer activities for the elderly, encouraging the social participation of the elderly and making full use of the mass media and literature works • **Plan for Development of Elderly Programmes in China during the Twelfth Five-Year Plan Period (2011-2015)** includes aims to: • Strengthen the virtue of respecting the elderly and family values, cultivate a warm and harmonious family atmosphere, and make good use of the basic role of families in taking care of the elderly • multiple measures to strengthen cultural work for the elderly • strengthen education of teenagers about the fine ethical tradition of respect and esteem for seniors.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • HelpAge International/CNCA noted in 2007 report that there are 425,000 OPAs in China (with 12 per cent registered with the Civil Affairs Department) • **The 12th national five year plan on ageing** set a national target (95% in urban, 80% in rural) for establishing OPAs. • **The 2012 revised Ageing Law** also calls for development of older people's organisations.

Cook Islands

DEMOGRAPHICS: Data on was not available in UN DESA Population Prospects 2012 Revision.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • The **Committee for Action on Ageing (CAA)** • **Ministry of Health (MOH)** and **Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)** are lead agencies for implementing the national policy • A **National Council for Older Persons** comprising high-level representatives from key Ministries; civil society; the private sector; older persons and representatives from them, acts as an advisory body and oversees the implementation and review of the National Policy on Ageing.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17** covers: • coordination of services for older persons • establishment of Committee for Older People • integration and participation of older persons in decision making and community affairs including older persons' groups • support for families to provide care • appropriate and accessible health care • financial security • recreation, education, community and sporting opportunities • mainstreaming older people's issues • awareness and research on the issue of ageing and promotion of positive images of ageing • labour force participation and self-employment of older persons • The National Policy includes a detailed action plan, setting out which agencies will lead on each action, the expected time-frame for implementation, and outcome measurements • participation of older persons in this process and in decision-making at all levels is committed to.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17** includes commitments to: • advocate and facilitate income generating opportunities for older persons • develop a data base of expertise, qualified, experienced and capable persons and promote and liaise with stakeholders for appropriate consulting/mentoring opportunities for older persons in the work place • establish a pool of volunteers specific to those seeking volunteering opportunities.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/S • **Cook Islands National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2011-2015** includes: • older people specifically in Objective 5: Cook Islanders share a strong national identity and sense of belonging and states that 'our elderly are acknowledged for their contributions to society and are looked after' • a statement of intent to develop policy and legislation that is inclusive and that will be mainstreamed into the national policy environment • there are no clear targets in the NSDP on older persons.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • **Old age benefit** of \$400 per month has been paid to persons 60 years and over and \$450 per month to eligible pensioners 70 years and over since 2012 • The **Cook Islands National Superannuation Fund**

(CINSF) is compulsory contribution pension scheme for government workers • means-tested destitute benefit payment paid to persons who cannot work due to their circumstance • means-tested Infirm Benefit paid to persons who are unable to support themselves due to disability • means-tested Caregivers Benefit paid to people who are caring for those that are elderly and disabled who need full time care • means-tested power subsidy • funeral allowance • means-tested special assistance fund for sanitary adaptations • crown Welfare Christmas bonus paid to all welfare recipients • **Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17** includes commitments to: • develop a Gold Card discount card • ensure MOH and Ministry of Internal Affairs (INTAFF) staff report to relevant agencies on cases of poverty and hardship and take appropriate action • establish protocols and procedures for reporting and follow-up on cases of hardship to relevant agencies.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17** includes: • Ministry of Education to institutionalise a role for older persons as a pool of adjunct teachers to help in schools in areas such as culture, crafts, reading and Maori language • basic computer training for those 50 years old and over • to encourage senior citizens to pursue second chance learning opportunities including those of a recreational, leisure, vocational or academic nature.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17** includes commitments to: • ensure that needs of older persons are reflected in government policies and plans including disaster preparedness plans for all agencies, the Pa Enua and the community • develop guidelines for the protection of older persons in emergencies and natural disasters.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17** includes actions to: • develop a programme on 'healthy ageing' to prevent unnecessary disabilities and encourage independence and quality of life • promote activities and other sporting and community initiatives in a newsletter for older persons and through other relevant mediums • **The National Development Plan 2010-15** includes plans for: • a Cook Islands National Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control NCDs and • to work in partnership with community service providers to address the health issues of those with mental illness, disabilities, the elderly and those requiring palliative care services.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17** states that • the MOH provide free health care for those over 60 years of age • that a Geriatric Ward exists in the hospital in Rarotonga • public health nurses complete home visits to referral cases from hospital, once or twice a week. The main purpose of the nurses' visits is to teach family members how to care for their older relatives • **National Policy on Ageing** includes actions to: • ensure older persons have access to free medical consultations, including specialist treatment and medicine from local hospitals • develop strategies to make the health system more user friendly for older persons • **The National Development Plan 2010-15** includes plans for: • a **Cook Islands National Strategy and Action Plan to Prevent and Control NCDs** and • to work in partnership with community service providers to address the health issues of those with mental illness, disabilities, the elderly and those requiring palliative care services.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17 includes actions to ensure local doctors train in geriatric medicine to provide specialist healthcare • The National Development Plan 2010-15 includes aims to address the lack of specialists in the health sector by engaging with New Zealand to provide specialist health programmes and through continuing professional development, increased training, and providing employment opportunities for Cook Islanders in the health sector through the re-opening of the Cook Islands nursing school and awarding and retaining employment of Cook Islands doctors in-country.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17: includes actions for: • The Creative Centre caters for persons with disabilities, including older people, and receives an operating budget from the Ministry of Education • The Cook Islands National Disability Council is the umbrella organisation for Disability groups and Service Providers and operates centres on five outer islands • The Cook Islands ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2009 and submitted its first report in 2011.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17 includes: • the mention of importance of nutrition in promoting healthy lifestyles • The Creative Centre implements a Meals on Wheels programme funded through a grant from INTAFF.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17 states that • INTAFF staff conduct home visits to assess the need for care-givers' allowance and to assess the need for alterations to bathrooms and toilets • some day-care centres intended for both rehabilitation, respite and activities for both older persons and those with mental health problems receive support from the government.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17 includes commitments to: • establish a pool of trained care-givers • establish home-care and nursing services under Asian Development Bank and Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction (ADB-JFPR) funding • expansion of meals on wheels scheme • develop minimum standards of care for services and programmes for older persons • provision of support for families to provide quality care for older persons with disabilities • establish a Caregiver Support Group for those caring for older persons • explore feasibility of different modalities for residential care • INTAFF staff conduct home visits to assess the need for care-givers' allowance and to assess the need for alterations to bathrooms and toilets • The Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded a home-care services project in both Rarotonga and the outer islands which started in 2012 with a minimum of three pilot schemes for one year only.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17 includes commitments to: • Develop a communication strategy to promote, highlight and inform needs, challenges and activities for older persons • Celebrate International Day for Older Persons.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Cook Islands Policy on Ageing 2012-17 states that there is The Sixty Plus Group is an informal group with around 30 members. It meets monthly for lunches that sometimes have a guest speaker. Its objectives are strictly social: enabling those over 60 to meet and socialise.

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

(Nb. Some documents were not available in English)

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
12.5	24.9	12.4	66.3	73.28

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **National Commission for Care of the Aged (NCCA)** and several **commissions for care of the aged** are organized in every province, municipality and county. The NCCA is chaired by the **Minister of Labour**, and includes senior officials of following lead ministries and offices related to elderly care • The **Central Committee of Korean Federation for Care of the Aged (KFCA)** is in charge of the practical affairs of the National Commission for Care of the Aged. Provincial, municipal and county committees of KFCA carry out their duties delegated by the KFCA Central Committee.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **YES** Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) **Law on the Care for the Elderly** (not available in full in English) includes provisions for: • care and support • healthcare • cultural and emotional life • social activities • guidance and monitoring arrangements • KFCA drew up the **5-year "Strategic Plan of KFCA" (2010-2014)** in 2009, focussing on: • older persons' participation in social activities • promotion of healthcare and welfare of the older • sustainable provision of living conditions for the elderly • The NCCA is responsible for reviewing elderly care programmes, including implementation, and to determine directions of the programme • DPRK carried out a research survey which included collecting older people's views, to inform and shape the Strategic Plan of the KFCA.

WORK AND LABOUR: **INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • The State encourages the elderly who are engaged in science, education, culture and arts to continue to work in the same way as before or to work for moderately adjusted working hours if they want, even after retirement age • The **DPRK Elderly Care Law** includes: • older persons with expertise and capability shall be provided with continuum of employment in the appropriate position as long as they desire.

MIGRATION: **NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: Document not found.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Labour Law and the Law on the Social Insurance in 1946 instituted a nationwide social insurance system was instituted and hands-on approaches were taken to provide the older persons with pensions and to offer homes for the older people who are under no one's care at the expenses of the state so as to have them spend the rest of their lives in comfort there. These were reinforced in the “DPRK Socialist Labour Law” adopted in 1987 • DPRK Law on the Care for the Elderly includes: • elderly shall be provided with various types of pensions and subsidies from the government • pension provision for old men and women aged 60+ and 55+ respectively (equivalent to 50-90% of salaries, or even 100% in some cases) and subsidies in proportion to the length of their services and their merit • food stuff is given preferentially at low-price, as is fees of housing, electricity, water and heating and universal free medical care • departments are in charge of social insurance at all levels and ensure issues such as those with pensions are resolved • the government grant subsidies to the older people who need special support including those living alone without offspring, and those under no one's care. The older who are aged 90+ are being paid subsidies in addition to their pensions.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • DPRK Law on the Elderly clarifies basic requirements for providing health-care services for the elderly; medical treatment and care-giving, and improving medical treatment; providing tonics and nutrition to the elderly; provision of assistive devices and rehabilitation apparatuses; and arranging popular sports activities and care for the macrobians • Article 18 stipulates that public health organs and medical institutions shall register every single older person in given areas and see to it that doctors put their heart and soul into the medical care for the elderly including regular visits to the patients' houses, health examinations and medical treatment for them • The State encourages relevant organisations to publish and widely distribute a number of publications carrying healthcare issues including common knowledge about geriatric diseases so that they can contribute to the health promotion of the elderly • A health status of the elderly survey was carried out in 2007.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Free Medical-Care System since 1947 • Universal Free Medical-Care System since 1953 • Section doctor system since 1961 • “Socialist Constitution” adopted in 1972 and “DPRK Law on Public Health” enacted in 1980, stipulate that all citizens should be provided with universal free medical care and that older patients should be carefully tended and well treated so that they can enjoy the benefits from the Universal Free Medical-Care System • Law on the Elderly stipulates giving preferential treatment and care for the retired elderly.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • DPRK Law on the Elderly includes training programmes for the provision of elderly care • The Population Centre conducts research on longevity of older people.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • However, mental health was included in the survey of older people's health in 2007, and is included as a disability within the **Law on the Care for the Disabled**.

DISABILITY: YES • DPRK Law on the Care for the Disabled” (2003) stipulates that the disabled (both mentally and physically) shall be provided with favourable environments and conditions for rehabilitation, treatment, education, cultural life and labour.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Chapter 3 of the DPRK Law on the Care for the Elderly addresses nutrition of older people.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • DPRK Law on the Elderly includes provisions for: • creating barrier-free environments and the undertaking of city planning, designing and building of dwelling houses and other projects that are good living environments for older people • persons caring for the elderly have a responsibility to ensure their needs are met in their living environment • The State provides dwelling houses for people free of charge, and accessibility is considered for the elderly • preferential services are provided for the elderly in public spaces and restaurants • all-level government organisations, transportation organisations, public catering and service network appoint “days of voluntary service for the elderly” and are offering preferential treatment to the elderly by providing them with “seats only for the elderly” and fulfilling their special orders • The State built homes for the aged in all provinces for elderly under no one’s care. They encourage all-level government organisations and social organisations to offer assistance and support for the homes for the aged; employ specialist doctors and nurses and support the retraining system for them. According to the survey conducted by Korean Federation for Care of the Aged in 2010, about 7200 elderly people were living in the homes for the aged throughout the country.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The State has enacted a number of laws and decrees such as “DPRK Family Rights Law” (adopted in 1992) and “the DPRK Law on the Care for the Disabled” (2003) whereby the state assumes full responsibilities for the caring and protecting of the lives and health of older people • The State fosters the social environment where families fully play their role as a main unit for elderly care • The State is responsible for centres for the aged being built and providing support to those centres • DPRK also established the **Elderly Care Fund**, a non-governmental cooperate organisation aiming to provide living conditions for older people to lead a civilized and happy life in good mental and physical shape. It works with international, charity and compatriot organisations • **DPRK Law on the Care for the Elderly** provides that: “the state shall support the elderly who are under no one’s care and who find it difficult to live independently” • **DPRK Socialist Labour Law** and **DPRK Law on Care for the Disabled** provide that the state will ensure that the elderly with disabilities shall live in the homes for the aged at the expenses of the state.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The State has enacted a number of laws and decrees such as “DPRK Family Rights Law” (adopted in 1992) and “the DPRK Law on the Care for the Disabled” (2003) whereby the state assumes full responsibilities for the caring and protecting of the lives and health of older people • The State fosters the social environment where families fully play their role as a main unit for elderly care • The State is responsible for centres for the aged being built and providing support to those centres • DPRK also established the **Elderly Care Fund**, a non-governmental cooperate organisation aiming to provide living conditions for older people to lead a civilized and happy life in good mental and physical shape. It works with international, charity and compatriot organisations • **DPRK Law on the Care for the Elderly** provides that: “the state shall support the elderly who are under no one’s care and who find it difficult to live independently” • **DPRK Socialist Labour Law** and **DPRK Law on Care for the Disabled** provide that the state will ensure that the elderly with disabilities shall live in the homes for the aged at the expenses of the state.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **DPRK Law on the Elderly** includes stipulations for compensation for damage or imposing fines and administrative and criminal liabilities for violation of the DPRK Law on the Care for the Elderly.

OLDER PEOPLE’S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **DPRK Law on the Elderly** includes: • the definition of basic requirements and details of social activities • conditions for social participation of the elderly and continuing the work of the elderly • educating new generations • commending the elderly who have made outstanding achievements and merits for the nation and the people • publicising through mass media exemplary stories about those who put their hearts and soul into caring the older persons thus creating a social climate for respecting the elderly.

Fiji

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
9.2	19.7	10.5	66.93	72.89

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • Ministry of Social Welfare, Women and Poverty Alleviation • Inter-agency Working Committee on the Elderly with responsibility for implementing National Policy on Ageing 2011-15 • Fiji National Council for the Older Person.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • National Policy on Ageing 2011-15 covering: • inclusion and participation • rights of older people • mainstreaming • employment • knowledge, education and skills • images of ageing • social protection • healthy living • training for healthcare staff • nutrition • mental health • environment and housing • care and support for care givers • establishment of Fiji National Council for the Older Person • baseline study of older persons in Fiji • implementation and monitoring and evaluation framework, including detailed outcomes matrix, regular reviews and evaluation with a view to modifying policy, and involvement of older people in review process.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Work Injury Insurance • Unemployment Benefits/Insurance • National Policy on Ageing 2011-15 includes aim to increase labour force participation and self-employment of older persons by: • developing awareness programmes on the employment and self-employment of older people • convening a stakeholders group comprising small business advisory centres, a National Employment Centre, a Chamber of Commerce and others to advise on employment and self-employment opportunities for older persons • promoting volunteering among older persons to make use of their experience and skills, including engaging them as mentors, advisers and counsellors • National Development Plan 2007-11 includes plans for: • implementing the Employment Relations Bill provision for minimum levels of employment for people with disabilities.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/S • National Policy on Ageing 2011-15 includes aim of mainstreaming ageing into development planning • National Development Plan 2007-11 includes aim of formalising and strengthening Government and civil society partnership in alleviating poverty, including traditional support mechanisms for the disadvantaged and support to the elderly through CSO • includes the aim of reducing the number of elderly in State care from 98 to 75.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • A range of programmes currently provide social assistance in the form of cash payments, food vouchers, housing assistance and assistance for education to the primary group, including the poor and the elderly. These programs are the: • **Family assistance scheme**, providing small amounts of financial assistance to families in destitute conditions including the elderly and disabled • **care and protection allowance** to needy families with children • **Poverty alleviation scheme** to improve the coping capabilities of Family Assistance recipients and other disadvantaged groups; the programme's objective is to meet the growing demand for low cost housing by improving the quality of life and living conditions of beneficiaries, including through house renovations and extensions to cater to special needs groups • **Food voucher programmes** to cushion the impact of the Value Added Tax (VAT) increase on poor families. Recipients include the Family Assistance and Care and Protection programme beneficiaries. Among other groups, this programme is targeted to elderly over 70 years of age without receiving any form of government assistance, those incapable of working due to disability • Older people receive half fare on busses • **The Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF)** includes disability, old age, and survivor benefits and provides the major retirement income for workers in the formal employment sector. Currently, compulsory contributions of 16% of payroll are made on behalf of employees. Lump sum retirement benefits are paid at the retirement age of 55 years and upon death, invalidity, and migration. A special death benefit is also payable • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** aims to reduce poverty among older person, committing to: • review existing pension arrangements and the level of participation of older persons in pensions and state benefits • provide a full review of all assistance measures available to older persons.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** aims to increase education and training opportunities for older persons, committing to: • promoting the concept of life-long learning and providing easier access by older people to training and re-training programmes to assist them to maintain or further develop their occupational skills • improve financial literacy among all workers, both young and old, but especially among those approaching retirement age.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** aims to improve the overall health of older persons through: • integrating provisions for older persons in all health sector planning and programming • strengthening primary health-care services to meet the needs of older persons • **The National Development Plan 2007-11** includes plans for a Public Health Divisions to strengthen implementation of health promotion activities and intervention strategies that specifically target at-risk populations for developing major NCDs.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Public provision of health care is free or at very low cost for all persons in the country. User fees are charged for some basic and selected services health system. It is predominantly financed through general taxation, with out-of-pocket expenses in second place • **National Development Plan 2007-11** includes aims of: • reviewing and developing poverty targeted policies and implementing appropriate programmes in national insurance and social security • **National Policy on Ageing**

2011-15 aims to improve the overall health of older persons through: • integrating provisions for older persons in all health sector planning and programming • strengthening primary health-care services to meet the needs of older persons.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** aim to improve understanding of the health status and needs of the older persons through: • reviewing training programmes for health professionals (including those working in psychiatric services) on the care and support of older persons • **Strategic Plan for Health 2011-15** prioritises human resource development but no specific mention of older people.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** aims to improve understanding of the health status and needs of the older persons including dementia and Alzheimer's disease and commits to: • reviewing training programmes for health professionals (including those working in psychiatric services) on the care and support of older persons • **Strategic Plan for Health 2011-15** includes improved mental health care as a key outcome.

DISABILITY: YES • Signed but not ratified the **UN Convention on the Rights of Disabled Persons** • **The Fiji National Council for the Disabled Person (FNCDP)**.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** includes aims to: • improve understanding of the health status and needs of the older persons • develop awareness raising programmes on nutrition for older persons.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** includes aims to: • review accessibility of appropriate sporting and recreation programmes for older persons • develop awareness raising programmes on independent living principles including accessible housing and community facilities • **National Development Plan 2007-11** includes aim of: • developing and implementing a policy for persons with disabilities, including appropriate access to all public buildings and places required in relevant regulations.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** includes aim to improve support of older persons within their community through: • strengthening and promoting training programmes for carers: • supporting the care-giving role of older persons, particularly older women • providing adequate institutional care to meet needs • reviewing the extent and quality of institutional care provisions for older persons and developing standards • **The National Development Plan 2007-11** includes the aim of reducing the number of elderly in State care from 98 to 75.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy on Ageing 2011-15** includes aim to: • develop awareness raising campaigns on the need to protect the rights of older persons, particularly the rights of older women

and promote the use of key International Human Rights Conventions to which Fiji is a signatory, particularly the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** and the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women**.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Policy on Ageing 2011-15 commits to • education and awareness campaigns addressed to younger people and the community at large to foster positive images of healthy ageing.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Policy on Ageing 2011-15 includes references to self-help schemes at the village level as potential funders for health care and disability aids.

India

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
8.8	18.3	9.5	64.62	68.1

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Department of Senior Citizens under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment** - agency for implementing programmes and services for senior citizens and the National Policy for Older People 1999 and the National Policy on Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented), with a specific bureau on ageing • An **inter-ministerial committee** pursues matters related to the implementation of the national policy and monitor its progress • **Directorates of Senior Citizens** in states and union territories • An autonomous **National Council for Older Persons** headed by the Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment to promote and co-ordinate the concerns of older persons • An autonomous registered **National Association of Older Persons (NAOPS)** with national, state and district level offices to mobilize senior citizens, articulate their interests, promote and undertake programmes and activities for their wellbeing and to advise the Government on all matters relating to older persons.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **The National Policy for Older People 1999** covering: • financial security • health care and nutrition • shelter • education • welfare • participation • protection of life and property • living environment • neglect and abuse • images of ageing • family • research • human resource • media • detailed implementation arrangements including budget discussion, action plans, responsibility and regular review, monitoring and evaluation • special attention is given to older women and to rural older people • the key role of the voluntary sector in implementation is stressed and plans for supporting it • **The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007** including: • maintenance and welfare of parents and relations • establishment of old age homes • provision for medical care of senior citizens • protection of life and property • publicising and enforcement of the Act • **National Policy on Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** covering: • income security • healthcare • safety and security • housing • productive ageing • welfare • multigenerational bonding • media • natural disasters and emergencies • implementation mechanisms, including establishment of the Department of Senior Citizens under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Directorates of Senior Citizens in states and union territories, National/State Commission for Senior Citizens, National Council for Senior Citizens, outline of responsibilities for implementation • the provision of the ADHAAR Unique identity card for older people to ensure that implementation of assistance schemes of Government of India and concessions can be offered to them • **National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE)** including national guidelines and monitoring and evaluation framework • Older people included in the **Constitution** of India.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Policy for Older People 1999 includes aim to: • support organisations to provide career guidance, training and orientation and support services • encourage programmes of NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) for generating incomes of old persons • remove age related discrimination in the matter of entitlement to credit, marketing and other facilities • Measures to protect older workers in certain sectors who may be affected by structural adjustment policies • **The National Policy on Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved by the government or implemented)** includes policy related to employment • Various labour market programmes are run in the country to provide support to the poor, including: • **The Golden Jubilee Village Self-Employment Scheme or Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)** • **Golden Jubilee Urban Employment Scheme or Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)** • **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA)** • and the **National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFD)** programmes.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy specifically related to older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S • Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-17 includes specific policies on the elderly and specific policies for elderly women, including social protection and health.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION- SOCIAL PENSION • The well-being of senior citizens is mandated in the **Constitution of India under Article 41**: “The state shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to public assistance in cases of old age” • **The National Policy on Older People 1999** includes aims to: • Develop policy instruments to cover different income segments • expand coverage of the old age pension scheme for poor persons • improve selection and disbursement • pension to reflect inflation • aim for the public distribution system to cover all persons 60+ living below the poverty line • Ensure settlement of pension, provident fund, gratuity and other retirement benefits is made promptly and fix accountability for delays and redressal • Widows to be given special consideration in the matter of settlement of benefits • facilitate the establishment of pension schemes in the private and public sector for self-employed and salaried persons in non-governmental employment • deliver strong regulatory authority for pension funds • ensure taxation policy is sensitive to needs of older persons • Long term savings instruments to be promoted reaching both rural and urban areas • States encouraged to help older parents unable to maintain themselves from facing abandonment and acute neglect • **National Policy on Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** includes a range of provisions including: • the introduction of the **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme** to cover all senior citizens living below the poverty line • taxation policy • a **welfare fund** for senior citizens • promotion of NGO (Non-Government Organisations) services • Other relevant programmes currently existing in India include: • **National Social Assistance Programme** - a national policy for social assistance benefits to poor households in the case of maternity, old age, and death of bread winner • a variety of programmes ensuring, amongst others, access to nutrition, housing and water for the poor and disadvantaged groups • **Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase / Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP Scheme • Employees’ State Insurance (ESI) Scheme of India** - providing medical benefits, sickness benefits, maternity benefits, dependents benefits, other benefits including funeral expenses, and other need based benefits to insured workers • **Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-17** includes commitment to a pension fund for elderly women in the unorganised sector rendered jobless and without any savings when unable to work.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy for Older People 1999** includes aim to:

- support organisations to provide career guidance, training and orientation and support services
- education, training and information needs of older persons will be met
- educational material relevant to older people will be developed and disseminated through mass media and non-formal communication channels
- Discriminations in education, training and orientation will be removed
- Continuing education programmes will be encouraged and supported
- Access of older persons to libraries of universities, research institutions and cultural centres will be facilitated
- Educational curriculum at all stages will incorporate material to strengthen intergenerational bonds and mutually supporting relationships
- Schools will develop out-reach programmes for interacting with older persons on a regular basis, participate in the running of senior citizens centres and develop activities in them
- Information for all on the ageing process.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • However, **National Policy on Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be implemented)** includes policy on older people and emergencies.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The National Policy on Older People 1999** includes a life-course approach to ageing and the promotion of healthy ageing and aims to:

- promote self-care through various means
- provide health and nursing care education material for family care givers
- deliver education on healthy ageing and prevention, including use of mass media and importance of general wellbeing, including exercise, nutrition, mental health etc.
- strengthen domiciliary care
- NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) encouraged through grants, training and orientation of their personnel and various concessions and relief to provide ambulatory services, day care and health care to complement the efforts of the State

• **The National Policy for Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** includes measures to address healthy ageing and NCDs

• **The National Programme of Healthcare for the Elderly 2011** includes aims to:

- create a new “architecture” for ageing
- build a framework to create an enabling environment for “a Society for all Ages”
- promote the concept of Active and Healthy Ageing
- to identify health problems in the elderly and provide appropriate health interventions in the community with a strong referral backup support
- Geriatric Clinics/Rehabilitation units set up for domiciliary visits in the selected districts
- community based primary health care approach including domiciliary visits by trained health care worker
- sub-centres provided with equipment for community outreach services

• **Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-17** includes aims for:

- continuum of care across health facilities to help manage health problems more effectively at the lowest level
- a focus on tackling NCDs and behaviour change communication
- a focus on public health
- creating awareness of various diseases that older women are more susceptible to.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **RSBY (Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana)** was launched in 2007 by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to provide health insurance coverage for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. Beneficiaries under RSBY are entitled to hospitalization coverage up to \$620 for most diseases requiring hospitalization

• **The National Policy on Older People 1999** includes aims to:

- prioritise health care needs of older persons, providing good, affordable health services, subsidised for the poor and a graded system of user charges for others
- mix of public health services, health insurance, health services provided by not for profit organisations and private medical care
- provide geriatric care facilities at secondary and tertiary levels, in rural and urban areas
- improve health administration and

delivery systems • prioritise development of health insurance for different income segments, with state support for lower income groups • reliefs and concessions for health insurance to enlarge coverage and ensure affordability • trusts, charitable societies and voluntary agencies will be encouraged to provide care to very poor elderly citizens and lower user charges for the rest of the population • bodies representing private hospitals and nursing homes who receive government concessions will be requested to offer discounts to older patients • geriatric wards to be set up • mobile health services, special camps and ambulance services by NGOs will be promoted • hospitals to establish Welfare Funds for providing free treatment and medicines to poor elderly patients • **The Maintenance and Welfare of Senior Citizens and Older Persons Act 2007** includes provisions for The State Government to ensure that: • The Government hospitals or hospitals funded fully or partially by the Government shall provide beds for all senior citizens as far as possible • separate queues to be arranged for senior citizens • facility for treatment of chronic, terminal and degenerative diseases is expanded for senior citizens • there are earmarked facilities for geriatric patients in every district hospital dully headed by a medical officer with experience in geriatric care • research activities for chronic elderly diseases and ageing expanded • **The National Policy for Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** includes measures on health systems • **National Programme on Healthcare for the Elderly 2011** aims to have: • dedicated facilities at District Hospital with 10 bedded wards, additional human resources, machinery & equipment, consumables & drugs, training and IEC • Regional Geriatric Centres (RGC) in 8 Regional Medical Institutions with a dedicated Geriatric OPD and 30-bedded • Geriatric ward for management of specific diseases of the elderly, training of health personnel in geriatric health care and conducting research • **National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)** provides affordable health services for the poor in rural areas • **Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)** which focuses on demand promotion for institutional deliveries in states and regions, integrating cash assistance with delivery and post-delivery.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy specifically related to older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The Maintenance and Welfare of Senior Citizens and Older Persons Act 2007** includes provisions for The State Government to ensure that research activities for chronic elderly diseases and ageing are expanded • **National Policy for Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** includes measures on training for health and care professionals • **National Programme on Healthcare for the Elderly 2011** includes: • post-graduate courses in Geriatric Medicine, and in-service training of health personnel at all levels, including private general practitioners • reorienting medical education to support geriatric issues • training of Human Resources in the Public Health Care System in Geriatric Care • private general practitioners will be offered orientation in geriatric care • facilities for specialization in geriatric medicine will be provided in the medical colleges.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The National Policy on Older People 1999** includes: • Mental health services to be expanded and strengthened. Families to be provided counselling facilities and information on the care and treatment of older persons having mental health problems • **The National Policy for Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** includes discussion of mental health • **Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-17** includes within a section on elderly and health, the aim for problems relating to mental health, especially in conflict zones to be managed with sensitivity at the community level, through better training of community workers and primary care teams, and through education of care givers • includes aim for mental health issues among older women to be a key area of focus.

DISABILITY: YES • The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India (1999) • The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection Of Rights and Full Participation) Act, Government of India (1995).

NUTRITION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy specifically related to older people was found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The National Policy for Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented) includes measures regarding housing and the living environment • The National Policy for Older People 1999 includes: • housing for different income segments will be increased with 10 per cent earmarked for older persons • encourage housing investment in younger people • urban development plans with loan scheme development and tax incentives, especially for older people • removal of physical barriers to mobility, and accessibility of public spaces • multi-purpose centres for older persons in all housing colonies • Promote intergenerational interaction • group housing of older persons with accessible facilities and access to public services will be encouraged • information on prevention of accidents and on measures which enhance safety • norms on pollution will be laid down and strictly enforced • civic authorities and bodies providing public utilities will be required to give top priority to older persons in complaint handling, with responsibility for checking harassment and abuses in such cases • accessibility, fare concessions and priority seating in public transport, gas and telephone connections and in fault repairs • removal of physical barriers to facilitate easy movement • concessions in entrance fees in leisure and entertainment facilities, art and cultural centres and places of tourist interest • issues pertaining to older persons will be highlighted every year on the National Older Persons' Day • facilities, concessions and relief given to older persons by the Central and State governments and the agencies will be complied, updated at regular intervals and made available to associations of older persons for wide dissemination.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007 includes provisions for: • an older person unable to maintain themselves to be entitled to make an application against a child or relative to care for them. The Act includes enforcement measures • the Government to establish and maintain old age homes, beginning with at least one in each district • a scheme for management of old age homes, including the standards and various types of services to be provided • The National Policy on Older People 1999: • States will be encouraged to help older parents unable to maintain themselves from facing abandonment and acute neglect • hospices supported or assisted by the State, public charity, and voluntary organisations will be necessary for the old who are chronically ill and are deprived of family support and to cater to cases of abandonment of chronically ill aged patients admitted to public hospitals • Priority provision of welfare services to most vulnerable older people • institutional care as the last resort • non-institutional services by voluntary organisations will be promoted and assisted to strengthen the capacity of older persons and their families • services will provide some relief through sharing of the family's caring responsibilities • assistance to NGOs for construction and maintenance of old age homes, with professional input in the design and minimum standards of services to be developed, and facilities provided for training and orientation of employees • voluntary organisations will be encouraged and assisted to organize services such as day care, multi-service citizen's centres, reach-out services, supply of disability related aids and appliances, short term stay services and home visits by social workers. For old couples of persons living on their own, special services will be provided • older persons will

be encouraged to form informal groups to meet the needs for social interaction, recreation and other activities • the formation of senior citizen's forums will be encouraged • a Welfare Fund for older persons will be set up nationally, and states will be expected to establish similar Funds • the need for plurality of arrangements for welfare services is recognised • volunteers will be encouraged to assist the home bound elderly, particularly frail and elderly women and help them to overcome loneliness • programmes will be developed to promote family values, sensitise the young on the necessity and desirability of inter-generational bonding and continuity and the desirability of meeting filial obligations • sensitize society to accept the role of married daughters in sharing the responsibility of supporting older parents • tax relief for those whose parents live with them, allowing rebates for medical expenses and giving preference in the allotment of houses • encourage long term savings instruments and health insurance to relieve financial load on families • counselling services will be strengthened to resolve inter-familial stresses • **The National Policy for Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** includes measures on care and support for carers • **National Programme for Healthcare for the Elderly 2011** includes plans for: • domiciliary visits by the rehabilitation worker for bed ridden elderly and counselling of the family members on their home-based care • **Twelfth Five Year Plan 2012-17** includes aim for information on health to be accessible to vulnerable groups including all caregivers .

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act 2007** includes provisions for: • the protection of life and property of senior citizens, including making provisions for enforcement powers • the Act to be given public media and for Central Government and State Government Officer to be given awareness training • **The National Policy for Older People 1999** includes: • Protection to older people to be provided with the introduction of special provisions in the Indian Penal Code to protect older persons from domestic violence to be considered and machinery provided to attend all such cases promptly • tenancy legislation will be reviewed so that the rights of occupancy of older persons are restored speedily • voluntary organisations and associations of older persons will be assisted to provide protective services and help to senior citizens through helpline services, legal aid and other measures • police to keep a friendly vigil on older couples or old single persons living alone and promote mechanisms of interaction with neighbourhood associations • information and advice will be made available to older persons on the importance of keeping social contacts and on precautions to be taken on matters in a range of areas • **The National Programme for Senior Citizens 2011 (yet to be approved or implemented)** includes abuse, security, engagement and protective services.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The National Policy on Older People 1999** includes: • promoting family appreciation and respect for the contribution of older persons in the running of the household • special programmes to be designed and disseminated through the media targeted at older persons so that they can enrich and update their knowledge, integrate tradition with contemporary needs and transmit more effectively socio-cultural heritage to the grandchildren • media promotion of the concept of active ageing and in helping to dispel stereotypes and negative images about this stage of the life cycle • media to strengthen inter-generation bonds and provide individuals, families and groups with information.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: The National Policy on Older People 1999 includes:

- Older persons will be encouraged to organize themselves to provide services to fellow senior citizens thereby making use of their professional knowledge, expertise and contacts. Initiatives taken by them in advocacy, mobilization of public opinion raising of resources and community work will be supported
- Measures for the establishment of the National Association of Older Persons (NAOPS) to mobilize senior citizens, articulate their interests, promote and undertake programmes and activities for their well-being and to advise the Government on all matters relating to the Older Persons. The Association will have National, State and District level offices.

Indonesia

(Nb. Some documents were not available in English)

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
8.6	21.1	12.5	68.7	72.8

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **National Commission for Older Persons** (Presidential Decree No 52/2004) consists of representatives from 17 ministries, including Ministry for Women's Empowerment. Tasked with: • assisting the President in coordinating the improvement of older person social welfare initiatives; and • providing recommendations to the President in developing policy on improvement of older person social welfare • **Local Commission of Older Person and community empowerment in handling elderly in the region** (Regulation No. 60/2008) tasked with: coordinating the formulation of policies, strategies, programmes, activities, and the steps required in the handling the elderly according to the National Commission of Older Person, as well as the policies established by the Government; implementing the policies established by the Governor.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **National Plan of Action (NPA) for Older Persons Year 2009-2014** (not available in English) (also 2000 and 2005 versions) covering: • Older person institutions • Coordination of institutions • Management of poor, neglected, disabled and abused older person • Family and community support for livelihood • Health services • Quality of life in aspects of economics, mental, religious, and self-actualization • Special facilities • Education on empowerment • international cooperation network • **A 2050-2020 NPA** is currently being drafted • **National Plan of Action for Older Person Welfare Guidelines in 2003** • **Law no. 13 on Ageing Welfare (1998)** covering: • religious and mental spiritual services • health services • job opportunity services • education and training service • age-friendly public facilities and infrastructure • public legal services and assistance • social protection • social assistance.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mandatory retirement age for most civil servants and armed forces is 56. There is an exception for teachers and professors where the official retirement age is 65 years • **Law no. 13 of 2003 on Labour** does not regulate when to retire and how • Limit Retirement Age (BUP) for private sector workers • 2011 Government pre-testing programme for older workers who have retired from active service but who still desire to work in the private sector • Ministry of Manpower has established Work Centres in areas of almost all 34 provinces • **Law No. 13 on Ageing Welfare** includes the right for elderly to obtain employment, including training • **International Labour Organisation (ILO) Recommendation No 162 1980 on work ability of elderly** • Opportunities for the elderly to remain active are regulated for in the constitution (Act 1945 section 27, Regulation no 43, 2004, constitution No. 13, 1998).

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No specific policy related to older persons found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: NOT INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN • No specific mention of older people in National Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPN 2005-2025) or Medium Term Plan 2010-14.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • Indonesian Constitution recognizes the right to social security for all and the responsibility of the government in the development of social security policy • **The Law on Health Social Security Providers (No. 24/2011)**, elaborating the implementation of the **National Social Security System (2004)**, stipulates the universal health insurance to commence in 2014, while work injury, old age, and death are anticipated to start in 2015 • A second scheme, BPJS II, covering employment-related social security (including old-age pension, work injury and death of the breadwinner), is currently under design and is expected to be operational in July 2015 • Social protection given to marginalized elderly which is around USD 30 per month (this programme is provided by the Ministry of Social Affairs and was pre-tested in several provinces in 2011) (Programme Jaminan Social Lanjut Asia (JSLU) (Elderly Social Security Programme) (Pilot , 2006, means-tested to those over 70 or 60 if chronically ill).

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Training for employment at work centres. See 'Work and Labour'. • **Law No. 13 on Ageing Welfare** includes the right for elderly to obtain employment, including training.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT FOUND IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy specifically related to older people found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law number 36 Year 2009 on Health** Chapter 7; part 3 on older persons and people with disabilities contained in article 138 consists of: • efforts to maintain older persons health is directed so that older persons live a social-economically, healthy and productive life based on human dignity • the government is mandated to ensure the availability of health service facilities and facilitate elderly groups to remain social-economically independent and productive • **Law number 39 Year 2009 on Health** began development of the age-friendly primary health services in Indonesia. 400/4000 health centres are termed 'age friendly primary h/c centres' • In 2011, the Ministry of Health through the Directorate of Community Health were preparing health promotion media on ageing and age-friendly primary health care.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The **National Health Insurance (Jaminan Kesehatan Nasional)** provided by BPJS Kesehatan and combining contributory and non-contributory schemes is to be a mandatory scheme for all residents and is expected to reach universal coverage by 2019. This universal scheme is officially in operation since the first of January 2014 • For marginalized or neglected older people numbering around 3 million, the government provides free or complimentary primary health care and referrals for those categorized as poor by the village government and are participants of the public health security program (2011).

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The National Commission for Older Persons has translated various important international guidelines to be distributed to the regional/regency/city commissions for older persons (ageing) • In 2011, Ministry of Health through the Directorate of Community Health were preparing health promotion media on ageing and age-friendly primary health care • Training of care givers and health professional provided by the medical gerontology association, gerontology association and various social organisations concerned with the older population.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The National Plan of Action (NPA) for Older Persons Year 2009-2014 and Law no. 13 on Ageing Welfare (1998) includes the aim of improving the quality of life of the elderly including the mentally • The UNFPA/HelpAge Narrative Report on Analysis of the Regional Situation Eight Years after the Implementation of MIPAA for Indonesia states that the mental health needs of the older population has been provided at the first contact by the age-friendly primary health care service at the community health centres especially at the 11 major cities in Indonesia in the islands of Sumatra, Java, and Sulawesi. Advocacy and socialization of mental health issues have been spear-headed by the psycho-geriatric component of the Indonesia Alzheimer Association.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Law number 36 Year 2009 on Health Chapter 7 includes Part 3 on older persons and people with disabilities • National Plan of Action for Person with Disabilities Year 2004-2013 issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs in 2004 • Act of the Republic of Indonesia Number 4, of 1997, Concerning Disabled People • Ministry of Public Works Decree on Building Accessibility and Environment (2006) • ILO Convention No. 128 1967 of the Assumption of Disabilities and the Elderly.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Directorate of Community Nutrition of the Ministry of Health is preparing a guidebook for health workers at health centres on nutrition problems related to the older population, nutritional assessment and nutrition prevention.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • State promotes the concept of Three Generations under One Roof • Law number 28 Year 2002 on Buildings and Housing and all related regulations as well as ministerial decrees legislate for age-friendly housing and access to public facilities for all.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Pilot Older Person activity and service centre in Bantul (DI Yogyakarta), combining cultural, arts and craft activities with local social and health services • The Ministry of Social Affairs has also developed guidebook for informal caregivers providing home care services in the community • The community-based home care programme funded by ROK-ASEAN (Republic of Korea – Association of Southeast Asian Nations) was piloted in Indonesia and the Ministry of Social Affairs has its home care component of its older homes programme based on this model • Currently no policy/legislation for caregivers.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Law no. 13 on Ageing Welfare (1998) includes measures on public legal services and assistance and rights.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Commission for Older Persons arranges intergenerational workshops for young and old activists with a view to changing images of ageing and ageism. See pilot Older Persons Activity and Service Centre.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Social institutions, providing: • regular social services • day care services • cross-subsidy social services • home care • sanatorium services, 273 social institutions managed by social ministry, 76 by local government, 206 by community.

Iran

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
8.7	29.4	20.7	72.05	75.88

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • There are several organisations working on ageing issues in the country however there are overlaps in responsibility and scope between organisations. These include: • **National Council of the Elderly** - Policy formulation and planning in order to empower the elderly, maintain their independency, dignity and status in families and society • **Ministry of Cooperatives, Labour and Social Welfare (MoCLSW)** - Mainly responsible for socio-economic welfare of the elderly as well as pension, retirement plans, social care etc. • **State Welfare Organization** - affiliated organisation to **MoCLSW**, mainly responsible for supportive care and empowering interventions for the needy and disabled elderly, including conducting research on the elderly to better understand the target population, their needs and to provide the required protocols accordingly • **Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MoHME)** - mainly responsible for general health of the elderly (both in policy formulation and intervention).

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: IN PROGRESS • **National Strategic Plan of the Elderly** is currently being developed and is likely to cover: • care and support for caregivers • care services • health, medical and rehabilitation services • nutrition • mental health services • elderly rights and protection • social and economic welfare • service provision based on family, intergenerational communication and keeping the elderly in the home environment • images of ageing and removing age discrimination • healthy ageing • participation and equal opportunities • welfare • human resources for service delivery • income generation • lifelong learning • housing and living environment • emergency response • leisure time • research and development.

WORK AND LABOUR: • **The Social Security Law** places the retirement age for men is 60 and for women 55 and based on the law on national service management the retirement age for men and women in specialized and non-specialized professions are 65 and 60 respectively.

MIGRATION: • No policy related specifically to older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: • **Fifth Development Plan**, includes the aims of: • strengthening the institution of the family and the position of women therein and in the social sphere • fulfilling the rights of women under sharia and law in all fields, with particular attention to their constructive role • promoting and coordinating among the development goals of education, health, and employment • supporting deprived groups and female heads of households • One article refers to older people and disabled persons and calls for general protection and care to this vulnerable group.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: • **Article 29 of the Constitution** obliges the government to provide the conditions of utilizing the social security services for all population in the form of insurance or non-insurance system. According to the law, the government is committed to finance services and protections by using the general revenues and the income of public collaborations • The **Comprehensive Welfare and Social System Act** provides the following services: • retirement, disability and death • unemployment • old-age • helplessness, loss of caretaker and social vulnerabilities • accidents and injuries • physical, mental and psychic disability • health care and medical insurance • protecting mothers especially during the maternity period and child-rearing • protecting orphan children and unprotected women • planning particular insurance system for widows, old women and self-dependent women • poverty and inequity alleviation • rescue and relief • In addition to income tax, employers are required to contribute to the **State Social Security Fund** and the **Employment Fund**. For social security and unemployment insurance, the employee pays 7% of salary (between the ages of 18-65), employer 20 to 23%, the State 3%. Independent workers' pay 12-18%, depending on the type of coverage sought • **State Welfare Organization** (Ratified in 1980) is tasked with taking care of the older persons in need and provides complementary insurance for the underprivileged elderly with disability • **Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation** provides support to poor families including the elderly. They receive support under the Social Work Plan or Shahid Rajaei Plan • **Fifth Development Plan** includes aims of: • reorganizing slums and pursuing and controlling social inequalities resulting from them • utilizing cultural, educational, and media tools to pursue and confront cultural and social inequalities • giving public grants and gradually implementing non-public grants • guaranteeing comprehensive and effective insurance and a qualitative and quantitative development of the social security system and medical insurance services • supporting deprived groups and female heads of households • **Inclusive System of Welfare and Social Security Law**, which was approved by the Parliament (Majlis) in the spring of 2004, includes comprehensive laws on social affairs such as ageing.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • The Literacy Movement Organization (LMO) as one of the affiliated organisations of the Ministry of Education carries out several trainings to increase literacy rate among the elderly particularly in deprived provinces where the rate of illiteracy is high. Eradication of illiteracy among the adult and elderly population is the main responsibility of LMO.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy related specifically to older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • **The Social State Welfare Organization** supports the empowerment of older persons in urban and rural areas through training on healthy lifestyles to help them cope with the old age and live a healthy and successful life • Elderly Office in the Health Department has: • run a programme to promote “healthy lifestyle in old age”, offering standard training in accordance with the needs of the elderly since 2007 • run screening plans with regard to older population’s health status • The **Ministry of Health and Medical Education** is also responsible for policy formulation and planning for the elderly’s health and the MOHME developed a **National Health Plan of the Elderly in 2013**. The National Plan has been approved by the National Council of Health and Food Security, however it has not been publicly published and has not been officially and fully implemented yet.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • **The Comprehensive Social Security and Welfare System** of Iran provides health, medication and medicare insurance services • Iran social health care insurance covers more than 98% of the population and is focused on non-PHC

'treatment' services, which includes most ambulatory, diagnostic and hospital service • In April 2014 the first phase of a new health plan (**Tarh-e Salaamat**) was introduced covering up to 90 percent of costs for patients' medical bills at public hospitals, and making extra provision for remote areas and those with rare diseases • Basic health insurance main organisations in Iran Include: • **Iran Health Insurance Organizations (IHIO)** • **Social Security Organization (SSO)** • **The Armed Forces Medical Services Insurance Organization (AFMSIO)** • **Imam Khomeini Relief Fund (Imdad Committee)** • **Committee Health Insurance (ICHI)**.

HIV/AIDS: • **The National Strategy on AIDS** reportedly includes older people.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • **The State Welfare Organization** supports training programmes and educational packages to train the officials in charge of elderly centres, experts, service providers, the older persons and their families • **Elderly Office in the Health Department** runs old age medical and healthcare education for the entire workforce from physicians to assistant nurses.

MENTAL HEALTH: • No specific mention of older people • **Fifth Development Plan** includes the aim of raising indicators of physical and mental health.

DISABILITY:• Iran has ratified both national and international protection treaties concerning the rights of persons with disabilities including the **Comprehensive Law on Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** and **The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**. **The State Welfare Organization of Iran** is responsible for disabilities.

NUTRITION: • **The National Health Policy of the Elderly** (which has not been implemented yet) reportedly covers nutrition and food security issues • **The State Welfare Organization** also conducts regular training workshops on the issue of nutrition and food security for the elderly in all provinces of Iran.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • **The Social Welfare Organisation** has responsibility for making the urban and residential spaces suitable to the needs of the elderly and people with disabilities.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • **The Fourth Development Plan** continued implementation of plans on the organisation and rehabilitation of the elderly with the aim of reaching at least 25 percent coverage of the target population • **The Social Welfare Organisation:** • issues licenses, provides subsidies and supervises operations in regard to nursing homes. These centres offer counselling and social work services to the older persons, their families and relatives and also have admissions. The services at these centres include residence units, day care or homecare as well as services such as nutrition, cleaning, bathing, clothing, medical care, rehab and entertainment for leisure time • supports training programmes and educational packages to train the officials in charge of elderly centres, experts, service providers, the older persons and their families • supports the delivery of social services to service recipients covered by SWO such as continued or non-continued aids to service recipient families • **Elderly Office in the Health Department** implemented the plan entitled “integrated and inclusive old age cares” in 2005.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: • The **State Welfare Organization** conducts regular training workshops for experts and target populations regarding violence against the elderly.

IMAGES OF AGEING: • The government emphasises the strong tradition of care and respect of elderly in Islam, including collective solidarity, respect, cultural transfer between generations, cause of abundance and blessings, religious leniency towards the elderly, punishment for harassment and rights of older people, including prevention of loneliness.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • In order to raise the elderly's spirit of health and happiness and improve their overall welfare, the **State Welfare Organization** has established a foundation named "**Farzanegan Foundation**" which is managed and run by older people. The foundation has offices in all provinces of Iran • In addition, The **Elderly's Centers of the Municipalities** are other Older Persons Self Help Groups in the country assisting municipalities in improving the life skills of older people in cities, districts and neighbourhoods.

Lao PDR

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
8.7	29.4	20.7	72.05	75.88

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **National Committee on the Elderly** established in 2001. Committees at the local level have been set up in 16 provinces and Vientiane City. In 2013, the Committee was reviewed and combined with the newly established national committee for disabled people and the elderly • **Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare**.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **YES** • **National Policy for the Elderly 2004 (NPE)** covering: health care • welfare protection • education • data and information • income generation • knowledge transfer • implementation • All sectors of society are given responsibility for the NPE but no specifics are given • The Government is stated as providing budget for the NPE implementation but none is specified • **Constitution of Lao**, Article 8 states the Government's responsibility for social welfare for older people. The MLSW is considering a review of the existing policy.

WORK AND LABOUR: **INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • **NPE 2004** aims to: • provide the elderly with employment in accordance with their capacity • encourage the elderly to work in the field of agriculture, industry, services and inventing • mobilize society to participate, contribute and support the funds for the elderly through donation and earning activities.

MIGRATION: **NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • No specific policy related to older people found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: **NOT INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S** • Older people not mentioned specifically in **Seventh National Social and Economic Development Plan (NSED) for 2011-2015**.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: **INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • **Civil Servants Scheme (CSS)** for the civil servants (SASS: State Authority for Social Security) • **Social Security Organization (SSO)** for the private sector employees since 2001 • UNDAF/Lao PDR Action Plan 2012-15 notes Lao's aim to ensure: • the poor and vulnerable benefit from the improved delivery of public services, an effective protection of their rights and greater participation in transparent decision making BY 2015 • that people in the Lao PDR benefit from more equitable promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative health and social welfare services by 2015 • Note the **Social Welfare Strategy 2011-2020**. The National Advisory Committee and the technical committee were set up in September 2013 to facilitate the Assessment Based National Dialogue (ABND) as part of the Government's initiative

on the Social Protection Floor. Social protection is also included in the Social Protection and Sustainable Livelihood project with inclusion of ageing issues, which falls under the current Australian Aid funded **Laos-Australia Rural Livelihoods Programme**.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2004 includes aim to improve elderly's skills to ensure incomes for their families and to earn a living.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2004 includes: • providing older people with the facilities to do exercise consistently and regularly; to reduce smoking, drinking and avoiding gambling; to not harm themselves physically or mentally; and for nutrition and education on health care • No specific policies related to older people in National Health Plan 2011-15.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Civil Servants Scheme (CSS)** for the civil servants (SASS: State Authority for Social Security) • **Social Security Organization (SSO)** for the private sector employees since 2001 in response to the market economic growth • **Community Based Health Insurance (CBHI)** for the informal economy workers • **Health Equity Funds (HEF)** for the very poor • Prime Minister recently announced that Lao PDR aims at creating a **National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF)**, which would cover all Lao citizens, foreign residents and expatriates living in Lao PDR. The NHIF would be composed of existing social health protection schemes • The HFS (**Health Financing Strategy 2010-2015**) includes targets for coverage: '50% of the population by 2015' and '100% by 2020' • **NPE 2004** aims to encourage local treatment for health.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: .NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Decree on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (2007)** • **Decree No. 18/PM, dated 27 January 1995, on the Establishment of National Commission for the Handicapped** • **Lao National Association of the Handicapped** from the central to grass root levels, on 12 July 2001 • Special benefits for disabled include: free implantation of prostheses, a benefit for building a house, an allocated piece of land for family economic development; some receive a salary and invalidity benefit including the provision of a job for earning their incomes • A new decree on person with disabilities was approved in April 2014 (**Decree No.137/GOL**). The decree explicitly mentions discrimination based on sex, race and the rights of women and children with disabilities but older persons are not included.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2004 includes the aim of providing "nutrition with capacity".

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • 2007 MIPAA review says Lao PDR will promote: • independent living of older persons within their own capabilities and ageing in one's place as long as possible • **NPE 2004** aims to provide the proper living conditions and special facilities to the elderly in the travel and public service.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • MIPAA 2007 Review states: • Pilot project on Home Care was launched by the government and NGO • Government aims to hold training workshops for the organisation staff on the philosophy and approaches of home and community care and to produce training manuals, resource materials/tool kits etc. on home care and community care • **NPE 2004**: aims to enhance assistance to family • The Government is taking part, through MLSW and MoH, in the implementation of **ROK-ASEAN** (Republic of Korea-Association of Southeast Asian Nations) **community-based service** (2014-2015). It has also taken on a coordinating role for the **ASEAN community care programme** indicated in the **ASEAN Strategic Framework for Social Welfare and Development 2011-2015**.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy for the Elderly 2004** includes aims to: • not discriminate and disgrace the strata and tradition • Protect the elderly rights and interest • Avoid utilizing elderly labour in hard work.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NPE 2004 includes: • aim of improving the knowledge of the elderly's role in the community, particularly in rural areas • encouragement of intergenerational work and knowledge transfer about culture, history and traditions through the elderly.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • MIPAA 2007 review notes the government, in collaboration with the international organisation for the elderly in Asia-Pacific region, has launched a pilot project on the home care pilot project to development of quality of life of the elderly. These include activities of such project are weaving, basketry, cultivation and livestock.

Malaysia

(Nb. Some documents were not available in English)

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
9.1	23.1	14	72.65	77.33

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • The **Department of Social Welfare under the purview of the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development** is in charge of the issues of older persons in Malaysia. The Department also collaborates with **other Ministries** or department including the Ministry of Information, Communication and Culture, Ministries of Human Resources and Ministry of Health in promoting and enhancing the rights of older persons. The Department is the secretariat for the **National Advisory and Consultative Council for the Elderly (NACCE)** (established in 1996). There is a **Technical Committee of the National Policy for Older Persons and seven sub-committees** formed to work on the major concerns of the Plan of Action to ensure the **integration and participation of the older persons in the country's development** including of **social and recreation, health, education, economy, housing, employment, research and development**. They are responsible for the **review of implementation** of the PAoA - meeting two times a year to hear from relevant stakeholders • **The Family Health Development Division** within the **Ministry of Health** has responsibility for older people's health.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **(2nd) National Policy for Older Persons and Plan of Action for Older Persons (2010-2015)** (Not available in English) covering: • Respect and Self Esteem • Independence • Involvement • Care and Protection • Research and Development • National Advisory and Consultative Council for Older Persons is responsible for monitoring and evaluating • **National Health Policy for Older Persons, 2008** covering: • Maintaining Autonomy and Self Reliance • Needs of Older Person • Supporting Carers • Promoting Healthy Ageing • Providing Continuity of Care • Maintaining the Rights of Older Persons to Quality of Life and Death • Improving the health status of older persons • Health promoting and disease prevention activities throughout the life course • Age friendly, affordable, equitable, accessible, acceptable, gender sensitive, seamless healthcare services • Enabling environment for independent living • **The Health Care for the Elderly Plan (2001 – 2005)** (Not available in English), aimed to expand the scope of health care services including integration of geriatric medicine; extension of specialist geriatric services to more hospitals and provision of rehabilitative care such as physiotherapy, audiology, speech and occupational therapy services for the elderly • **The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999** (Not available in English), covering: • Education • Employment and Participation in society • Recreation • Transportation • Housing • Support system of the family • Health and Social security • Media • Research and development.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999, addresses Employment and Participation in society, aiming to encourage elderly to continue to participate in the society and contribute to the country • **The Employment (Part-Time Employees) Regulations 2010** was introduced to enable older persons, people with disability, and women to work as part-time according to the terms and conditions of the contract of the employment under the labour law • **Minimum Retirement Age Act 2012** increases the minimum retirement age of a private sector employee to 60. In line with the increase of compulsory retirement age of public servants from 58 years to 60 years starting from January 2012 • **10th Malaysian Plan** states the 100% tax rebate on costs to retrain older persons will be continued to encourage greater employment opportunities.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/S • **10th Malaysian Plan** prioritises poverty reduction across the population and elevating the livelihoods of the bottom 40% of households and, within this providing: • Housing Assistance Programmes to Deserving Poor Households in Rural and Urban Areas • Providing Income Support, Subsidies • Improved Access to Healthcare. • The objective of building a more inclusive society, includes: Supporting Older Persons to Lead Productive and Fulfilling Societal Roles and Integrating Persons with Disabilities into Society • Objective one of **National Policy for Older People** is mainstreaming ageing in the nation's developmental agenda and the Technical Committee for the National Policy for Older Persons are mandated to ensure the integration and participation of older persons in the country's development.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • **Pension Act 1980** - pensions and benefits for civil servants and dependents • **Employees Provident Fund Act 1991 (EPF)** is a mandatory retirement saving fund for employees in the private sectors as well as civil servants who are not under the pension fund scheme • In 2010, the Government introduced the **Malaysia Retirement Saving Scheme** under the EPF to ensure that self-employed and individual without fixed monthly income have their own savings plan for their old age. This scheme is only available for a period of 5 years, that is until 2014 • **The Social Security Organisation (SOCSO)** operates as a **social insurance scheme** for workers by the government of Malaysia covering job-related injuries and disabilities, workplace accidents, occupational diseases and illness. (The Employment Injury Insurance Scheme and Invalidity Pension Scheme). SOCSO does not cover self-employed employees • Department of Social Welfare provides financial assistance for older persons, called **Aid for Older Persons (BOT)** with a monthly allowance of RM 300.00 per person for the poor older persons especially those without next of kin • Social protection in cases of disability, deaths and old age is available • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses 'Care and Protection', aiming to establish a comprehensive social security system to ensure a stable income and welfare for the elderly • **The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999**, addresses health and social security, aiming to ensure the provision of healthcare facilities and comprehensive social security scheme for older person.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses ensuring accessibility to resources of education • **The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999**, addresses education, aiming to

encourage continuous learning for the elderly • Enculturation of lifelong learning is one of the seven **strategic directions of the Ministry of Higher Education** • Under the **Ninth Malaysia Plan (RMK-9)**, older persons were encouraged to be active and productive • The first **University of the Third Age** in Malaysia was set up in 2008 to encourage learning for leisure among the elderly • **10th Malaysian Plan** states the 100% tax rebate on costs to retrain older persons will be continued to encourage greater employment opportunities.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Health Plan 2011-15** specifically addresses older people and lifestyle diseases and health promotion • **National Health Policy for Older Persons in 2008 covers:** • Maintaining Autonomy and Self Reliance • Recognising the Distinctive Needs of Older Person • Supporting Carers • promoting Healthy Ageing • Providing Continuity of Care • Maintaining the Rights of Older Person to Quality of Life and Death • Strategies for implementation are: • Health Promotion • Provision of a Continuum of Comprehensive Health Care Services • Human Resource Planning and Development • Information System • Research and Development • Interagency and Intersectoral Collaboration • Legislation • **The Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development** has established 22 Activity Centres for older persons throughout the country, 23 were scheduled for 2013 • Health inspection visits at least once a month to all government-run old folks homes in Malaysia, involve health screening and follow-up treatment • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses 'Care and Protection' aiming to: • provide facilities for the welfare of older people, including health care facilities • **The Health Care for the Elderly Plan (2001 – 2005)** aimed to expand the scope of health care services including integration of geriatric medicine; extension of specialist geriatric services to more hospitals and provision of rehabilitative care such as physiotherapy, audiology, speech and occupational therapy services for the elderly.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The health care for the elderly was introduced by the Ministry of Health according to the **National Health Policy for Older Person. Free healthcare for the elderly services** (No charges for consultations and medications) are integrated at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. A total of 77.3% of health clinics in 2010 provide the elderly with health care services. Provisions are made to facilitate elderly friendly services e.g. elderly friendly structures, priority in waiting lines, free treatment for pensioners and affordable hospital fees for the elderly who are poor. There are currently 10 public hospitals with geriatric wards. Incremental development of the geriatric services with priority given to states with a high proportion of elderly people is planned • **We Care Services** have been established by the Central Welfare Council of Peninsular Malaysia and supervised by the Department of Social Welfare • Transportation to bring older persons to hospitals/clinics for health treatment or other purposes is provided through this service • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses 'Care and Protection' aiming to provide facilities including health care facilities for the welfare of the elderly • **The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999**, addresses health and social security, aiming to ensure the provision of healthcare facilities and comprehensive social security scheme for older person • **National Health Policy for Older Persons in 2008** includes: • Maintaining Autonomy and Self Reliance • Recognising the Distinctive Needs of Older Person • Providing Continuity of Care • Maintaining the Rights of Older Person to Quality of Life and Death • Strategies for implementation are: • Health Promotion • Provision of a Continuum of Comprehensive Health Care Services • Human Resource Planning and

Development • Information System • Research and Development • Interagency and Intersectoral Collaboration • Legislation • **The Health Care for the Elderly Plan (2001 – 2005)** aimed to expand the scope of health care services including integration of geriatric medicine; extension of specialist geriatric services to more hospitals and provision of rehabilitative care such as physiotherapy, audiology, speech and occupational therapy services for the elderly.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Health Policy for Older Persons** in 2008 covers: • Human Resource Planning and Development • Information System • Research and Development • Interagency and Inter-sectoral Collaboration.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies explicitly addressing older people found • **Mental Health Act 2001** consolidates the laws relating to mental disorder and to provide for the admission, detention, lodging, care, treatment, rehabilitation, control and protection of persons who are mentally disordered and for related matters. Does not specifically mention older people though they are covered within it.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Persons With Disabilities Act 2008** provides for the registration protection, rehabilitation, development and wellbeing of persons with disabilities (PWDs) • **National Council for Persons with Disabilities** • **10th Malaysian Plan** states under improving the lives of the disabled: • universal design standards in buildings, public spaces and parks will be adopted • Existing community-based rehabilitation centres will be upgraded to one-stop service centres which will provide more comprehensive services • PDKNet programme will be improved to strengthen community-based rehabilitation.

NUTRITION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Plan of Action for Nutrition of Malaysians 2010-15** includes reference to the elderly and those with special needs. Older People's Nutrition is also discussed in **National Health Plan 2011-15**.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Family support is promoted • Currently, there are 9 Homes for the Older Persons directly under the management of the Department of Social Welfare and financed by the Government (Rumah Seri Kenangan) are located throughout the country • The Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development has also established 2 homes for the chronically ill (Rumah Ehsan), providing care, treatment and shelter for those who are not self-sufficient and those with chronic illnesses • Older persons are also provided with discounts between 25% and 50% for major modes of transportation in the country • **The National Housing Policy 2011** includes enhancing the capability and accessibility of people to own or rent houses by offering affordable housing to the low income group, the disabled, senior citizens and single mothers • The Government encourages the housing developers to establish senior citizens activity centres within their housing projects • **The 10th Malaysian plan from 2010-15** stated: • efforts will be undertaken to incorporate facilities that will encourage greater community development and better access for older persons and persons with disabilities • universal design standards in buildings, public spaces and parks will be adopted • existing community-based rehabilitation centres will be upgraded to one-stop service centres • See 'care homes' in 'Care and Support for Carers' • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses 'Involvement', aiming to enable the elderly to play a role in society and to involve themselves actively in the formulation and implementation of policies or form societies or organisations related to their well-being and according

to their capabilities and interests • **The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999**, addresses: • Recreation - ensuring enabling environment for elderly to carry out recreational activities • Transportation - ensuring public transportation system is older person friendly • Housing - ensuring accessibility of older person to the new development housing area • **National Health Policy for Older Persons, 2008** includes aims to: • Maintain Autonomy and Self Reliance • Advocate and support the development of enabling environment for independent living.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Malaysia through the **National Family Policy (NFP)**, advocates the concept of 'Family Well-being' • Various **social services** including long-term care for those elderly who are in need are provided by the Department of Social Welfare (DoSW) under Ministry of Women, Family and community Development. These services include the following: • **Home Help Services** – to provide services to elderly who are homeless, who live alone or those who need help although they are living with their families. The programme is implemented by DoSW together with the NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) such as Majlis Pusat Kebajikan Semenanjung Malaysia (MPKSM), Persatuan Kebajikan (USIAMAS), Persatuan Gerontology Malaysia (GeM). Volunteers from the NGOs are trained to do home visits and assist the elderly in their daily chores such as cleaning the house, paying bills, accessing health care services and accompanying the elderly for shopping • **Shelter and care services** – A number of homes are available to provide shelter, care and rehabilitation services to older persons • **Senior Citizen Activity Centre** – 22 day care and activity centres for elderly are available throughout Malaysia. Day care services and other activities including recreational, sports, healthcare, rehabilitation and religious are provided. Training courses are also organized from time to time • **Senior Citizen Care Unit** – to provide transportation to senior citizens who seek treatment or medical examination at the hospital or clinic • **Care Centre Act 1993** provides for the running of care centres including quality services and facilities for older persons • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses: • 'Independence', aiming to ensure the basic needs of the elderly are met and to assist elderly to continue to be of service and to contribute to the nation • Care and Protection - to ensure that the elderly enjoy the basic rights of the individual when receiving care and treatment with respect to their dignity, belief and needs, to provide facilities including health care facilities for care and protection within the family and society • **The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999**, addresses: • Support system of the family – community support system to assist the family to provide care to older person • **National Health Policy for Older Persons, 2008** includes aims to: • Maintaining Autonomy and Self Reliance • Support Carers.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses: • 'Respect and Self Esteem', aiming to enable the elderly to live with respect, self-worth, safe, free from oppression and abuse, receive fair and just treatment, enjoy opportunity to realize their optimum potential and ensure the accessibility to resources of education, culture, the spiritual and recreations in the society • Care and Protection - to ensure that the elderly enjoy the basic rights of the individual when receiving care and treatment with respect to their dignity, belief and needs • Malaysia through the **National Family Policy (NFP)**, advocates the concept of 'Family Well-being' - see care and support • **Domestic Violence Act** - extended in 2012 to include specific mention of old age • No clear anti-discriminatory provisions on the basis of old age in Malaysia.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **National Family Policy** advocates family values and imparting positive values from generation to generation • **National Policy for the Elderly (1995 – 2005, 2010 – 2015)** addresses 'Involvement', aiming to enable the elderly to play a

role in society and to involve themselves actively in the formulation and implementation of policies or form societies or organisations related to their well-being and according to their capabilities and interests • **The Plan of Action for Older Persons, 1999**, addresses the Media – to encourage media to play an active role to educate the public towards older persons' issues.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • **National Council of Senior Citizens' Organizations, Malaysia (NACSCOM)** is a non-government organisation established in 1990 to advocate for the development of policies, programmes, projects and services to improve the quality of life and well-being of the elderly in Malaysia. The organisation comprises of 44 senior citizen associations with a total of about 18,000 members. NACSCOM is an appointed member of the National Advisory and Consultative Council on Ageing and has been actively participating in a lot of advocacy activities including the development of National Policy for the Elderly and the plan of action. In addition, the organisation has also set up 2 old people's homes, 14 lifelong learning centres in the partnership with IBM to promote computer learning among elderly and 4 day care centres.

Maldives

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
6.9	25.8	18.9	76.67	78.8

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Ministry of Health and Family (MoHF)** established in 2008, formed a separate department called the **National Social Protection Agency (NSPA)** which is the lead agency for coordinating and implementing social protection programmes in the country.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **NO.**

WORK AND LABOUR: • The legalized age for retirement was established at 65 with the **Maldives Employment Act** and subsequently, the **Law on Civil Service** • **The Maldives Employment Skills Training Project (2003-2010)** is the only labour market programme, skills development and training project with the aim of increasing the number of employed Maldivians.

MIGRATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: **INCLUDED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/S** • **The National Development Plan 2006-2010** includes the elderly specifically in: • Goal 8: Empower vulnerable groups, including the elderly and introduce incentives, public education, and awareness programmes to give priority and regard to ensure access for these groups in public transportation system • states that, in order to make the right policy decision in the context of the Maldives, it is necessary to undertake research exploring alternative avenues on how to care for the aged without socially excluding them • states the implementation of the plans will take due regard of the rights, needs and interests of all parties especially the most vulnerable communities and groups.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: **SOCIAL PENSION** • In 2009, a minimum social security package policy was formulated. This includes: • **A universal social old age pension** (from 2010) payable to those aged 65 and above and pensions-tested • Income support for those in need of socio-economic security • Health care for all and universal social health insurance (covering protection from abuse, violence and drug abuse) • Access to water and sanitation • Policies for food and nutrition security which might include cash transfers or food price subsidies to ensure reliable access and affordability • Skill development programmes with subsequent guaranteed employment, building on universal primary education • Affordable housing • An efficient and affordable transport system to ensure equitable access across the country • Currently, there are a number of operating **social assistance programmes** already in place: • An **absolute poverty scheme** initiated in 2003 under which 500 rufiyaa (US\$39) per month is given to individuals defined as highly vulnerable -

who are not able to eat more than one meal a day, are not in possession of more than two sets of clothing, or are homeless • Assistance to seek medical treatment from hospitals in Maldives and/or abroad • Assistance to obtain assistive devices for the disabled and drugs for the mentally ill • Institutional care for orphans and mentally disabled persons • Provident fund and social insurance system • Maldives also operates: • an **Employees Provident Fund** providing two types of accounts that finance old-age, survivors, and disability benefits, for private-sector employees and certain public-sector employees not covered by the separate public-sector system. There is voluntary coverage for household workers, self-employed persons, and foreign workers and special systems for public-sector employees and military personnel • **social insurance** for employees earning up to 3,000 ringgits a month. Previously enrolled employees earning more than 3,000 ringgits must continue to contribute.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • The Maldives **Employment Skills Training Project (2003-2010)** is the only labour market programme, skills development and training project with the aim of increasing the number of employed Maldivians.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • Policy goals of the Maldives health system include: • to ensure people have appropriate knowledge and behaviours to protect and promote their health • to ensure safe and supportive environments are in place to promote and protect health and wellbeing of the people • to reduce burden of disease and disabilities and improve quality of life • **The National Development Strategy 2006-10** states that: • current health policies of the Maldives give higher priority to the development of community based primary health care services, which were given less priority in the past because of the stronger emphasis on curative health • The Government has decentralized primary health care by transferring public health workers, previously employed under the central Ministry of Health and Family, to their respective Island or City Councils.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • In January 2012, the universal health insurance scheme '**Aasandha**', covering all Maldivian citizens, was initiated. The new scheme replaced the previous health insurance schemes, 'Madhana' and 'Madhana Plus'. Under the new scheme each recipient is entitled to medical services up to MRF 100,000 • Current health policies of the Maldives give higher priority to the development of community based primary health care services, which were given less priority in the past because of the stronger emphasis on curative health • The ratification of the **Decentralization Act in 2010** mandated local councils to ensure primary health care services are provided to respective islands • **National Development Plan 2006-10** includes aims of: • achieving universal health insurance coverage by 2010 • ensuring all citizens have equitable access to comprehensive primary health care.

HIV/AIDS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • Policy goals of the Ministry of Health include building a competent and professional health workforce

MENTAL HEALTH: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • The Assistance for Mental Health Patients programme provides free medicine for psychiatric and epileptic.

DISABILITY: • **Assistance for Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities** provides assistive devices for people with disabilities • **National Development Plan 2006-10** includes aim of: ensuring the availability of legal and regulatory tools to protect the rights of people with disabilities by 2010.

NUTRITION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • **The National Development Plan 2006-10** includes a commitment to introduce incentives, public education, and awareness programmes to give priority and regard to ensure access for people with special needs, school children, and the elderly people in the public transportation system.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • **Assistance for Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities** provides assistive devices for people with disabilities • **Institutional Care for Vulnerable Groups** is provided • **Home for People with Special Needs** is a government-funded institution located in K. Guraidhoo and administered under the Department of Gender and Family Protection Services (DGFPS) under the MoHF, for people suffering from severe mental illness, without family support and who could pose significant risk to communities if left untreated. The Home also allows abandoned elderly people without a caregiver to be accommodated at the institution. The benefits provided to the residents include, shelter, food, clothing, free medicine and medical care, and rehabilitation programmes • **National Development Plan 2006-10** includes aims to: • make Maldivian society a more caring one, with familial ties even stronger than at present • Ensure the availability of home and community based care programmes for the aged by 2010 • Policy 5: Promote welfare and well-being of the aged • Conduct a study on the development of institutional and /or managed care facilities for the elderly • Promote home and community based care programmes for the elderly • undertake research exploring alternative avenues on how to care for the aged without socially excluding them.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

IMAGES OF AGEING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • No information found.

Mongolia

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
6.2	19.8	13.6	63.55	71.76

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Minister for Population Development and Social Protection** and **Minister for Health and Sports** are jointly responsible for National Plan of Action and undertake implementation by incorporating the strategy objectives into long and medium term sectorial and national development policies, laws and regulations.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **National Strategy for Population Ageing 2009-2030 (NSPA)** includes: • strategy for preparing for population ageing focussing on: • social security of working age population • fertility growth • strategy for livelihood of older people • employment • income • quality and access to health services • improving infrastructure • age-friendly environments and communities • strategy on implementation and management, capacity-building, information and research, funding and monitoring and evaluation • The plan gives clear responsibilities to different ministries for implementation including funds in annual budgets • Responsibilities for public administrations, civil society and NGOs (Non-Government Organisations), private sector, press and media and research institutions.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NSPA 2009-2030** includes: • aims for higher employment rates for working-age population • support for rural enterprises, groups, cooperatives and collectives • improve employment conditions, including tackling age discrimination • enhance training systems for developing professional skills • promote employment growth across all sectors • Measures to support older people's capacity to do a job that suits their capacity and availability, including flexible working, recruitment services, business support, and training.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No specific policy related to older people found. Although migration is discussed in the NSPA 2009-2030 this regards people of working age and is not directly related to older people or care of older people.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN • **Comprehensive National Development Strategy of Mongolia 2008** includes one reference to older people as a vulnerable group in terms of employment.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • **Individual named account pension** was introduced in 1999 and first beneficiaries will begin to receive their pension in 2015 • **Social insurance fund**, providing pensions to people who have paid in on either a

mandatory or voluntary basis. In 2013, this numbered about 230,300 people • **Social assistance fund** for older people who are not eligible for a pension from the social insurance fund • A **means-tested social welfare pension** payable to 60 year old men and 55 year old women • The **NSPA 2009-2030** aims to expand social insurance coverage, including: • establishing special pensions for informal workers • additional commercial pension insurance for high-earners • terminating the guaranteed minimum pension from the existing social insurance fund • introducing a fair distributive pension deposit fund • gradually replace the social assistance pensions by introducing a flat-rate universal pension insurance • enhance the retirement named-account system • establish secure funding resources for social protection expenditures that will increase in future • link social insurance and assistance funds to cost of living and inflation rates • optimize redistribution of social wealth.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Training for older workers included in the **NSPA 2009-2030**.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NSPA 2009-2030** aims to: • promote and prepare population for healthy ageing • improve accessibility and quality of care and health information • provide training for pre-retirees in healthy life skills and psychological counselling • establish public parks and health facilities • expand health-care services focused on morbidity prevention, early diagnosis and regular check-ups • encourage older people's fitness • improve availability and intake of health supplements • educate people about health behaviours • **National Health Sector Strategic Master Plan 2006-2015** prioritises non-communicable disease prevention as one of its key aims • Older people are integrated into the NHSSMP. There is a strong focus on population life course health.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NSPA 2009-2030** aims to improve accessibility, availability and quality of health care, with measures including: • establishing long-term health care and expanding mental health services • ensuring health care is fully or partially covered by a health insurance fund for older people • providing conditions for private and charitable institutions for older people • promoting comprehensive medical services for older people in established institutions • providing healthcare regardless of residential registration and citizenship • establishing mobile health services for rural areas • establishing specialised geriatric units in some hospitals.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The **NSPA 2009-2030** gives the **Ministry of Health and Sports** responsibility for capacity building of service providers, development of elderly friendly health services • **NSPA** aims to provide regular and systematic training on gerontology and geriatrics for basic health service providers and social workers..

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NSPA 2009-30** aims to expand mental health services.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Department for People with Disabilities at the Ministry of Population Development and Social Protection, created in 2012 • The National Development Plan includes the aim of creating favourable conditions for protection of the rights of disabled people and their active participation in social life • The Ministry for Population Development and Social Protection has reportedly set itself a goal of having legislation for people with disabilities passed and implemented by 2016 • The Mongolian Social Security Law for People with Disabilities.

NUTRITION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NSPA 2009-2030 aims to: • provide discounts on public transport for older people • promote social activities for older people • improve provision of housing for older people and develop infrastructure, transport and services, including: low-cost appropriate housing; accessible and elderly and disabled-friendly equipped public spaces and transportation.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NSPA 2009-2030 aims to: • enhance availability, accessibility, quality of social assistance services • increase number of service types and expand choice for older people • integrate care by specialised service providers with community-based services • create legal environment for private care services • expand domestic services provided by social workers and volunteers • discount rates on health care, public transport and relevant social services • promote a tradition of family care.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NSPA 2009-30 includes aims to: • improve employment conditions, including tackling age discrimination.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NSPA 2009-30 includes measures to: • share former workers experience with new younger colleagues • encourage practice of traditional customs and celebrations to educate families and younger people in respect for older people and highlight their contribution to families and society • make media responsible for fostering proper understanding and positive attitudes about older people and ageing, including promoting policies aimed at behaviour changes regarding older people's contribution and needs.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NSPA 2009-2030 aims to create mechanism to encourage and support OP's initiative for participation in social life, including groups, unions, clubs and increasing older people's participation in decision-making and representation.

Myanmar

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
9	22.3	13.3	62.97	67.13

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **National Plan of Action on Ageing 2014** established: • **National Steering Committee on Ageing** comprising most senior representatives from line ministries and led by the **Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement** • **National Advisory Committee on Ageing**, comprising representatives from line ministries, international agencies, UN agencies and local non-government organisations. Chaired by the Director General of the Ministry for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement • **Divisional/Regional level committees**, including measures for their capacities to be strengthened.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **National Plan of Action on Ageing 2014** covering: • Income Security • Health and Healthcare • Natural Disasters and other Emergencies • Welfare • Home and Environment • Care and Support • Education and Advocacy • Implementation Systems (including multi-level implementation programmes; participation of older persons, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society Organisations working with older people at all levels; staff capacity development; establishment of an administrative network at local level) • Monitoring and Evaluation (including research for policy, programme and service development and for evaluating the Action Plan) • Enhancing the capacity of line ministry staff at Divisional and Township levels on issues related to older people and service provision • Development of ageing data processing and information systems • **A law on older people** based upon two national consultations has been drafted and is now with the Attorney-General's Department for scrutiny after which it is expected to be submitted to Parliament for approval within 2015.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes the aim to promote employment for older people through providing: • job training and job opportunities • micro-finance services for older people to start businesses • community income generating projects for older people • incentives for companies/employers to hire/re-hire older people • Alongside these policies, **OPSHGs** have been formed in 55 villages and Older People Lead Rural Development Programs are being implemented in Mandalay, Sagaing and Ayeyarwady Region. The main programmes are providing training on agricultural technology, small business, building tube well and building water storage tanks for the dry zone. • **Social Protection Strategy 2014** includes: • Job identification and matching programmes that are attuned to age levels, skills, and types of occupations.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: YES Myanmar's **Framework for Economic and Social Reforms: Policy Priorities for 2012-15 towards the Long-Term Goals of the National Comprehensive Development Plan**, includes older people once under vulnerable groups, highlighting the importance of developing a social protection strategy and emphasising the need to break intergenerational cycles of poverty and hunger.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Current social protection programmes** include: • Civil service pension schemes providing non-contributory pension for civil or political service • Older Person Self-Help Groups Services and cash benefits including loans, home care, livelihood programs, in Ayeyarwaddy, Mon, Kayin, Yangon and Mandalay • Voluntary homes for the elderly: 65 homes with 2,282 clients run by MSWRR • Programmes for people with disabilities: Training institutions, visually and/or hearing impaired run by MSWRR • Home care programme: Long term home care in 56 townships (MSWRR) • Social security old age pension scheme (forthcoming): A voluntary contributory scheme for companies with 5+ workers • Some social protection systems facilitate the ability of people, particularly the poor and vulnerable, to access essential services • **Social Protection Strategy 2014** includes: • the aim to ensure income security for people of older ages, to empower them to meet their needs and to ensure access to health services • Life-cycle approach to social protection • MIPAA is mentioned in the Social Protection Strategy • Core initiatives include: **cash allowances for people with disabilities; social pension** (universal cash benefit to people aged 65+ across the country, beginning in 2015); aim to support and expand **older persons self-help groups** to deliver full coverage across the country; integrated social protection services • In January 2015, the Government gave a one-off cash transfer of approximate USD 200 to all older people above 100 years of age, totalling approximately 650 older person • The Government has allocated approximately 500 million kyats (USD 500,000) as a one-off cash transfer to all older people above 90. • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes aims to: • encourage savings from an early age • introduce tax incentive measures to promote saving • encouraging national and international agencies to integrate older people's needs within livelihood and food security programmes • passing laws on the provision of a social pension.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes aims to integrate lifelong education for all through providing formal and informal education for all ages to prepare people for active ageing. • In addition to the Action Plan, HelpAge in collaboration with Department of Social Welfare conducted ageing related training and awareness sessions in project areas, especially in Ayeyarwaddy, Mandalay and Yangon Region.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Older people included in **Myanmar DRR Plan 2012** • **Social Protection Strategy 2014** aims for: Disaster Risk Management programmes for older people as a priority demographic group, and inclusion of this group in the DRM process • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes aims to: • ensure older people are included in disaster contingency plans • ensure evacuation centres have specific facilities catering to the needs of the elderly • provide emergency training for older people • provide appropriate transport systems for older people during evacuation • provide medical care and assistance during times of emergency.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Some initiatives for healthy and active ageing have been introduced with technical support from WHO and partners • Community-based health care of the elderly programme was started

in NHP 1993–1996 • NHP 2011-16 prioritises: • Preventing, controlling and care of non-communicable disease and conditions • Improving health for mothers, neonates, children, adolescent and elderly as a life cycle approach • Improving hospital care • MIPAA 2007 Country Report noted The Department of Health in collaborating with Volunteers, NGOs and NGOs plan to promote: • public awareness of ageing • capability of older person in community • cooperation in the elderly health care programmes and home care for older people • volunteerism in the community for care of older people • expansion of community-based and home-based care programme for older people • Social Protection Strategy 2014 includes nutrition programmes for older people who are facing social and economic hardships. • Action Plan on Ageing 2014 includes the aim to improve health promotion, disease prevention and self-care for older people through: • providing appropriate training programmes for diversified groups of people depending on their needs • providing counselling services for older people in government community health centres • disseminating information to older people on health care and healthy ageing • promoting counselling/help desks for older people in hospitals and health facilities.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • NHP 2011-16 includes aim to enhance capacity in elderly care services • A policy framework for universal health care coverage is being prepared, so that all will be able to access health care regardless of income (Vision of the Government of Myanmar for Universal Health Coverage, 2014) • Myanmar's Social Protection Strategy 2014 includes: • programmes that provide assistance to those who are unable to meet health expenses • essential medicines are currently provided at no cost • MIPAA Country Report 2007 notes that: • health care services are provided by the Rural Health Centres and that sub-Rural Health Centres clinic for the elderly are opened at Rural Health Centre once a week • Basic Health staffs at the Rural Health Centre (Health Assistants, Lady Health Visitors and Midwives) are trained to be able to detect minor as well as some major illnesses of the elderly • Action Plan on Ageing 2014 includes the aim to improve health promotion, disease prevention and self-care for older people through: • improving the provision of quality health care systems and health security for older people • promoting older people's help desks in hospitals and health facilities • encouraging the private sector to provide standardised health care and social services for older people • providing alternative medical care for older people • set up geriatric clinics, geriatric wards and long-stay care facilities to meet the needs of older people.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies explicitly addressing older people found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Training of Basic Health Staff, Voluntary Health Workers, Local NGOs, Doctors, nurses, health assistants, visiting, elderly and family is included in 2013 Japan Healthy Ageing ASEAN Meeting Report and 2007 MIPAA Country Report • Plan of Action on Ageing 2014 includes aims to: • support and promote education and training in health care and elderly care for health and social work professionals • evaluate the demand for health and social work professionals and arrange for further education/training programmes for these personnel according to the current demand in health care services of the country.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies explicitly addressing older people found.

DISABILITY: YES • National Plan of Action for Persons with Disability (2010 – 2012) • Disability Working Group (DWG) was formed in 2010. Its main goals are to: • increase mobility, accessibility and opportunities for persons with disabilities to actively contribute to the economic and social

development of the state. A part of the strategy is dedicated to inclusive disaster prevention and preparedness. • Signed **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** on 7 December 2011.

NUTRITION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Social Protection Strategy 2014** includes aims for: • nutrition programmes for older people who are facing social and economic hardships.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Social Protection Strategy 2014** includes aims for: • workshops or centres to be established to take care for life for adult/elderly persons with disabilities • Programmes that focus on family and community-based care, with Homes for the Aged only to be considered as a last option • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes aims to: • pass a law on benefits such as granting 20% discounts for public facilities, issuance of ID, formation of senior citizens establishments and offices • set standards for accommodation and living environments for older people • arrange for the government and private sector to play a part in providing and coordinating accommodation for older people • provide incentives for older people to acquire low interest loans to renovate or buy their accommodation/houses • improve public service systems to facilitate older people's mobility • provide discounts on all public transport systems • improve the mass transit systems to accommodate older people's needs • provide and improve public facilities such as roads, walkways, buildings and toilets to accommodate the needs of older people, including those with disabilities • provide parks and other facilities for older people to exercise and relax.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The Department of Social Welfare recognizes **Homes for the Aged** and assists financial and technical assistance. There are 64 recognized Homes for the Aged throughout the country • Voluntary caregivers and administrators trained at the Social Welfare Training School in Yangon • Myanmar initiated **ROK-ASEAN** (Republic of Korea-Association of Southeast Asian Nations) **Home Care for Older People Project in 2004** which continues • A Day Centre has been opened in Yangon providing social and health care • Aim of **National Health Policy 2011-16** includes enhance capacity in elderly care services • **Social Protection Strategy 2014** includes aims for: • workshops or centres to be established to take care for life for adult/elderly persons with disabilities • Programmes that focus on family and community-based care, with Homes for the Aged only considered as a last option • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes aims to: • provide tax deductible incentives for caregivers who look after their disabled or dependent parents or relatives • encourage and promote the multi-generational family so that older people may live with other members of the family throughout their lives • develop health and social services in the community, including: multi-purpose senior citizens centres, day care centres, home visits, home assistance, regular mobile service units in both urban and rural areas, surveillance systems in communities, volunteer system, and education, training and livelihood for volunteers and care givers • encourage the private sector to provide standardised health care and social services for older people • set up long-stay care facilities to meet the needs of older people • support and promote education and training in health care and elderly care for health and social work professionals, volunteers and caregivers.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes aims to: • pass laws on older people's rights to protection for those who may be exposed to abusive, unfair treatment of negligence.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Action Plan on Ageing 2014** includes: • promote public awareness on the importance of ageing with dignity • utilize education as a mechanism to engage and assist people in society to embrace responsibility in taking care of their families, especially older people in the community • promote understanding of the multi-generational society and strengthen solidarity between generations through education, religion, culture and sports activities • raise social awareness of the contribution of older people to society for the purpose of promoting harmony in the multi-generational society • raise awareness of older people as mentors of society, capitalising on their past contributions • honour older people who have made outstanding contributions to society and the nation • encourage and promote the participation of older people in social activities • employ communication to raise awareness about the activities of older people to the public • encourage mass media to reflect older people's lives • support programme production based on older people • access to a wide range of information must be provided to older people • ensure availability of and accessibility to information for older people • In addition to these measures, Myanmar celebrates International Older People's Day • **Social Protection Strategy 2014** includes: • A focus in all programmes on social inclusion of people of older ages, as well as on the specific traditional and cultural aspects of the community.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Plan of Action on Ageing 2014**, includes aims to: • deliver a OPSHG replication strategy developed and implemented in selected Divisions/Regions • support and strengthen the co-operation between organisations and networks supporting older people • promote linkages between NGOs and Government networks to form senior citizens networks • support the activities of organisations working on ageing issues with older people • **Besides these measures**, Older People Self Help Groups (OPSHGs) have been established by DSW, in collaboration with Help Age International (Myanmar). A total of 118 OPSHGs have been formed in 118 villages, their main programmes are providing training and activities on health & home care, fund raising, income generation, agricultural technology, and small business, building tube well and building water storage tanks for the dry zone.

Nepal

(Nb. Some documents were not accessible in English)

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
6.9	25.8	18.9	76.67	78.8

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare** has lead responsibility for ageing and older people • **Senior Citizens Act 2006** established the **Central Senior Citizens Welfare Committee**, with various **district-level senior citizens welfare committees**, chaired by the Minister/Minister of State for Women, Children and Social Welfare with representation from other ministries. It has responsibility to: • prepare policies, plans and programmes as may be required for the protection and social security of the senior citizens and submit the same to the Government of Nepal • to implement and monitor the policies, plans and programmes approved by the Government of Nepal • to update the inventory and records of senior citizens received from the District Senior Citizen Welfare Committee • to coordinate and monitor the activities of the District Senior Citizen Welfare Committee • to monitor the activities carried out by the care centres, day service centres, senior citizen clubs established and in operation throughout the State of Nepal and associations and organisation doing activities relating to senior citizens • At a local level the Act stipulates a **Women Development Officer** must be appointed within each committee • These committees have correlating responsibilities for planning, monitoring, and progressing development.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **The National Action Plan for Senior citizens (2006)** (not accessible in English) covering: • care for the elderly • economic • social security • health and nutrition • participation and involvement • education • entertainment • rights • wellbeing • **Senior Citizens Act (2006)** • formation of the Senior Citizens Welfare Committee and Senior Citizens Welfare Fund • social, economic and rights of the elderly citizens • social security • nourishment and health care • dignity • special facilities and discounts • **The Senior Citizens Regulations 2065** provides guidelines for the effective implementation of the Senior Citizen Act. It provides detailed information on how to implement the policy and programmes for the socio-economic well-being of older people and the healthy ageing. It also provides the detailed procedures to be fulfilled to establish and run Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Geriatric Centres • **National Policy for Senior Citizens (2001)** covering: • knowledge, skills and expertise of senior citizens • security of senior citizens • programmes to enhance respect and dignity of senior citizens • national pension scheme • central level committee to integrate, coordinate and monitor the programmes for senior citizens • Older People have been included in the **National Plans** and **Working Policy** since 2007 covering areas including: • utilization of knowledge, skill and experience • accessibility of senior citizens to economic and social security programmes • promoting and expanding economic and social security programmes • launching special programmes for senior citizens who are abandoned, victims of

violence or with some degree of disability and vulnerability • Additional documents include: • **Operational Guidelines on health Care Services to senior citizens – 2005** • **Senior citizens regulations – 2008** • **Senior Citizens Working Policies** • **The National Women’s Commission Act (2007)** • **The Retirement Fund Act (1985)**.

WORK AND LABOUR: NOT INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found • **Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** includes migration policy, and plans for a national migration survey to be conducted to identify the nature, intensity and reasons for various trends in national and international migration.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLANS • Older people have been included in National Plans since 2007 • Raising the life expectancy to 71 is a goal of the **Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** and included as an **MDG** • **Thirteenth Plan** also states that senior citizens will be included in the development process • **The Interim Constitution of Nepal** includes a policy of providing special arrangements for the social security of women, persons with disabilities, children and senior citizens.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • In 1995, a **universal social pension system** was introduced for people over 75 years, for widows above 60 and people with a disability. It has since been upscale and the lower age limit for the universal old-age pension has been fixed at 70 years. It is pensions-tested • **The Local-Self Governance Act 1999**, carries the provision for protection and development of orphans, the helpless, women, older people and the disabled • numerous social insurance schemes exist for the public and formal sector workforce • Since 2006, a diverse range of social protection schemes such as cash, in-kind and food transfers as well as insurance, subsidies and public works programmes have been implemented • **The Social Security Fund** was established in 2011 and is run by the Social Security Fund Secretariat to create minimum social security benefits including for old-age, survivors, invalidity, medical care and unemployment. The fund is financed through a 1% tax on earnings • **Senior Citizens Act 2006** established the **Central Senior Citizens Welfare Committee** for the purposes of the care, maintenance and social security of senior citizens, including the establishment of the **Senior Citizens Welfare Fund** for the purpose of the protection and social security of senior citizens, including the operation of any care or day service centre • Numerous small, scattered programmes target the most deprived including: • **the Poverty Alleviation Fund**, income generating and social programmes • **micro-credit schemes** are growing • **Trade Union social insurance schemes and benefits** • **Local Development Fund (SF)** supports small infrastructure, micro-credit for very poor farmers and small farmers, credit for rural women, and emergencies • **The Interim Constitution of Nepal 2063 (2007)** views employment and social security as fundamental rights of every citizen. The Constitution states that: • every citizen shall have the right to employment as provided for in the law • women, labourers, the aged, disabled as well as incapacitated and helpless citizens shall have the right to social security as provided for in the law • every citizen has the right to food security as provided for in the law • **The Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** includes the objective for: • expanding the accessibility of senior citizens to economic and social security programmes • promoting and expanding economic and social security programmes • launching special programmes for senior

citizens who are abandoned, victims of violence or with some degree of disability and vulnerability • finalising the **National Framework for Social Protection** and defining and implementing the social protection floor • strengthening the social security fund and encouraging the contributory social protection schemes for the formal and informal sectors • social health insurance programme to be implemented widely • enhancing the access of senior citizens to economic and social security programmes • providing senior citizens with allowances through banks.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The **National Action Plan for Senior citizens (2006)** (not accessible) addresses education • The **Nepal Three Year Plan 2010-13** working policy included: • policy formulation and implementation to utilize the knowledge, skill and experience of senior citizens • The **Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** includes: • opportunities to use the knowledge, skills, and experiences of senior citizens in the development process will be created and • advice and suggestions to be sought from senior citizens in the planning and implementation of local-level projects and programmes.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** includes aim for national action plans framed for the relief and rehabilitation of conflict-affected women and children to be implemented and similar plans for conflict-affected senior citizens to be drafted and implemented.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Health and community care measures included generally in the **2006 Senior Citizens Act and National Plans** • emerging issues of senior citizens were recognized by the **Second Long Term Health Plan (SLHP, 1997-2017)** and **Health Care Implementation Guidelines for older people (2005)** and the **Senior Citizens Treatment Guide (2005)** to deliver health care for older people • **The Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** aims to • launch Rural Community Public Health Programme • include preventive, curative, promotional and rehabilitative health services among primary health services • expand treatment services for communicable and non-communicable diseases • improve the nutritional status of vulnerable citizens by implementing multi-sectorial nutrition programmes • special mobile health services and integrated public health campaigns to be organized.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Access to health care** is enshrined as a constitutional right for all, introduced in January 2009 • **Primary health care**, provided by the government directly, is now free in rural areas • Private insurance companies also provide health insurance on a limited scale • **Senior Citizens Act 2006** states: • organisations providing health services must giving priority to senior citizens and concessions of at least fifty percent on treatment of senior citizens • **The Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** aims to: • ensure that all citizens have equitable access to basic and good-quality health services • promote and expand health services, social security, health insurance and urban health initiatives • expand treatment services for communicable and non-communicable diseases • manage human resources, physical infrastructure, institutional capacity development, and the supply of medicine and equipment effectively and appropriately • enhance collaboration amongst government, private, cooperative, community, and development partner agencies in improving health services • outreach health services such as mobile camps with special services, outreach clinics, and telemedicine to be made effective • national health insurance policy to be formulated in order to ensure people's access to health services • health workers to be encouraged to work in remote areas • the policy of training health

professionals to be based on the condition that they work locally • all services of basic health to be free of cost in the nine remote districts • provisions to be made to provide rebates for charges and to reserve a certain number of hospital beds to enhance the access of senior citizens to health services and facilities • additional provisions include: • 10 free geriatric beds at the Patan hospital, Bharatpur hospital, Naradevi Ayurvedic Hospital and Manmohan Foundation Hospital • financial support to indigent poor population for serious ailments up to NR 50 000 • free dialysis and treatment for heart conditions, cancer patients, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases to all • **Senior Citizens Health Facilities Programme Implementation Guideline, 2061BS** attempts to provide medical facilities to the old age people • the establishment of the **Jeshtha Nagarik Swasthopachar Kosh (Senior Citizens Health Facilities Fund)** in each district. The government allocates some fund each year for each district for the purpose.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy specifically related to older people found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizens Treatment Guide 2005** to deliver health care for older people • **MoHP** (Ministry of Health Planning) has also conceptualized specialized geriatric programmes • The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, in collaboration with the National Senior Citizens' Federation (NASCIF), organizes training for caregivers, administrative staff and volunteers from institutions working for senior citizens in all the five development regions at different places every year • **Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** includes strategy for geriatric wards to be expanded from central to zonal hospitals.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Thirteenth Plan** includes aims for mental health-related promotional, preventive and curative services to be expanded, though not specifically related to older people • Alzheimer's disease is included as a condition for which treatment is free for all.

DISABILITY: • Protection and Welfare of Disabled Persons Act (1982) • A Section on Persons With Disabilities and development objectives for this group - both mental and physical, is included in the **Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** and previous **national plans**, including: service availability, including community rehabilitation, employment support, rights, and access to public buildings and spaces.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mentioned in **National Action Plan on Senior Citizens** and in **National Plans** • older people included as key vulnerable group in **National Nutrition Policy and Strategy, 2008** (MoHP, 2008) • **Thirteenth Plan** includes aim to: • improve the nutritional status of vulnerable citizens by implementing multi-sectorial nutrition programmes.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizen Act, 2006**: • places a duty on all to provide necessary services, facilities and assistance to the senior citizens in any public vehicles, public undertakings, medical services, religious and public places • exempts older people from transportation costs • states organisations providing public services including drinking water, electricity and telephone shall give priority to the senior citizens while providing such services • **Civil Code 1963** has provisions for the elderly people in its section on property rights • The **Thirteenth Plan 2013/14-2015/16** states: public utilities and physical infrastructures will be made senior citizen-friendly.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizens Act 2006** states that: • family members are responsible to maintain and care for older people, also included in the **Civil Code 1963** • **Senior Citizens Regulations 2008** sets details on establishing Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres and Geriatric Centres, stipulating for older people's involvement in religious, social, entertaining or economic activities according to their interest • **Senior Citizens Act 2006** also sets out regulations and laws for the running of the centres and homes and the rights of senior citizens within them • The MoHP has conceptualized specialized geriatric programmes and home visits for the welfare of the elderly and expanded the advocacy programme all over the country through local-level population management programmes • The **Nepal Three Year Plan 2010-13**, includes: • state grant for shelter homes, social care centres or mobile health clinics for senior citizens • strengthening the existing services in the community • The **Thirteenth Plan** includes: • certain criteria for the operation of nursing homes and private and community hospitals to be implemented • minimum standards for the operation of senior citizens' residences to be developed and implemented.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizens Act 2006**: • addresses property rights of senior citizens • makes provisions for older people's prioritisation in lawsuits • provisions for the representation of senior citizens who are "helpless" or "incompetent" or those who cannot afford their own • enables prison sentences for senior citizens in some cases to be reduced or for the sentence to be served in a care home • sets out regulations and laws for the running of the centres and homes for older people and the rights of senior citizens within them • **The Thirteenth Plan** includes special programmes targeting vulnerable senior citizens at risk of abandonment, disability, and violence.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizens Act 2006** discusses respect of older people and family support • No specific policies on images of ageing • **Thirteenth Plan** includes aim of maximising the use of the knowledge, skills, and experiences of senior citizens.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • The **Senior Citizens Act 2006** refers to Senior Citizens Clubs and the role of **Centre for Welfare of Senior Citizens** in monitoring these.

Pakistan

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
6.6	14.8	8.2	65.62	67.42

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • Unclear who leads on ageing. Responsible ministries include: **Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights (Federal), Ministry of Social Welfare (Provincial), Ministry of Population (Provincial), Ministry of Human Rights (Provincial)** • The Senior Citizens Act 2014 established the **Senior Citizen Welfare Council** which includes representatives from multiple ministries, The Provincial Assembly, older people's organisations and NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) working for senior citizens. The Council has powers to co-opt experts for advice on specific areas. The Act outlines the Council's responsibility for policy formation and the welfare of senior citizens

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **The Senior Citizens Act 2007**, covering: • the maintenance of parents and senior citizens • the establishment of old-age homes • medical care for senior citizens • protection of life and property of senior citizens • offences and procedure for trial • publicity for the Act • sensitization and awareness training for on the issues relating to this Act • the effective co-ordination between the services provided by the concerned Ministries or Departments dealing with law, home affairs, health and welfare, to address the issues relating to the welfare of the senior citizens and periodical review of the same is conducted • for the Central Government to make periodic review and monitor the progress of the implementation of the provisions of the Act by the State Governments • **National Programme for the Health Care for the Elderly 2010-11** • **Senior Citizens Act 2014** establishes the **Senior Citizens Welfare Council** and outlines the responsibilities and functions of the Council, including to: • formulate policy proposals on ageing in regard to national commitments • conduct research and compiling data to inform policy • improve medical care for older people • create facilities for social inter-action among senior citizens • promote healthy ageing • to formulate proposal for accommodating senior citizens needs in urban and rural planning and development • undertake social, economic and other welfare activities in collaboration with public and private sectors for the welfare of senior citizens • mobilize financial resources for the welfare of senior citizens • constitute committees to assess and carry out welfare activities for senior citizens • coordinate with government, non-governmental and international social and welfare organisation at national and international level to take steps for the welfare of senior citizens • make regulations for proper functioning of the Council including regulations for appointments of different categories of employees under the administrative control of the Council • publish reports and other material guidance and welfare of senior citizens • grant senior citizen awards for those with expertise • create public awareness • establish senior citizens homes • encourage senior citizens corps • create a senior citizens card, providing: free entrance to public spaces, financial support to deserving older people, separate counters for older people in hospitals, concessions in medical treatment, separate medical wards, and membership of organisations • establishes the Senior Citizens Welfare Fund to

provide the budget for the establishment of charges and the welfare of senior citizens • **Senior Citizen Act 2013 (Punjab)** has been finalized and is with Punjab Cabinet Division • **Senior Citizen Bill 2104 (Sindh)** has been presented in Sindh Assembly • **National Policy of Older People** has been finalized by Ministry for Capital Administration and Development in Islamabad.

WORK AND LABOUR: NOT INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found • Urbanisation is discussed in **Vision 2025**, but no mention of older people.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/S • **Pakistan Vision 2025** notes the 'youth bulge' that the Country will be experiencing for another 30-35 years, and the strategy focuses on making the most of this 'demographic dividend' • older people are only mentioned once in **Pakistan Vision 2025**, under vulnerable groups in regard to nutrition • there are no specific goals related to them in their development strategy • general population poverty reduction is prioritised • Gender Equality and Women's Development is included in the strategy.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Various schemes exist to provide old age, invalidity and survivors pensions, as well as social security including healthcare and cash benefits to those employed in the industrial, commercial and other areas of the private/formal workforce • these include: **The Employees Old-Age benefit scheme** • **The Provincial Employees Social Security Scheme** • **The Workers Welfare Fund** • Beyond this, there are a number of micro-insurance schemes that the Government is working to extend, including the **Rural Support Programme Networks (RSPNs)**, **The Adamjee-RSPN**, the first health insurance scheme in Pakistan • The Government funds a number of social protection programmes, providing cash transfers not linked to contributions, including: • **Zakat** • **Bait-ul-Mal** • **The Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund** - a flagship element of the country's poverty reduction strategy • **The Benazir Income Support Programme** - evolved in to the main social safety net, it has provided relief to over 4 million recipients • The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the **Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS)** under which Central assistance is given towards pension @ Rs. 200/- per month to persons above 60 years and @ Rs. 500/- per month to persons above 80 years belonging to a household below poverty line, which is meant to be supplemented by at least an equal contribution by the States • Ministry of Finance provides tax benefits/deductions for senior citizens • **Senior Citizens Act 2014** gives responsibility to the Senior Citizens Welfare Council to: • undertake social, economic and other welfare activities in collaboration with public and private sectors for the welfare of senior citizens • mobilize financial resources for the welfare of senior citizens • constitute committees to assess and carry out welfare activities for senior citizens • coordinate with government, non-governmental and international social and welfare organisation at national and international level to take steps for the welfare of senior citizens • create a senior citizens card providing welfare support to deserving older people.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No specific policies related to older people found.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Policy Guidelines on **Vulnerable Groups in Disasters 2014** has been developed by the National Disaster Management Authority and explicitly addresses the needs of older people.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The Ministry for Health implemented the **National Programme for the Health Care for the Elderly (NPHCE)** from the year 2010-11, including: • the provision of preventive, curative and rehabilitative services to the elderly persons at various level of health care delivery system of the country • strengthening the referral system • developing specialized man power • promoting research in the field of diseases related to old age • **The Senior Citizens Act 2007** includes measures for the State Government to ensure that: • facilities for treatment of chronic, terminal and degenerative diseases are expanded for senior citizens • research activities for chronic elderly diseases and ageing is expanded • **Senior Citizens Act 2014** gives responsibility to the Senior Citizens Welfare Council to arrange workshops to educate senior citizens about life changes required for healthy ageing and a satisfying old age.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • *See social protection section* • microfinance schemes are new to Pakistan and gradually increasing • key programmes related to health include the **Benazir Income Support Programme**, a cash grant programme being implemented nationwide and aiming to cover 3.5 million women during its first round • **Rural Support Programme Networks (RSPNs)**, including the **Adamjee-RSPN partnership** which started in 2005 – the very first health micro insurance scheme in Pakistan, providing hospitalisation and accident insurance to low-income rural population across the country who have organised themselves into community organisations (COs) fostered by the RSPs • **Pakistan's Sustainable Development Goals** included in its **Vision 2025**, included: universal access to health services • **The Senior Citizens Act 2007** includes measures for the State Government to ensure that: • the Government hospitals or hospitals funded fully or partially by the Government shall provide beds for all senior citizens as far as possible. • **Senior Citizens Act 2014** gives responsibility to the Senior Citizens Welfare Council to: • create a senior citizens card giving access to separate counters in hospitals, concessions in medical treatment, and separate medical wards • propose arrangements in hospitals for better medical attention for older people.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No mention of older people in **National AIDS Strategy 2007-2012**.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The Senior Citizens Act 2007** includes measures for the State Government to ensure that: • research activities for chronic elderly diseases and ageing is expanded • there are earmarked facilities for geriatric patients in every district hospital duly headed by a medical officer with experience in geriatric care • **National Programme for the Health Care for the Elderly (NPHCE) from the year 2010-11** included provisions for: • developing specialized man power • promoting research in the field of diseases related to old age • **Senior Citizens Act 2014** includes taking steps to introduce geriatric care into the medical syllabus.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people found.

DISABILITY: • National Policy for Persons with Disabilities 2002 • National Plan of Action (2006) • Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education and National Council for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons are responsible for disability related matters.

NUTRITION: **NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • Elderly mentioned in **Vision 2025:** strengthening nutritional education for high risk groups such as pregnant and lactating women, young children, the elderly and disabled.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: **INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • **The Senior Citizens Act** makes provisions for the Establishment of Old Age Homes, if the Government wishes, in a phased manner, beginning with at least one in each district to accommodate a minimum of one hundred fifty senior citizens who are indigent. It also allows for a scheme for management of old age homes to be implemented, including the standards and various types of services to be provided by them which are necessary for medical care and means of entertainment to the inhabitants of such homes • The Ministry of Railways provides: • separate ticket counters for senior citizens • priority seating • concession in rail fare for senior citizen • wheel chairs at stations for old age passengers • Ministry of Aviation provides discounts for older people on air travel • **Senior Citizens Act 2014** gives responsibility to the Senior Citizens Welfare Council to create facilities for social interaction among senior citizens • to formulate proposal for accommodating senior citizens needs in urban and rural planning and development • establish senior citizens homes to accommodate homeless, deserted and indigent citizens • to create a senior citizens card enabling free access to public libraries, parks, recreation facilities and museums.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: **INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • **The Senior Citizens Act 2007** includes provisions for the Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens, making legal obligations on the children or relatives of senior citizens to care and provide for those ones who are not able to maintain themselves from their own earnings or property. Measures are included for proper enforcement of this law.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: **INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • **The Senior Citizens Act 2007** includes measure to: • enable The State Government to prescribe a comprehensive action plan for providing protection of life and property of senior citizens • allow for punishment for the exposure to harm or the abandonment of senior citizens, with either imprisonment or fine • State Governments are required to prescribe a comprehensive Action Plan for providing protection of life and property of senior citizens • The Ministry of Home Affairs in its advisories has advised the States/UTs to take immediate measures to ensure safety and security and for elimination of all forms of neglect, abuse and violence against old persons through initiatives such as identification of senior citizens • sensitization of police personnel regarding safety, security of older persons; regular visit of the beat staff • setting up of toll free senior citizens helplines • setting up of senior citizen security cell • verification of domestic helps, drivers, etc.

IMAGES OF AGEING: **INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION** • **The Senior Citizens Act 2007** includes measure for the provisions of the Act to be given wide publicity through public media including the television, radio and the print, at regular intervals • grant senior citizen awards for those with expertise • **Senior Citizens Act 2014** gives responsibility to the Senior Citizens Welfare Council to: • give awards to senior citizens with expertise • create awareness in the public through organising seminars, workshops, conferences and use of mass media.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • HelpAge Pakistan notes on its website that they have established 172 older people's associations across the country • Senior Citizens Act 2014 gives responsibility to the Senior Citizens Welfare Council to: • encourage the establishment of organisations of senior citizens corps for the utilization of their potential for service activities and national development • create a senior citizens card to enable membership to senior citizens corps.

Palau

DEMOGRAPHICS: Data on was not available in UN DESA Population Prospects 2012 Revision.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • The **Office of Aging** within the **Bureau of Aging and Gender, Ministry of the Community and Cultural Affairs**, leads on issues related to older people and ageing.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: NO NATIONAL STRATEGY/LEGISLATION FOUND • No national strategy or legislation for ageing/older people found, though older people have an independent section within the **National Development Plan 2009-14**, with specific policies.

WORK AND LABOUR: • Palau has no labour market programme • There is a mandatory retirement age of 60.

MIGRATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14** includes commitment to: • develop policies and systems to address the looming issue of displaced families, though no reference is made to older people

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN/S • **National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14** includes older people as a vulnerable group, committing to: • meet the basic needs of all residents • reduce vulnerability by preserving and strengthening safety nets • provide compassionate, timely assistance to people falling through the “safety nets”.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: • The **Social Security Programme** was established in 1968, and includes the payment of benefits for beneficiaries who have reached 60 years old • **The Pension Plan** was established in 1987 and requires by law only national and state government employees to participate in the programme, with the government matching the employee's contribution. Semi-autonomous agencies of the Government are given the option to participate in the plan. The participants of the plan are eligible to receive benefits after 30 years of service. The plan includes life insurance. The amount of monthly benefit depends on the average salary of the employee during the last three years of employment • **Social Assistance for the Elderly** is administered by **The Office of Aging** under the Ministry of the Community and Cultural Affairs, for those of 60 years of age and above with residence in Koror, providing daily transportation of the elderly to the Old Age Centre, meals provision, minimal employment, and cultural workshops • **The Palau Severely Disabled Assistance Fund** was established with Congress initially in 2003 providing monthly financial assistance depending on need • **Pension Benefits for Persons with Disabilities** gives beneficiaries a monthly lifetime benefit • **National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14** includes older people as a vulnerable group, committing to: • meet the basic needs of all residents • aims to reduce vulnerability by preserving and strengthening safety nets • aims to provide compassionate, timely assistance to people falling through the “safety nets” • states people with disabilities receive a disability stipend from the government's general fund or the Social Security Administration • recommends that services be better targeted to address seniors in need – especially those of advanced age who are in ill-health with limited income support • commits to ensuring **universal access to basic public services** (health,

education, water, sanitation, and power) and designing a strategy for each of the essential services, developing an explicit subsidy system that protects access by low income households.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • The Ministry of Health is focusing its efforts in educating and addressing the burden of non-communicable diseases • The **National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14:** • recommends that stronger preventive health programmes are needed to help seniors • states special services for senior citizens are provided by the Administration on Aging (within the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs) and by the Ministry of Health • states 2 of the 4 health strategies are: prioritising existing primary and preventive health services based on evidence of their impact on priority diseases & underlying causes of ill-health and facilitating the development of health promoting environments and development policies • aims to strengthen prevention-oriented health services for senior citizens.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • The Ministry of Health provides comprehensive primary, secondary, and curative care services as well as primary and preventive health care and provision is based on a sliding fee, which is dependent on the patient's income level • On May 7, 2010, the **National Healthcare Financing Act** was signed into law, becoming Palau's first step in helping residents and workers in Palau pay for medical expenses. This bill requires each resident of Palau to have coverage for healthcare costs he or she incurs and is designed to have an individual's minimum contribution 2.5 % of his or her remuneration and employers pay a minimum contribution of 2.5 % of their employee's total remuneration. This program is referred to as the **Healthcare Fund** and consists of two parts: **Medical Savings Account** and **Palau Health Insurance** • **The National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14** includes target of: • ensuring universal access to basic public services including health, and for each of the essential services, develop an explicit subsidy system that protects access by low income households, streamlining door to door clinic programs run with people's participation to make health service easily accessible • states special services for senior citizens are provided by the Administration on Aging (within the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs) and by the Ministry of Health.

HIV/AIDS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • The national HIV/AIDS strategy noted that the ages of people found with HIV/AIDS were 33-55. It was only noted that fewer older people get tested.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • Training is included as a priority for the health sector, though geriatric care is not specifically included.

MENTAL HEALTH: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

DISABILITY: • **The National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14** includes plans to: • strengthen services for disabled adults, coordinating service providers, life-long follow-up and support for the severely disabled • **Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.**

NUTRITION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • The Aging Office transports lunches to homebound senior citizens living in Koror on a daily basis • the local Government has some centres for the elderly used for meetings and other activities conducted by the Government but they are seldom utilized due to limited resources • **National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14** includes commitment to: • identify a strategy to provide respite measures for short-term protective housing of persons in need while more permanent arrangements are made by service providers • strengthen health and social outreach to seniors with the greatest need, including those who are advanced in age, homebound, isolated, at risk of abuse or neglect.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • Palau has a formalized **homebound programme** conducted in partnership with the public health nurses providing geriatric and palliative care to the homebound population in Palau. Established in 1996 it serves any person age 21 years and over who is homebound • **National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14:** • states that the Bureau of Public Health has proposed to organize a new Office of Social and Spiritual Health with responsibility to vulnerable women, including carers in its work plan • commits to establishing a Social Service focal office to take leadership in: • providing a one stop shop for assistance, information and referral services for persons in need of services • advocating for vulnerable populations and people living with hardship • strengthen health and social outreach to seniors with the greatest need, including those who are advanced in age, homebound, isolated, at risk of abuse or neglect • identify strategies to improve end-of-life care for elderly and terminally ill (of any age) financed by a combination of government, community, and family resources, including: • community based hospice-like care and/or long-term care facilities.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: The National Medium Term Development Plan 2009-14: commits to: • enacting legislation to protect adult victims of abuse, including the elderly • strengthen health and social outreach to seniors with the greatest need, including those who are advanced in age, homebound, isolated, at risk of abuse or neglect.

IMAGES OF AGEING: • Older person's day is celebrated in Palau.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • No information found.

Philippines

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
6.8	13.7	6.9	65.29	72.16

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • An **Office for Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA)** in all cities and municipalities, headed by a senior citizen. The OSCA is responsible drawing up and monitoring yearly work programmes following the objectives of the Act and its Rules; to draw up a list of available and required services for senior citizens; to maintain and regularly update on a quarterly basis the list of senior citizens and to issue national individual identification cards; to serve as a general information and liaison centre for senior citizens • **The National Coordinating and Monitoring Board (NCMB) on the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010** monitors implementation. It is chaired **Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)**, representatives from other ministries and from five accredited NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) for senior citizens. The NCMB is responsible for formulating a National Plan of Action for Senior Citizens • There are **bodies at regional level**. • **Inter-Agency Committee on Philippine Plan of Action for Senior Citizens (PPASC)** was responsible for developing the action plan for senior citizens • The **National Action Plan on Senior Citizens (NAPSC) 2006-2010** includes: • designating a **focal person** for Senior Citizens in all government agencies • A Coordinating and Monitoring Board Committee at national and regional levels • Develop a research network/agenda for Senior Citizens.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **Senior Citizens Act 2003 (expanded in 2010) (SCA)** covering: older people's rights • participation and social role • family care • health and care • welfare • detailed arrangements for implementation and monitoring, including budgets for each department responsible, including health coverage budget and social pension budget • For national government agencies, the requirements to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in their respective budgets • **1st Philippine Plan of Action on Ageing 1999-2004 (PPAA)** covering: • Older Persons and the Family • Social Position of Older Persons • Health and Nutrition • Housing, Transportation and the Built Environment • Income Security, Maintenance and Employment • Social Services and the Community • Continuing Education/Learning Among the Older Persons • Older Persons and the Market • Neighbourhood Support Services for Older Persons (NSSOP) • Group Homes for Older Persons • Consumer Welfare Desk for Older Persons • Balik Literacy • Senior Citizens Day • Inter-generational Programme • Pensioners Day • Community-Based Health Programmes • Residential Care Giving Training • Geriatric ward and clinic at UP Philippine General Hospital • Elderly Filipino Week Celebration • **2006-2010 National Action Plan on Senior Citizens (NAPSC)** (developed by the Inter-Agency Committee on the Philippine Plan of Action for Senior Citizens and from the findings of the PPAOP 1999-2004 evaluation workshop. Data on ageing in Philippines is included in document) **covering:** • older persons and development • advancing health and wellbeing • ensuring enabling and supportive environments • Implementation of legislation and policies (including Senior Citizens Act), focussing on empowering communities • Data on Senior Citizens (disaggregated by gender and geography) • Understanding ageing populations impact on society •

Preparing society for ageing • Development of service infrastructure • Social and human services • Specific targets, responsibilities, and timeline for review, including the undertaking of A Senior Citizens Survey every year • Develop/strengthen data banking and research on Senior Citizens with particular emphasis on geographical and sex-disaggregated data collection in every LGUs • Gender equality programmes for women Senior Citizens in all government offices • improving coordination with different sectors on ageing issues • monitoring and coordination committee on implementation, including development of a common tool or system for monitoring and evaluating, annual reviews and evaluations • local plans of action on ageing • Mainstream/integrate Senior Citizens • indicators/data in the Philippine Statistical System • Budget • **The General Appropriations Act FY 2006** (RA 9336) allocates one percent of annual budget to older persons and persons with disabilities • **EO 266 entitled “Approving and Adopting the PPAOP”** • **EO 105 known as “Group Homes for Disadvantaged, Sick, Homeless and Frail Older Persons.”** • **2004 Act Granting Additional Benefits and Privileges to Senior Citizens, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act 7432, otherwise known as “An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes.”** • expanded the coverage of benefits and privileges to senior citizens to include all business establishments • made mandatory the provision of 20 percent discount in all establishments, as well as installed due processes in the organisation of the OSCA and selection of the OSCA Head • role of the private sector in the improvement of the welfare of senior citizens • provides a comprehensive health care and rehabilitation system for disabled senior citizens to foster their capacity to attain a more meaningful and productive ageing • **Republic Act No. 8425 (Enacted on December 10, 1997)** • **Resolution No. 4, series of 2005** which created the Inter-Agency Committee on Philippine Plan of Action for Senior Citizens (PPASC) to develop the action plan for senior citizens • **Republic Act No. 7876** (Enacted on July 25, 1994): “An Act Establishing a Senior Citizens Centre in All Cities and Municipalities of the Philippines, and Appropriating Funds Therefore.” • **Republic Act No. 7432** (Enacted on July 22, 1991) “An Act to Maximize Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes.” • Multiple **orders, memorandums** and **regulations** related to the Senior Citizens Act 2003.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The **SCA 2003/2010** includes measures for: • support for older people wishing to work • Government-funded training for senior citizens for appropriate skills development, livelihood training programs, and welfare or livelihood support • Government subsidies for organisations employing older people • design and implementation of programmes that will ensure access to formal and non-formal education • **Republic Act No. 7876 (Enacted on July 25, 1994)** “An Act Establishing a Senior Citizens Centre in All Cities and Municipalities of the Philippines, and Appropriating Funds Therefore”. The law further states that DSWD in coordination with the LGUs, the DOH and other government agencies, the Federation of Senior Citizens Associations of the Philippines (FSCAP) and other NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) shall provide the necessary services including livelihood services • **PPAA 1999-2004** included: • Self-Employment Assistance Kaunlaran Integrated Program (SEA-K) from 1999 to 2003, a capability-building program for people’s organisation to self-administer a socialized credit preparation scheme. Its components include social preparation, capital assistance, savings mobilization and access to other social services • **NAPSC 2006-2010:** • Develop programme for retiring Overseas Workers who are Senior Citizens • Conduct fora, workshops, seminars and talks on active ageing, optimizing opportunities for health, income, participation and security in order to enhance the quality of life as people age.

MIGRATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **NAPSC 2006-2010** includes: • strengthen family support and care for senior citizens in light of migration and explore other alternative community based approaches.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Key aims of the **Philippines Development Plan (2011-16 update)** - UNABLE TO ACCESS FULL PLAN) includes: • promoting equal access to development opportunities through better education, primary health care and nutrition and other basic social services • equal access to infrastructure, credit, land, technology, and other productive inputs • establishing effective and responsive social safety nets to assist those who are less capable of participating in economic activities • Older people are included specifically in **Republic Act No. 8425 (Enacted on December 10, 1997) “An Act Institutionalizing the Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Program, Crafting for the Purpose the National Anti-Poverty Commission, Defining Its Powers and Functions, and for Other Purposes”** • **1999-2004 PPAA** established the National Poverty Sectorial Council for Older Persons which involves older persons in the implementation and planning of programmes and activities to address poverty issues of their sector • **2006-2010 NAPSC** aims to: • Mainstream ageing into development policy and promote full integration and participation of senior citizens, including in the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) for the promotion of Active Ageing in the Philippines.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • Social Insurance for formal sector • social welfare schemes target the indigent and marginalized groups, and provide in-cash and in-kind benefits, with the aim to reduce poverty and make the beneficiaries less vulnerable to risks • social safety nets are a stop-gap mechanisms and urgent responses to provide immediate protection to displaced workers, survivors of calamities, and those vulnerable to socio-economic shocks • **Social Protection Operational Framework and Strategy (SPOFS)** was adopted in 2012 • **Social Pension** introduced in 2011 provides P500 monthly cash support to any elderly citizen aged 77 and above who is not receiving care or has been abandoned by his or her loved ones and relatives • **Senior Citizens Act** includes: • Discount and VAT Exemption for senior citizens on a range of products and services, including public utilities and basic commodities • income tax exemption for minimum wage workers • continuance of the same benefits and privileges given by the **Government Service Insurance System (GSIS)**, the **Social Security System (SSS)** and the **PAG-IBIG** where possible • social safety assistance available including, food, medicines, and financial assistance for domicile repair, to be sourced from the disaster/calamity funds of local government units • Death benefit assistance is also legislated for • **2004 Act Granting Additional Benefits and Privileges to Senior Citizens**, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act 7432, otherwise known as “**An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes.**” : • expanded the coverage of benefits and privileges to senior citizens to include all business establishments • made mandatory the provision of 20 percent discount in all establishments • stressed the role of the private sector in the improvement of the welfare of senior citizens • provides a comprehensive health care and rehabilitation system for disabled senior citizens to foster their capacity to attain a more meaningful and productive ageing • **PPAA 1999-2004** included: • pension loans • GSIS conducted periodic pre-retirement counselling • Implemented the 10% across the board increase on the Social Security Services (SSS) retirement benefits Conduct of Pensioners’ Day twice a month in all branches of government and private insurance organisations initiated by SSS and GSIS (includes free medical check-up, establishment of express lanes and privileges for the elderly) • supported advocacy of policies and programmes fighting poverty in old age • Assistance to Lola (grandmothers) in Crisis Situation Project to rebuild the self-esteem of former comfort women through provision of psychosocial interventions, and livelihood assistance, among others • **NAPSC 2006-2010** includes: • Increase the numbers of pensioners by year 2010 by 10% of the total population of Senior Citizens from 1.2 to 1.32 million pensioners • Establish Pre-Retirement Orientation program in every Government and Private Agencies (to include orientation for younger people to help them prepare for old age) • Develop an appropriate Anti-Poverty Programme for Senior

Citizens or include them as a focused target group in poverty alleviation programmes • Provide accessible micro-credit/finance to Senior Citizens • Conduct fora, workshops, seminars and talks on active ageing, optimizing opportunities for health, income, participation and security in order to enhance the quality of life as people age.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The SCA 2003/2010 includes: • exemption for training fees for socio-economic programmes • educational assistance to senior citizens to pursue post-secondary, tertiary, post tertiary, vocational and technical education • **PPAA 1999-2004**: • Established the Senior Citizens Volunteer Resource Project (SCVRP) which contributed to strengthening the information campaign on the public awareness on the magnitude of volunteerism areas by training and mobilizing older persons as volunteers to assist in the implementation of various social welfare and development programs of DSWD, FSCAO and LGUs • The Basic Literacy programme for the senior citizens • Implementation of non-formal education for 60 years old and above, spearheaded by the Bureau of Non-Formal Education under the Department of Education (DepEd).

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • SCA 2003/2010 includes social safety assistance to cushion the effects of economics shocks, disasters and calamities to be available for senior citizens. The social safety assistance which shall include, but not limited to, food, medicines, and financial assistance for domicile repair, shall be sourced from the disaster/calamity funds of LGUs where the senior citizens reside, subject to the guidelines to be issued by the DSWD.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • SCA 2003/2010 includes: • free vaccinations for older people **PPAA 1999-2004** included: • Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for adults which provide free flu vaccines and osteoporosis screening and eye screening • conducting Geriatric Assessment in hospitals • conducting life-long education programmes for ageing preparation • Conducted seminars, lectures and/or symposia on gerontology, family health, positive family values, nutrition and others • Provided trainings on care giving and physical fitness • Pilot implementation of the Neighbourhood Support Services for Older Persons, including: include community volunteer development, physical fitness programme for older persons, and home care • Conduct of Pensioners' Day twice a month in all branches of government and private insurance organisations initiated by SSS and GSIS (includes free medical check-up, establishment of express lanes and privileges for the elderly) • **NAPSC 2006-2010** aims to: • Ensure the quality of life at all ages, including independent living, health and well-being • Conduct fora, workshops, seminars and talks on active ageing, optimizing opportunities for health, income, participation and security in order to enhance the quality of life as people age • **2004 Act Granting Additional Benefits and Privileges to Senior Citizens, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act 7432, otherwise known as "An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes."** • provides a comprehensive health care and rehabilitation system for disabled senior citizens to foster their capacity to attain a more meaningful and productive ageing • **Republic Act No. 7876 (Enacted on July 25, 1994) "An Act Establishing a Senior Citizens Centre in All Cities and Municipalities of the Philippines, and Appropriating Funds Therefore"**. The law further states that DSWD in coordination with the LGUs, the DOH and other government agencies, the Federation of Senior Citizens Associations of the Philippines (FSCAP) and other NGOs shall provide the

necessary services to include but not limited to the following: social and recreational services, health and personal care services, spiritual services, livelihood services and volunteer resource services.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizens Act 2003 (2010):** • Legislates for mandatory Philhealth Coverage for all indigent senior citizens. The local government units are responsible • Department of Health responsibility for coordinating national health programme to provide integrated health services for senior citizens • Legislates for the provision of accessible and prioritized health facilities • Introduction of senior citizens' ward in every government hospital • Comprehensive and integrated health service package catering to the specific needs of the citizens • some free medical and dental services • discount on a range of medical and care services • provision of express lanes for senior citizens in all commercial and government establishments or priority • Social safety assistance intended to cushion the effects of economics shocks, disasters and calamities shall be available for senior citizens • fees for **Aquino Health Agenda (AHA), through Administrative Order No. 2010-0036** contains the national strategy called **Kalusugan Pangkalahatan (KP)** which aims to: achieve universal health care for all Filipinos • improve tackling of NCDs • references older people in targeting poor, marginalised groups • **2004 Act Granting Additional Benefits and Privileges to Senior Citizens, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act 7432, otherwise known as “An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes.”** • provides a comprehensive health care and rehabilitation system for disabled senior citizens to foster their capacity to attain a more meaningful and productive ageing • **NAPSC 2006-2010:** • based on health of older people data and service data Establish Geriatrics ward in every government • Establish Geriatrics ward in every government and private hospital • Expand coverage/improve accessibility and affordability of social & health care to majority of indigent Senior Citizens.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **SCA 2003/2010** includes measures for: • geriatric care training of community-based health workers, barangay health workers and health personnel • Conducting of research and study in geriatric care, gerontology, and health needs of senior citizens • Conducted seminars, lectures and/or symposia on gerontology, family health, positive family values, nutrition and others • The **2006-2010 NAPSC** included a measure to • Institutionalize Gerontology Training Curricula and Courses • Ensure that all Caregiver Training Schools require their students to provide community training and caregiving to frail senior citizens in the community as part of their curriculum. • The **PPAA 1999-2004** included: • conducting seminars, lectures and/or symposia on gerontology, family health, positive family values, nutrition and others • provided trainings on care giving and physical fitness • Organized the Committee on Ageing and Generative Disease National Institute of Health (NIH) as a national centre for research in health that includes various programs including gerontology.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **PPAA 1999-2004** established the Geriatric Clinic in the Philippine General Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital providing medical services such as Geriatric evaluation, rehabilitative management, specialty evaluation by the Memory Clinic, Psychiatry, Ophthalmology, Dentistry and etc. to under-privileged and poor older persons.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Philippines' National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA) - monitors the implementation of several laws to ensure the protection of PWDs' civil and political rights. • **Republic Act No 7277 (Magna Carta for Disabled Persons)**, Batas Pambansa Big. 344 (Accessibility Law), **Republic Act No. 344 or the Accessibility Law of 1982** (Enacted on February 25, 1983), **Republic Act 6759 (White Cane Act)** and **ILO Convention No. 159 (Vocational Rehabilitation of Persons With Disability) 1992**. • **Executive Order No. 105, series of 2003** – “Approving and Directing the Implementation of the Program Provision of Group Home/Foster Home for Neglected, Abandoned, Abused, Detached and Poor Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities” • **Republic Act 10070** (An Act Establishing an Institutional Mechanism to Ensure the Implementation of Programs and Services for Persons with Disabilities in Every Province, City, and Municipality).

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **PPAA 1999-2004** included: • Health and nutrition as priorities • Conducted the Nutrition Planning Workshop on the Regional Plan of Action for Nutrition and organized the Nutrition Management Training.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **SCA 2003/2010** includes measures for: • the special housing needs of senior citizens, including housing units for the elderly, in the national shelter programme • Accessibility of public transport • Incentives to persons or NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) implementing foster care/care home programmes for senior citizens • a range of discounts for a range of public and private services including transportation • provision of express lanes for senior citizens in all commercial and government establishments or priority • discounts on public utilities for some older people's homes providing care to neglected or homeless older people • 'self and social enhancement services' which provide senior citizens opportunities for socializing, organizing, creative expression, and self-improvement • **An Office for Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA)** in all cities and municipalities, headed by a senior citizen to serve as a general information and liaison centre for senior citizens • **Republic Act No. 7876** (Enacted on July 25, 1994) “**An Act Establishing a Senior Citizens Centre** in All Cities and Municipalities of the Philippines, and Appropriating Funds Therefore”. The law further states that DSWD in coordination with the LGUs, the DOH and other government agencies, the Federation of Senior Citizens Associations of the Philippines (FSCAP) and other NGOs shall provide the necessary services to include but not limited to the following: social and recreational services, health and personal care services, spiritual services, livelihood services and volunteer resource services • **Executive Order No. 105, series of 2003** – “Approving and Directing the Implementation of the Program Provision of **Group Home/Foster Home** for Neglected, Abandoned, Abused, Detached and Poor Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities” wherein the donor of the program could avail of the 100% tax deduction. • **PPAA 1999-2004**: • Conducted a study on the physical housing facilities for older persons, producing a sample housing design • Activated utilization of Integrated Day Care Centre for Older Persons and Children • Operation of 331 senior citizens centres nationwide • Operation and maintenance of government-owned centres and institutions (e.g. Golden Acres, Home for the Elderly and Home for the Aged) • **NAPSC 2006-2010**: • based on data on older people, including living arrangements • Establish and operationalize a Volunteer Program for Senior Citizens concerns • Enhance standards to ensure quality care in formal care settings as well as standards for licensing and accreditation of existing health care providers and facilities.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **SCA 2003/2010**: • states the family has the duty to take care for its elderly members but that the State may support • Technical assistance to local organisations to establish community based health

rehabilitation programme • joint-development between public, private and civil society, of range of social services • substitute family care in the form of residential care, group homes, or foster homes for the abandoned, neglected, unattached or homeless senior citizens and those incapable of self-care • after care and follow-up services" for citizens who are discharged from the homes or institutions for the aged • neighbourhood support services" wherein the community or family members provide caregiving services to their frail, sick, or bedridden senior citizens • **PPAA 1999-2004** introduced Income Tax Exemption to individuals caring for older persons • Provided trainings on care giving and physical fitness • Activated utilization of Integrated Day Care Centre for Older Persons and Children • Operation of 331 senior citizens centres nationwide • Operation and maintenance of government-owned centres and institutions (e.g. Golden Acres, Home for the Elderly and Home for the Aged) • Pilot implementation of the Neighbourhood Support Services for Older Persons, including: include community volunteer development, physical fitness programme for older persons, and home care • Conducted training for service providers/caregivers, community volunteers to help bedridden older persons in the community • Implementation of Group Home Program • Pilot implementation of peer counselling project of COSE • **NAPSC 2006-2010**: • Expand coverage/improve accessibility and affordability of social & health care to the majority of indigent Senior Citizens • Ensure support to Accredited Residential/Group Homes/Senior Citizens Centre to be provided with 50% discount for utilities and technical assistance • Develop/implement/replicate new and existing innovative community-based programs addressing the independent living concerns of Senior Citizens particularly those abandoned, sick, unattached and homeless • Ensure correct assessment of needs, matching of appropriate services, monitoring of standards and the quality of services for the senior citizens • Improve coordination and cooperation among agencies (both Government Associations and Non-Government Organisations) providing such services • Enhance standards to ensure quality care in formal care settings as well as standards for licensing and accreditation of existing health care providers and facilities • Institutionalize a school (learning centres) or training program for the Senior Citizens for their continuing education concerning care and support • **2004 Act Granting Additional Benefits and Privileges to Senior Citizens**, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act 7432, otherwise known as “An Act to Maximize the Contribution of Senior Citizens to Nation Building, Grant Benefits and Special Privileges and for Other Purposes” provides a comprehensive health care and rehabilitation system for disabled senior citizens to foster their capacity to attain a more meaningful and productive ageing • **Republic Act No. 7876 (Enacted on July 25, 1994) “An Act Establishing a Senior Citizens Centre in All Cities and Municipalities of the Philippines, and Appropriating Funds Therefore”**. The law further states that DSWD in coordination with the LGUs, the DOH and other government agencies, the Federation of Senior Citizens Associations of the Philippines (FSCAP) and other NGOs shall provide the necessary services to include but not limited to the following: social and recreational services, health and personal care services, spiritual services, livelihood services and volunteer resource services • **Executive Order No. 105, series of 2003 – “Approving and Directing the Implementation of the Program Provision of Group Home/Foster Home for Neglected, Abandoned, Abused, Detached and Poor Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities”** • Enhance support for family and caregivers to promote quality home care for the Senior Citizens.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizens Act 2003 (2010)** makes abuse of the Senior Citizens Card and any privileges it grants an offence with clear penalties • **PPAA 1999-2004**: • Established the Consumers Right and Protection programme • Initiated the creation of 2,278 operational Consumer Welfare Desks nationwide for older people's rights • Conducted information campaigns with business establishments and other NGOs • Distributed the consumer information materials, brochures on consumer rights and responsibilities • **2006-2010 NAPSC**: • prioritises the protection and enhancement of the right of senior citizens to human dignity, to

the reduction of social, economic, and political inequalities, and the removal of cultural inequities • aims to make consumer services for Senior Citizens more accessible and responsive.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • PPAA 1999-2004 • Established the National Search for the Most Outstanding Older Persons or “Ulirang Nakatatanda Award,” • Implementation of the Intergenerational Programme, a social technology that brings together different generations • Institutionalized the annual celebration of the Elderly Filipino Week • Conduct of tri-media campaign during Elderly Filipino Week to strengthen information campaign on the new policy • **2006-2010 NAPSC** includes strategies to: • Launch Tri-Media campaign in promoting positive images of Senior Citizens at national and local level and strengthen advocacy to ensure that concerns are responded to • Promote/institutionalize inter-generational learning programs promote positive images of ageing, including media campaigns, strengthening advocacy and promoting inter-generational learning programmes • **Presidential Proclamation No. 470, series of 1994 – “Declaring the 1st week of October every year as Elderly Filipino Week” • Presidential Proclamation No. 1048, series of 1999 – “Declaring a Nationwide Observance in the Philippines of the International Year of Older Persons in 1999”**

OLDER PEOPLE’S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • PPAA 1999-2004 included the development of the Federation of Senior Citizens Associations of the Philippines (FSCAP) in the national and local levels throughout the country.

Solomon Islands

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
5.2	10.6	5.4	66.19	69.03

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: Unclear.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **NO.**

WORK AND LABOUR: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **National Development Strategy 2011-15** includes plans to address poverty through promoting more opportunities for income generation and employment, based on equal rights and empowerment of all persons regardless of disability or gender • The Rapid Employment Project exists for the urban poor.

MIGRATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: **NOT INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S** • Older people are not mentioned specifically in the **National Development Plan 2011-15** or Health Strategies.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: • Social assistance programmes in Solomon Islands are in the form of **benefits for the disabled, fee-free basic education, and disaster assistance** which accounts for almost one-fifth of social protection expenditure and constitutes majority of social assistance programmes • Recipients of **Disability Benefits Assistance** given to leprosy patients is only the housing and school fees paid to their children • **Social Assistance** is given to destitute people by the Social Welfare Division • **Workers Compensation Benefits** are paid to employees who were injured whilst on duty • There are two **social insurance programmes:** the **Solomon Islands National Provident Fund (SINPF)**, which is an obligatory contribution by employees and employers as required by the **SINPF Act**, and **unemployment benefits in the form of workmen's compensation** as implemented by the Ministry of Labour • **National Development Plan 2011-15** includes objectives to: • Alleviate Poverty and Provide Greater Benefits and Opportunities to Improve the Lives of Solomon Islanders in a Peaceful and Stable Society • Provide Support to the Vulnerable • Ensure that all Solomon Islanders have Access to Quality Health Care and to Combat Malaria, HIV, Non-communicable and Other Diseases • to develop proposals for social security measures supporting vulnerable and marginalised community members • People with Disabilities policy includes strategies to ensure fair access to education and other services and a focus on enabling people with disabilities to lead fuller lives, including increased opportunities for employment • National Food Security, Food Safety and Nutrition Policy, aims for food security and promotion of nutrition and healthy food for all.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • **National Development Plan 2011-15** includes aims of: • reducing the most important risk factors from: (i) individual and family behaviour; (ii) environment; (iii) medical conditions; (iv) service delivery conditions through health promotion, prevention services and case management • reducing the most important causes of the disease burden with cost effective interventions and services and move gradually toward the packaging of health services with "levels of care" as the dominant approach • improve national health awareness through media on specific health issues distributed throughout the country supporting all hospitals and clinics in promoting awareness on healthful living • prepare a national framework to combat increase of Malaria, HIV, NCDs and other diseases.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • The Government has one national referral hospital in Honiara, 10 hospitals in the provinces, 24 area health clinics, and 86 rural health clinics in the country • The Government provides **free medication** through its hospitals and clinics to all sick patients regardless of citizenship • Social and Community Development policy in the **National Development Plan 2011-15** includes: • plans to improve service delivery and current level and standard of social services in terms of quality and accessibility • sets targets and programmes to increase equity between provinces and urban and rural areas • includes aim of building and/or rehabilitating and maintaining health service infrastructure at provincial and community levels to provide appropriate primary and secondary health care including appropriate mini-hospitals, Rural Health Centres, Aid posts, and care homes for those living with HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **National Strategic Plan for Health 2011-15** includes: • action to train staff or give continuing education materials to increase their awareness of various basic health topics including NCD risk factors & priority diseases • strategy on HR Planning, Production & Development and HR management.

MENTAL HEALTH: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **National Health Plan 2011-15** includes aim of improving mental health services.

DISABILITY: • **Solomon Islands National Policy on Disability 2005 - 2010** • Social Protection Index report from Asian Development Bank notes that the only assistance given to people with disability is the supply of medicine and adaptive equipment.

NUTRITION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **National Development Plan 2014-15** includes strategy to provide food security, food safety, and nutrition to improve the livelihoods of both rural and urban communities in the Solomon Islands (National Food Security, Food Safety and Nutrition Policy).

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **National Development Strategy 2011-15** includes action to ensure laws and regulations, including building codes, are inclusive of the needs of people with disabilities in terms of access to buildings - especially government buildings - and to transport.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • The Social Protection Index report from the Asian Development Bank notes that the only assistance given to people with disability is the supply of medicine and adaptive equipment. • **National Development Plan 2011-15** includes aims to: • make support for people with disabilities more effective, strengthen support groups and networks for parents, families, teachers and the wider community and in collaboration with stakeholders strengthen support services for community based rehabilitation and raise national awareness concerning disability issues, including information dissemination through media.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

IMAGES OF AGEING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: No information found.

Sri Lanka

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
13.4	25.7	12.3	71.13	77.38

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **The Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000** established: • a statutory **National Council for Elderly and Secretariat**, led by the Minister with responsibility for Social Services; older people; voluntary sector organisations delivering services for older people. The Act makes provisions for delegated powers to the council, including to make regulation • The Council's principal functions are to: • promote and protect the welfare and rights of older people and to assist them to live with self-respect, independence and dignity • advise government • provide learning programmes • engage with stakeholders • ensure the adoption and compliance with international declarations and conventions • maintain age-related data • encourage welfare centres etc. • monitor and coordinate programmes and schemes • promote study and research into needs • provide publicity for information and programmes • Maintenance Board for determination of claims from Elders • The 2009 Act institutes the **National Fund for The Welfare of Elders** to fund the Council and its activities • **Protection of Rights of Elders • 5000 Village Level Elder Committees.**

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • **Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000** established: • a statutory National Council for Elderly and Secretariat • Maintenance Board for determination of claims from Elders • National Fund for Elders • Protection of Rights of Elders • 5000 Village Level Elder Committees • **Protection of the Rights of Elders (Amendment) Act, No. 5 of 2011** • **National Charter for Senior Citizens and National Policy for Senior Citizens 2006** covering: • mainstreaming ageing • integration of senior citizens and participation • images of ageing and attitudes to older people • education and training • social welfare and protection • income security and appropriate employment • gender specific issues • provision of services for the most vulnerable • health and wellbeing, nutrition and recreation • counselling services • housing and living environment • care and support • legal protection • cultural and spiritual needs • research and information - including data disaggregation to inform policy • implementation and review plans and specified budgets (including the establishment of the National Elders Trust Fund), and regular national progress reports.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Mahinda Chintana Vision 2020** includes commitments for opportunities and facilities to be created to assist the senior citizens to earn extra income • **Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006** includes commitment to: • provide opportunities and facilities to use knowledge, experience and skills to earn extra income • extend the statutory age of retirement from 55 to 63, to be reviewed in 2010, in view of LE and good health • take measures to open up job opportunities for women and avoid discrimination in employment and pension systems • **Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000** gives National Council for Elders responsibility for: • maintaining a directory of paid and unpaid job opportunities available to elders.

MIGRATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Charter for Senior Citizens and National Policy for Senior Citizens 2006 includes targeting health services to vulnerable groups, including displaced people and parents of migrant workers.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S • Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010 includes a section on senior citizens, prioritising: • the incorporation of ageing issues into the Social Development Agenda • Senior Citizens Charter 2006 commits to mainstreaming ageing into national development plans, including economic, social, health, labour, employment, social services, housing and gender.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The majority of workers in the private sector are enrolled in **provident funds** (essentially a defined-contribution savings schemes), managed either by public institutions (Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' Trust Fund) or on a private, occupational basis • Most Civil Servants are enrolled in a major scheme, partially contributory, providing defined-benefit pensions and associated benefits • **Health care is available to all**, in principle, in government-run, tax-financed facilities. For a number of specific groups of workers (farmers, fishers and broadly-specified self-employed), special arrangements have been put in place in the form of **voluntary social insurance pension schemes** • Sri Lanka has a large-scale system of social assistance, **Samurdhi**, introduced in 1995 as a comprehensive poverty alleviation programme that has three major components: (a) consumption grant transfers to eligible households, (b) a savings and credit programme and (c) a set of workfare and social development programmes. The grant transfers include the welfare grant (transfer component) and an insurance scheme (compulsory for certain categories of families) • government agencies at local levels provide a range of smaller social assistance arrangements, targeted at specific categories of persons and contingencies, including the elderly and disabled • **The National Fund for Elders** to address poverty among older persons • **Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010** includes the commitment to introduce a universal pension scheme in partnership with private sector cooperation and for youth to be educated on the benefits of savings and advantages of pre-retirement plans • **National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006** includes commitments to: • expand the dependent category in welfare assistance to include dependent Senior Citizens • provide special welfare programmes to senior citizens caring for destitute children and disabled children • ensure adequate income security and social protection for needy elderly • include older people in all poverty reduction strategies, with particular focus on the most vulnerable groups, such as women.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010 includes commitment to facilitate access to information, communication and life-long learning for older persons • **National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006** includes measures to provide access to education and training, including: • obtaining services of retired persons for peer education and counselling • improve awareness and training to aid nutrition of older people • expand adult education, including access to adequate training.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006 includes the commitments to ensure provision of services for older people during emergencies, including: natural disaster, conflict, internal displacement, resettlement and rehabilitation.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010 includes aims to: • create an integrated approach to health, with three functional arms: (i) preventive, (ii) curative and (iii) welfare • reflect needs of

vulnerable groups • address NCDs and lifestyle diseases, including strategies for doing so • supports a high quality of life • patient-focused system that provides services closer to the client and increasingly in the community • to spend 40% of the public health care budget on prevention by 2020 • to provide assistive devices such as spectacles and hearing aids to the elderly • **Senior Citizens Charter 2006** commits to: • awareness programmes in promotion of healthy life styles to be carried out to enhance healthier and productive ageing in the community • day care centres for promoting healthy ageing supported by public and private initiatives • preparing population for healthy ageing • encourage NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) and private sector to provide facilities and initiatives to promote healthy ageing • encourage media to promote healthy ageing • produce health information and education material for general public on healthy ageing, and age-associated illnesses including dementia • monitoring of elderly issues at local level • **Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000** gives National Council for Elders responsibility for: • introducing programmes for younger generations on healthy and positive ageing.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • The Sri Lankan health care system is comprised of a **public and a private** component: • **Public health care is universal, free of charge**, and includes a wide range of services provided through an extensive network of institutions. It is financed by general revenue taxation • **Private health services** are financed for the most part (90 per cent) by households' out-of-pocket direct payments, and for the rest from employers and private insurance payments • **Mahinda Chintatna Vision 2010** includes the aim of • addressing the needs of vulnerable groups • addressing the challenges of ageing, and the burden of non-communicable and lifestyle diseases • ensuring equality in health and access to healthcare • a patient-focused system that provides services closer to the client • establish a specialised hospital for the elderly and elderly wards in state hospitals • **National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006** includes commitments to: • issue Senior Citizens with Identity Cards to facilitate them receiving special attention, treatment and services and concessions in public services • develop health care system for senior citizens focussed on prevention, treatment, and community care • rehabilitation, training, community health • separate counters for senior citizens • screening clinics at primary care level • outreach services for cataract surgery • personal health record books for senior citizens • **Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 Of 2000** gives National Council for Elders responsibility for: • introducing and implementing a health insurance benefit scheme for older people • produce information on available services.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy related specifically to older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010** includes aims to: • improve the standard of healthcare professionals, bringing them to international standards, by 2020 • **Senior Citizens Charter 2006** includes commitment to: • ensure education and training curriculums reflect need to increase knowledge of geriatric care and issues of older people across multiple professions • training and recruitment of central, divisional, community medical officers, nurses, community health workers, therapists and social workers • revise curricula for providing basic, post basic and in-service training for existing staff on care of the elderly • multidisciplinary teams at all levels.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006** includes commitment to promote appropriate health facilities to ensure mental health • includes measures for ensuring mental wellbeing for older people • produce health

information and education material for general public on healthy ageing, and age-associated illnesses including dementia • provide counselling in the community.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mohinda Chantana Vision 2020 includes a section on strategies to improve conditions for people with disabilities • Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act. No. 28 of 1996 • Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Amendment) Act, No 33 of 2003 • National Policy on Disability 2003.

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006 includes commitment to encourage community organisations, NGOs and corporate private sector to provide nutritious meals alongside health information.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010 includes aims to: • ensure Accessibility to Public Services and Promoting Recreational Facilities • Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006 includes commitment to: • make concessionary tariff facilities and rates for aged care institutions • ensure urban planning and development creates age-friendly standards • engage building industry to create awareness of housing options for senior citizens • introduce appropriate codes and standards to facilitate mobility of older people in the community • provide loans and incentives for home and public building adaptations to improve facilities for senior citizens • encourage construction of parental annexes • Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000: • states the state shall provide appropriate residential facilities to destitute elders.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010 includes commitment to • legal aid and counselling services to be provided free of charge to avoid family disintegration and enhance older people's autonomy, protection and care • provision of homes for people with disabilities • strengthening community based rehabilitation • establishing retirement villages • provide tax and other concessions to the private sector to run elders homes and care services • Maintenance Board: considers maintenance claims filed by elders. A neglected elder, who is unable to maintain himself/herself, may apply to the Board for an order that one or more of his children pay a monthly allowance or a lump sum for his/her maintenance • The National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006 includes commitments to: • promote day care centres and residential facilities for destitute senior citizens • promote independent living through provision of assistive devices and home adaptations • provide home based care services either free of on payment basis • provide financial and other assistance to organisation providing direct services to older people • enhance support for family carers, the majority of which are women • promote greater male responsibility in the family • rehabilitation homes • young and old volunteers to support health staff to carry out community based activities for elderly and to provide home based care, including befriending • provide tax concessions to families who elderly live with • provide social support including counselling to families taking care of elderly • provide incentives to family carers • provide allowances to low income families caring for older people • enhance support for family caregivers • encourage training and recognition of caregivers whether paid or volunteering • promote and encourage community-based programmes for family members of older people • Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000: • gives legal responsibility to children to care for their parents and powers to the National Council to enforce maintenance orders • states the state shall provide appropriate residential facilities to destitute elders.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mahinda Chintana Vision 2010 includes commitment to: provide legal aid and counselling services for older people • **National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006** includes commitment to: • ensure security for senior citizens living on their own • establish services for victims of abuse and rehabilitation for abusers • eliminate all forms of discrimination against women • support legal awareness programme for the elderly at community level • provide facilities for senior citizens to obtain easy legal advice for protection of property and rights • support the provision of legal service to senior citizens when necessary • enact legislation and strengthen legal efforts to eliminate elder abuse • take measure to combat discrimination, abuse and violence against senior citizens • strengthen consumer protection for older people • **Protection of the Rights of Elders Act, No 9 of 2000:** • gives the National Council responsibility for: • facilitating elders to obtain legal advice • makes provisions for children to have responsibility for their parents • makes provisions so that no elder shall be discriminated against on the basis of their age in access or use of any building or place.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mahinda Chantana Vision 2020 includes the commitment for active ageing to be promoted in this regard. Opportunities will be created to share older people's knowledge, skills, values and life experience in decision making at all levels. The valuable contribution of senior citizens in voluntary services in the community will be recognized and supported • **National Senior Citizens Charter and Policy 2006** includes commitments to create awareness of ageing population and promotion of positive images of ageing and attitudinal change, including through educational, multi-media, community and intergenerational work • encourage community participation and involvement of senior citizens • encourage community to support more positive images and attitudes towards ageing.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • Elders' Committees at Village, Divisional and District Levels: The National Secretariat commenced the programme in 2003 • There are 10056 Village level, 229 Divisional level, 17 District level and 05 Provincial level and functional Elders Committees • As delineated in the Madrid Plan of Action, the aim of forming these Committees is to encourage the participation of elders in decision making processes on issues affecting their wellbeing • The members of these Committees receive training and capacity building in advocacy and evaluation of programmes for elders. Such active involvement also provides opportunities for their participation in economic, social, cultural activities and continuous learning programmes • These Committees also seek to ensure that policies and programmes for the elderly are effectively implemented at the grassroots level. The National Secretariat grants funds to strengthen the financial capability of the Committees • The Cabinet of Ministers has granted approval to award construction work contracts directly to village-level Elders' Committees in order to improve their financial status. • Committees that generate additional incomes/funds have been awarding scholarships to needy children, as well as housing and self-employment grants to needy elders • Older people given right to form OPA in **Senior Citizens Charter 2006** and it states it will encourage such establishment.

Thailand

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
15.8	37.5	21.7		

Data on life expectancy was not available in UN DESA Population Prospects 2012 Revision.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • **Ministry of Social Development and Human Security** - Bureau of Empowerment for Older Person • **Ministry of Public Health** - Department of Health (DoH), Bureau of Health Promotion, Elderly Health Group - Department of Medical Services, Institute of Geriatric Medicine • **National Commission on the Elderly** (formally established under the 2003 Act on Older People) - The Bureau of Empowerment for Older Persons, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. The Committee is responsible for: implementing the key policies and missions on the elderly; designating the provincial subcommittees on the elderly welfare provision under the charge of the provincial committees on welfare provision as the elderly administration and development networks at the provincial and local levels; developing potential of the provincial and local networks; to set up and carry out the monitoring of the implementation of NPE so as to make any necessary modification and take timely actions required under NPE. (Act on Older Persons 2003 gives powers and responsibilities to the Commission) • **Institute of Geriatric Medicine** - Ministry of Public Health.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • Ageing agenda included in constitution (1997) and (2007) • **Second National Long-term Plan for Older Persons (2002-2021) includes:** • income security • welfare • healthy ageing • images of ageing • intergenerational relations • housing and the living environment • care and support for caregivers • access to health care • older people's organisations • employment • education and training • human resource training • gerontology research for the purpose of formulating policies and developing services • elderly database • Monitoring and Evaluation and Outcomes Framework with specific targets • **Act on Older Persons (2003)** (currently being revised) covers: • the establishment of the National Commission on the Elderly, including all powers, responsibilities and regulation for its function • The introduction of The Elderly Fund to provide budget to all promotion, protection and support of older people under the Act and instruction for its function and its offices (ie. the Fund's Executive Committee) • work and labour • training • social protection • health • housing and the living environment • care and support • neglect, abuse and violence • OPAs • A new **constitution** is being drafted and ageing is included • The National Economic and Social Development Board is currently drafting a twenty year population policy in which a strategy and long term action plan on active ageing is being developed.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Mandatory retirement age is 60 years for government officers while retirement age in private sector varies between 55-65 years • No legislation on older workers yet, though predicted with increase of both older men and women in the labour force • Promoting work in old age is one of key tasks of Ministry of Labour • **Second National Long Term Plan on**

the Elderly (2002-2021) includes: • Promote older people's employment either fulltime or part-time job both formal employment and self-employment • Promote occupational training and job placement suiting age and ability • Encourage groups joining in communities for supplementary income in which the elderly persons can take part • **Act on Older Persons 2003** entitles older people to appropriate occupation.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • Rural development has been the key policy of all governments including the present one • The goals of the current policy on migration are eradication of poverty, security of life and good living condition, health and self-reliance in the community • Migration is only noted as affecting older people and many depending on remittance - no policy.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S • Older people included in **The Eleventh National Economic and Social Development Plan (2012-2016)**, including in the specific aim of improving the socioeconomic security, quality, and value of older persons so they become a more productive force in social development • **2004 Elderly Fund** - main objective is to provide loans without interest to older persons for their occupational capital and fund occupational training projects for older persons • Senior citizen clubs have occupational activities to generate income • The revision of the **National Plan on the Elderly** reportedly includes income security.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • various formal old-age income maintenance systems for private and public employees in formal sector • Many private insurance schemes with tax deductions • **Community-based Social Welfare Funds** exist in some communities, including pension benefits. Government has supported these • **Old-age Allowance System** updated in 2009 provides a **non-contributory pensions** to all older persons (aged 60+) who do not receive a pension from the Government Pension Scheme • Thailand also provides tax privilege to older persons aged 65 years or more who work (means tested) • Improvement of the old age pension system is reportedly included in the agenda of the current **National Reform Discussion** by National Reform Commission • **2nd National Plan on the Elderly (2002-2021)** includes aims to • Extend the old age security to cover all target groups • Encourage and establish saving disciplines in all ages • Promote all elderly persons to access the basic income welfare rendered by the government • Encourage establishment of community-based funds for the elderly • **Act on Older Persons 2003** entitles older people to: • the extensive provision of accommodation, food and clothing where necessary • to provide extensive and fair relief in the form of maintenance allowances where necessary • relief for holding traditional funerals.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **2nd National Plan on the Elderly (2002-2021)** includes: • promotion of occupational training and job placement suiting age and ability • aim for access to and development of the education service and lifelong learning • **Act on Older Persons 2003** entitles older people to: • education that is beneficial for the carrying on of life • appropriate occupational training.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Second National Long-term Plan for Older Persons (2002-2021)** includes that The State shall hold the plans and systems for mitigation of disaster and aids for the elderly in a disaster.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Health promotion through Senior Citizens Clubs • **Second National Long-term Plan for Older Persons (2002-2021)** aims to: • advance health and well-being into old age • organize health promotion activities in a variety of formats suiting the elderly and their families service • Develop and promote the quality and efficient health security for all elderly persons • Ensure their access to health care and annual health examination covering all persons of the elderly • Give them the required vaccinations in conformance with the standard practice in prevention and promotion of the elderly health • The government shall support them auxiliary technologies necessary for their living such as glasses, cane, wheelchair, denture • Establish and develop health and social service including the long-term community-based care fully accessible to and usable by the elderly by emphasizing the home care model inclusive of health care and social service simultaneously which cover the following service: a service that supports long-term care; a nursing system; treatments for significant chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes and cerebrovascular disease; community-based volunteers; support their caregivers to access knowledge and skill in the elderly care • Support the private entities and local administration organizations to render health care and social services to elderly persons who can afford such services, provided such services shall be certified and standardized with fair and reasonable cost of fees. • **2005 "Healthy Thailand"** introduced as population-wide policy for: peaceful and happy life with family members, access due care, practice health strengthening activities • Government departments encouraged to make plans and projects to jointly promote well-being among all, including older persons • MoPH mandated to co-ordinate and ensure health promotion activities through senior citizens groups and OP participation in these • The Ministry of Tourism and Sports arranges sports activities • Medical care centres in communities and senior citizen clubs coordinate to arrange mobile units to provide knowledge on practicing exercise, checking physical fitness, and preliminarily assessment of the health of older persons in communities.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • 1992 Free medical care programme - public hospitals and health centres to provide free health services extended to all persons aged 60+ who are registered for an “elderly card” • Universal health coverage for all citizens established in 2001 • 2005 MoH introduced “Green Channel or Fast Lane” for out-patient older persons in 90 percent of hospitals belonging to the Ministry of Public Health • In 2010, the Ministry of Public Health upgraded community health centres to be the “Health Promotion Hospitals” throughout the country. • **2nd National Plan on the Elderly (2002-2021)** includes aims to: • Develop and promote the quality and efficient health security for all elderly persons • Ensure older people's access to health care • Promote the public and the private hospitals to provide service in the alternative medicine • Establish an elderly clinic in any public hospital with 120 beds and more. • **Act on Older Persons 2003** entitles older people to: • convenient and expedient medical and public health services that have been especially provided for older persons.

HIV/AIDS: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **10th National AIDS Plan (2007-2011)** includes older people affected by HIV and AIDS as a specific target group for interventions. Proposed activities include: • supporting older people providing care • facilitating access to income generation opportunities • supporting older people to access information about HIV prevention • promoting and developing home care • Raising awareness about the impact of HIV and AIDS on older people; increasing their involvement in prevention • Government financial support for HIV/AIDS treatment, including for carers.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • DoH activities to promote and support capacities of senior citizen clubs and networks • Elderly clubs are provided with materials on health care in order to operate activities to promote health among the elderly in their communities • Short-course training on geriatric health care for nurses and physicians has prevailed during the past two decades, there is still no formal training for clinical specialist in Thailand. • **2nd National Plan on the Elderly (2002-2021)** includes aim to set up the plan on training of personnel on the elderly, so that they will reach a sufficient number satisfying the needs of the Country for their continual service.

MENTAL HEALTH: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **2007 Development of Elderly Mental Health Care Systems Project** aimed to develop and provide knowledge materials used in home visiting service for older persons • The project focused on general psychological health, mental health promotion and emotional support but not directly on dementia and depression • No national Intervention-implementation specifically focused on depression and dementia found.

DISABILITY: YES • In 2003, the Ministry of Interior passed ministerial **regulation on design and safety of buildings and places for disabled and older persons** • **1991 Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act** • **The Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act B.E. 2550 (2007)** • **The Persons with Disabilities Education Act B.E. 2551 (2008)**

NUTRITION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Second National Long-term Plan for Older Persons (2002-2021)** includes: Knowledge of nutrition is included within the requirements for training of caregivers.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • In 2003, the Ministry of Interior passed ministerial **regulation on design and safety of buildings and places for disabled and older persons** • State organisations and the Thai Red Cross have produced and disseminated range of guides on home design • **Second National Long-term Plan** includes: • environment-house modification • aids availability • well-designed public space/buildings development • arrangement of suitable transportation are included as outcome measures • Encourage establishment and running of the elderly clubs and networks • Support activities of the elderly networks • Support and encourage educating of the elderly and their families on adjustments and modifications of their housing to suit the need of the elderly • Establish measures on the loan sources with lower interest for construction/modification of housing and public facilities accessible to and usable by the elderly • Enact the legislation to give privilege to the private entities that service housing accessible to and usable by the elderly • Adjust and modify all public service systems to be accessible to and usable by the elderly in order to ease convenience and feasibility for them in living and contacting with other people either an individual, group or society • Publicize rates of fares in the public transport system and other mass transit systems that entitle them any reductions • Promote the adjustments and modifications of all kinds of public transport systems to be accessible to and usable by the elderly at all time of service and award the outstanding entities for their good service • Encourage the public and the private sectors in charge of public places to observe the required standard practice involving public places accessible to and usable by the elderly • Provide facilities accessible to and usable by the elderly in the public places such as a road, a walk in communities to be usable by the elderly and the disabled • Arrange a park and sufficient, safe and proper area for them to take exercise • **Act on Older Persons 2003** entitles older people to: • self-development and participation in social activities • the direct provision of facilities and maintenance of safety

for older persons in buildings, places, vehicles or other public services • appropriate subsidies for public transport • exemption of entry fees for state places.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • National Plan on Long-Term Care implemented in 2011 aims to provide a wide range of support for care-givers • Bangkok Metropolitan Administration has adopted the **Bangkok 7 model** since 2003 • Some local authorities in urban areas have established home-based services • Resource allocation for research on long-term care institutions • **'Home for the Aged'** plan providing some nursing/residential homes for older people • Medical care centres and senior citizen clubs coordinate mobile units to provide knowledge on health of older persons • Many state hospitals and local authorities have set up home-based services and extended care services • Recent nation-wide implementation of the Ministry of Public Health “**Health Promotion Hospitals**” will be a strategic move towards home-based care • Community Volunteer Care-givers project • Intermediate care also provided by some hospitals/within local areas • A **Long term care strategic plan** for older people is in place, led by the National Health Security office (NHSO), Ministry of Health • **2nd National Plan on the Elderly (2002-2021)** includes aim to: • encourage the learning and participation of people in all age groups in the elderly caring at both the family and community levels • encourage the elderly family life as long as possible by raising awareness regarding the value of sharing the living with elderly persons based on a basis of mutual caring • Promote their family members and caregivers to gain skills in the elderly care by providing them with knowledge and information about the useful services. • Establish and develop health and social service including the long-term community-based care fully accessible to and usable by the elderly by emphasizing the home care model inclusive of health care and social service simultaneously which cover the following service: a service that supports long-term care; a nursing system; treatments for significant chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes and cerebrovascular disease; community-based volunteers; support their caregivers to access knowledge and skill in the elderly care • Encourage local administration organisations, religious entities, private entities and the entities with public interests to take part in provision of welfare for the elderly emphasizing a community-based approach • Support the private entities and local administration organisations to render health care and social services to elderly persons who can afford such services, provided such services shall be certified and standardized with fair and reasonable cost of fees. • Promote and support the training of the elderly caregivers so that there will be a sufficient number of qualified caregivers.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Multiple anti-abuse, neglect and violence legislation exists in Thailand which includes older people, specifically, within vulnerable groups. This includes: • **The Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand** • **The Penal Code** • **The Declaration of Thai Elderly** • **The Domestic Violence Victims Protection Act, B.E.2550 (2007)** which includes aid to those who are being abused • Multiple authorities have responsibility for enforcing these laws • **The Act on Older Persons 2003** includes: • the aid of older people facing the dangers of torture, unlawful exploitation or abandonment • the giving of advice on other proceedings in connection with a case or the remedy of family problems.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Research undertaken on attitudes to older people in 2007 as part of M&E of Second Plan • Annual national older person's day • Healthy older persons competition • Direct participation activities with older persons in the national curriculum - primary and secondary. • **2nd National Plan on the Elderly (2002-2021)** includes aim to: • Promote the activities which enhance good

relationships between the elderly persons and persons of all ages where it may be held as part of education, religious, cultural and sports activities • Campaign for social conscience on the respect for and recognition of the elderly dignity and valuable contribution to the society • Present an award for praising any elderly persons who serve as a good example to others • Encourage the establishment of the central elderly brain bank to collate wisdom of the society • Promote and provide the elderly with chances to transmit their wisdom to others and to participate in social activities • Promote and support all classes of the mass media to include the elderly involving programmes • Promote the producing, accessibility and publication of news and information for the elderly • Take steps to ensure the elderly access to the mass media for news and information.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Senior Citizen Council of Thailand** was established in 1989. Its members are senior citizen clubs. At present, there are nearly 20,000 senior citizen clubs with more than 4 million registered elderly members (one older person can be a member of more than one club) • A national study conducted in 2007 showed that 25.6 percent of the Thai older population (approximately 1.8 million older persons) were members of senior citizen clubs • Involve political advocacy on policy issues by and for older people - representing them to national level • Works as information spreaders and an education channel. • **2nd National Plan on the Elderly (2002-2021)** includes aims to: • Encourage establishment and running of the elderly clubs and networks • Support activities of the elderly networks • **Act on Older Persons 2003** entitles older people to: • self-development and participation in social activities and the formation of groups bearing the characteristics of a network or community.

Tonga

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
8.1	13	4.9	69.72	75.56

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: Unclear.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **NO NATIONAL STRATEGY/LEGISLATION FOUND.**

WORK AND LABOUR: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

MIGRATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: • **The National Strategic Planning Framework 2009** includes the aim of strengthening lifelong learning.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: • **The National Retirement Benefits Fund (NRBF)** was established by the **National Retirement Benefits Scheme (NRBS) Act 2010** to provide benefits in respect of retirement at age 60 up to 70, permanent total disablement, early release, or death of a member as specified in the Act and Regulations. **NRBF** also promotes national savings and investment capacities that provide the working Tongans with a sense of security and confidence in their old age • **The Social Welfare Scheme** started on the 1st September 2012 for Tongan elderly person whose age is 75 years old or above. The elderly member of the Scheme receives \$65 on a monthly basis.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • **The National Strategic Planning Framework 2009** includes the aim of strengthening lifelong learning.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • A key aim of the **Tonga National Strategic Planning Framework 2009** is to improve the provision of health services with continued emphasis on preventative health care, with a focus on addressing non-communicable diseases • Tonga has published two **National Strategies to Prevent NCDs** • **The National Development Framework 2011-14** continues aims with: • commitment to deliver effective curative and preventative health care • improve efficiency and effectiveness of

preventative health care programmes that encourage healthy life styles, including consumption of appropriate foods and increased exercise, so as to decrease the incidence of non-communicable diseases.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • Health care services are decentralised and Government health services are provided free of charge • Physical access to care is good for the majority of the population with the exception of small populations living on isolated islands.

HIV/AIDS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • Staff training and development is included as a key area of work in the **Ministry of Health Corporate Plan 2008**.

MENTAL HEALTH: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

DISABILITY: • Tonga has signed the **UN Convention on Rights for Persons with Disabilities** • No other policy or legislation specifically on disability was found. • **Mental Health Act 2001**.

NUTRITION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • The **Tonga National Strategic Planning Framework 2009** includes the aim of developing functional government systems at all levels that are consultative and responsive to the needs of communities. This is hoped to empower communities and build more self-reliance at all levels to address community development needs.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • **Tonga's Strategic Development Framework 2011-14** includes: • a strategy on increasing institutional care and support services for the elderly, widowed women and other vulnerable groups, including investigation of the potential private sector role and budget to support communities with this. This includes the reduction of the proportion of elderly and other vulnerable groups living below the basic needs poverty line as a key performance indicator (KPI).

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

IMAGES OF AGEING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • No information found.

Tuvalu

DEMOGRAPHICS: Data on was not available in UN DESA Population Prospects 2012 Revision.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: Unclear.

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: **NO NATIONAL STRATEGY/LEGISLATION FOUND.**

WORK AND LABOUR: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • National Council of Women (NCW) provides **Income Generating Programmes for Women.**

MIGRATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: **INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN/S** • Older people are included within **The Strategy for Sustainable Development 2005-15** within social development.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: • The following social protection and assistance schemes are provided in Tuvalu: • **Disability Support** - a non-contributory benefit delivered by the Red Cross • **Disaster Relief Government Programme** • **Home Visits for the Elderly** - a weekly service to visit the elderly and disabled in their home provided by the Ministry of Health • **The National Provident Fund** - a compulsory earnings-related contribution for all employed persons or a voluntary contribution for the self-employed, providing members with benefits for death, housing, incapacity, retirement and women's home (supporting women to take extended care leave to look after children) .

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **The Strategy for Sustainable Development 2005-15** includes the following aims for health: • stemming the rising incidence of non-communicable 'lifestyle' diseases • lowering the incidence of various cardio-vascular diseases, which are the main recorded causes of death • decreasing the incidence of sexually transmitted infections • containing the spread of HIV/AIDS • improving water and sanitation, especially in Funafuti • striking the right balance between primary/preventative and curative health care • raising life expectancy • strengthen health education and awareness programmes to promote healthy lifestyles and better nutrition, and to address the threats of HIV/AIDS and NCDs • **The Strategic Health Plan 2009-18** includes the aims to: • implement a National NCD Strategy • to mobilise existing networks of NGOs (Non-Government Organisations) to advocate and deliver health promotion and

education campaigns and build collaboration between Ministries to address risk factors for NCDs • strengthen capacity of health system to deliver effective and efficient health promotion programmes.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: • All health facilities available in Tuvalu are public, with 99 per cent of total health funding provided by the government • **The Strategy for Sustainable Development 2005-15** includes the aims of:• expanding and improving medical services on the outer islands • providing adequate primary health care services to all islands, especially for those most disadvantaged • improving coordination and cooperation between Ministry of Health, Falekaupule, NGOs and civil society in the delivery of adequate health services to the public • creating a regulatory environment that enables private medical services to be offered to the public, including treatment, pharmacy supplies and other health related services • providing healthcare services to the elderly, disabled or otherwise disadvantaged • ensuring that people throughout the country have equal access to basic health care services.

HIV/AIDS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found • **The Strategic Health Plan 2009-18** includes a strategy to Strengthen Human Resource Development for Health, including MoH (Ministry of Health) Training plan, in collaboration with PHRHA.

MENTAL HEALTH: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **The Strategic Health Plan 2009-18** includes the aim to strengthened mental health services.

DISABILITY: • Tuvalu has ratified the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**.

NUTRITION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found. • **The Strategy for Sustainable Development 2005-15** includes the aim to strengthen health education and awareness programmes to promote healthy lifestyles and better nutrition.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: • Two assistance programmes are provided: • **Disability Support** - a non-contributory benefit delivered by the Red Cross • **Home Visits for the Elderly** - a weekly service to visit the elderly and disabled in their home provided by the Ministry of Health.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: • No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

IMAGES OF AGEING• No policy explicitly addressing older people was found.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: • Vaka Tautua is a not-for-profit organisation running Older Persons Support teams in the Pacific Islands, including Tuvalu. It is comprised of Pacific community leaders who run healthy living/healthy action programmes in

the community. The day programme themes are health & wellbeing, independent living and health promotion. Each leader is responsible for organising the group's weekly activities including arts and crafts, day trips, exhibitions and organising health and disability providers to do presentations to the group on a monthly basis.

Viet Nam

(Nb. Some documents were not available in English)

DEMOGRAPHICS:

% over 60 2015	% over 60 2050	% change 2015-50	Life Expectancy Male 2010-15	Life Expectancy Female 2010-15
10.4	30.6	20.2	71.19	80.4

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS: • Viet Nam National Committee on Ageing (VNCA) • Viet Nam Association of the Elderly (VAE) • Ministry of Labour, Invalids, and Social Affairs (MoLISA).

NATIONAL PLANS ON AGEING: YES • Viet Nam Law on the Elderly 2009/10 covering: • Taking care of the elderly • Caring for the elderly's health • Care for the elderly in cultural, education, physical training sports, recreation and tourist activities, in the use of public facilities and participation in mass transit • Social patronage for the elderly, including social protection and care and support • Congratulation and celebration, funeral organisation • Promoting the elderly's role • The Viet Nam Elderly Association • State Agencies Responsibilities for elderly-related work. • Implementation provisions • Detailed responsibilities are given to multiple government departments and agencies, including responsibilities for planning, monitoring and evaluation • Multiple **Decrees** and **Circulars** include regulation and guidance attached to the Viet Nam Law on the Elderly • **National Action Plan on Elderly People 2012-2020**, MoLISA is responsible and it includes specific targets (not available in full in English) • **Law on health care for people for the period 2011-2020 and Vision 2030** • **Resolution of the Politburo number 15-NQ/TW on Social Policies** • Older people repeatedly included in constitutions, including in the revised **1992 Constitution of 2013**, including: • Article 37, item 3: older people receive respect from the State, family and society; are care for and their role are promoted in the country construction and protection • Article 59, item 2: The State creates equal opportunities for citizens to benefit social welfare, develop social security system, have social protection policy for older people, people with disability, the poor and people having difficult circumstances.

WORK AND LABOUR: INCLUDED IN OLDER PERSONS (OP) STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Labour Code 2012** regulates retirement age for people (55 years for women and 60 years for men with possible extension of 5 years for high intellectual persons and managing positions), including rights and interests • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** states that the government will provide preferential credit loans to the elderly who are directly involved in production and business activities.

MIGRATION: NOT INCLUDED IN NATIONAL PLAN • No specific policy related to older people found.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT / POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS: NOT INCLUDED IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN • Older people not mentioned specifically in Viet Nam's 2011-2020 Strategic Development Plan • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** includes the aim to incorporate policies for the elderly into policies on socio-economic development.

SOCIAL PROTECTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION - SOCIAL PENSION • Viet Nam has both **social insurance and social assistance** programmes for old age • **Mandatory social insurance** exists for private- and public-sector employees, with voluntary coverage for self-employed persons and other persons without compulsory coverage • **A pensions-tested social assistance benefits** was introduced in 2004 (revised in 2007) to people over the age of 80, alongside a means-tested social assistance benefit for people over 60 • **Law No. 25/2008/QH12** adopted in 2008 explicitly sets the goal of achieving universal coverage of health insurance before 2015 • **Decree 67/2007/ND-CP (and then Decree 13/2010/ND-CP)** indicates that disabled elderly are provided monthly cash benefit, as well as free health insurance • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** includes: Article 17 outlining persons entitled to social patronage policies (health insurance and costs, monthly social relief allowances and payment of funeral and burial costs) to those who are over 80 years of age and who have no retirement pension, monthly social insurance allowance or monthly social allowance • **Decree no 06/2011/ND-CP, 136/2013 and Joint Circular no.29/2014/TTLT-BLDTBXH-BTC** as well as other **Government Circulars and Decrees** provide regulation and implementation detail on the Elderly Law including the criteria of eligibility of receiving social pension • **Labour Code** indicates mandatory retirement age and entitlement to contributory pension of 60 for men and 55 for women.

KNOWLEDGE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** says: • the state will provide information, documents and guidance for the elderly to participate in learning and research • the state, society and families should support and promote older people to use their wisdom and experience for their own, family and social benefits • Impartation of skills, experiences and economic, cultural, social, scientific and technological knowledge and traditional crafts to young generations • Research, education, training, scientific and technological application • professional and technical consultancy • sets out the responsibilities of the state to create conditions for elderly with special skills and experiences to continue making contributions • These articles are supported with further Decrees and Circulars on implementation • The State and society shall create favourable conditions and provide information, documents and guidance for the elderly to participate in learning and research • These measures are supported by Decrees and Circulars on the regulation and guidance, including: **Decree 06/2011/ND-CP of Government and Circular 06/2012/TT-BVHTTDL.**

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** gives older people priority in the receipt of relief in cash or in kind, healthcare and lodgings with a view to overcoming initial difficulties as a consequence of natural disasters or other force majeure circumstances.

HEALTHY AGEING AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDs): INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Community-based learning centres and clubs for the prevention and control of diseases related to old age • Training trainers in physical exercises for elderly people's clubs • Physical exercise clubs • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** states commune, ward, township health stations have the responsibilities to: • information about

disease prevention, treatment and self-healthcare • elderly's health monitoring and management • to give specialised and regular medical examination and treatment to the elderly • Funds are included in legislation, though the amount is not specified • **Circulars** and **Decrees** provide guidance and regulation on implementation of these measures, including **Circular 35/2011/TT-BYT on Guidance on implementation of health care for older persons**.

EQUAL AND UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION and MAINSTREAMED • Elderly included as vulnerable group in **Viet Nam Health Strategy 2010-15** • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** and **Law on Health Protection for Citizens** includes priority treatment for older people • **Decree 63/2005/NĐ-CP** dated 16 May 2005 for free health insurance for the elderly • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10 includes:** • Article 12: People aged 80 and over are prioritized examination, except emergency cases, patients aged under 6 and people with severe disabilities, instructions for hospitals to organize gerontology departments or set aside a number of beds for elderly patients • Article 13: commune, ward or township to cooperate with line health facility to conduct periodical medical examination for the elderly • commune, ward or township health stations to send health workers to conduct medical examination and treatment at places of residence of lonely and seriously ill elderly persons • Article 19: Ministry of Health to formulate and organize the implementation of programme of prevention, examination treatment for heart diseases, diabetes, Alzheimer and other chronic diseases, reproductive health diseases of the elderly • Circulars and Decrees provide guidance and regulation on implementation of these measures, including **Circular No.35/2011/TT-BYT** • **National Action Plan for Older People 2012-20** includes target of 100 percent of sick elderly people will be examined and treated by 2015.

HIV/AIDS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION and MAINSTREAMED • **Decree 67/2007/ND-CP (and then Decree 13/2010/ND-CP)** provides cash allowance to the HIV/AIDS-affected elderly • The elderly are mentioned in the national HIV/AIDS strategy in helping prevention and control and in the **Law on the Elderly 2009/10**.

TRAINING HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** gives responsibility to MoH (Ministry of Health) to formulate and organize the implementation of programmes on prevention, examination and treatment of cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, Alzheimer's and other chronic ailments and reproductive health-related diseases for the elderly and to train gerontological doctors and health workers • Article 13: commune, ward or township are responsible for communication and dissemination of health knowledge for the elderly.

MENTAL HEALTH: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** includes: • responsibility of MoH to formulate and organize the implementation of programs on prevention, examination and treatment of Alzheimer's Disease • the provision of support and guidance for the elderly to participate in cultural, recreation, tourist and deep-breathing practices as well as other physical training and sports activities suitable to their health and psychology.

DISABILITY: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **2010 National Law on Persons with Disabilities** • **Decree 67/2007/ND-CP (and then Decree 13/2010/ND-CP)** indicates that disable elderly are provided monthly cash benefit, as well as free health insurance • **National Action Plan to Support with Disabilities (2012-2020)**.

NUTRITION: NOT INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • No policies related specifically to older people found.

HOUSING AND THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** includes: • Many provincial and municipal authorities cover the cost of repairing and renovating houses for elderly people • Viet Nam has piloted the “social shelter” model to care for elderly persons in the community, being replicated to some poor and remote areas • The State invests and encourages organisations and individuals to invest in the construction of cultural, educational, physical training, sports, recreation and tourist establishments to satisfy the elderly's demands for better spiritual life and physical training • The State and society shall create favourable conditions for the elderly to learn and research and participate in cultural, physical training, sports, recreation and tourist activities through the following measures, including providing supports in locations, tools, equipment and other material foundations suitable to the elderly's activities, encourage enterprises and individuals to produce and trade in products and commodities suitable to the elderly's needs • Article 15: the construction or renovation of condominiums and public facilities must take into account the elderly's characteristics and use needs • When participating in mass transit, the elderly shall be assisted and arranged convenient seats • Article 16. Discount of fares and service charges for the elderly for services stipulated by the Government • **Decrees** and **Circulars** attached to this legislation give further detail on regulation and guidance for implementation • **National Action Plan for the Elderly in 2005-2010**, includes housing and living environment for the elderly as one of six key indicators • The Ministry of Transport and Communication promotes increased implementation of accessible transport • Community-based learning centres and clubs provide information on prevention and control of diseases related to old age; physical exercise clubs; accessible facilities • **National Plan on Elderly 2012-20** includes targets for nursing homes for elderly and social houses for those who are lonely and homeless.

CARE AND SUPPORT FOR CARE GIVERS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** includes measures to: • Give children and grandchildren and other persons obliged to take care of or provide financial supports under the law on marriage and family, the obligations and rights to take care of the elderly, stipulating multiple conditions. Those persons having no means to directly look after the elderly may entrust individuals or organisations providing services of taking care of the elderly to look after the elderly, with the elderly's consent • establish social patronage establishments for the elderly of poor families without persons having the care-taking obligations and rights and no conditions to live in the community, including: annual nurturing allowance; supply of personal effects and articles for their daily activities; health insurance; provision of common medicines; provision of tools and equipment for functional rehabilitation; funeral and burial upon death • The elderly eligible for social patronage who have someone caring for them at community level are entitled to a monthly social relief allowance equal to the nurturing cost level at social patronage establishments, health insurance and payment of funeral and burial costs upon their death • The state's commitment to encourage and support, including financially, the establishment of elderly caring establishments, including social patronage establishments; elderly care counselling and service-providing establishments; other elderly caretaking establishments • Details of the articles are included in **Decrees and Circulars** for regulation and implementation, including **Decree 06/2011/ND-CP** providing regulation and implementation arrangements for establishment procedure and operation of elderly-care facilities and eligibility criteria • **Circular 35/2011/TT-BYT of MOH**: Article 5: commune AE to advise commune People's Committee and cooperate with commune health station organize volunteer network to provide home care for older people • **National Action Plan on Ageing 2012-20** includes target of 100% of older people being cared for by their families by 2015 • **"Everyone Takes Care of Elderly People"** programme for all local authorities, including three

funds for elderly people themselves for activities or care and for supporting grandparents and parents in caring • Home-based care centres for elderly people in provinces and cities have organized training courses for volunteers of the home-based care service • includes targets for care and care homes.

NEGLECT, ABUSE, VIOLENCE, RIGHTS AND AGE DISCRIMINATION: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **The Criminal Code, Article 151:** “Abuse of grandparents, parents, spouses, adopted persons... is considered criminal”, and Article 152: “Refusal or avoidance of taking care is considered criminal” • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** Article 9 legislates against violence, abuse, neglect and/or discrimination against the elderly.

IMAGES OF AGEING: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • **Law on the Elderly 2009/10** includes measures for the promotion and celebration of the role of the elderly (Article 2,3 and 4 and Chapter III on Promoting the Elderly's Role) outlining activities and responsibilities of government including: • education about the traditions of unity, patriotism and love for humans and nature • building of cultured life • Impartation of skills, experiences and economic, cultural, social, scientific and technological knowledge and traditional crafts to young generations • Research, education, training, scientific and technological application • professional and technical consultancy • aid in economic development, poverty reduction • aid in maintenance of political security, social order and safety • reconciliation of conflicts and disputes in communities • observance of grassroots democracy • prevention and fighting of HIV AIDS and social vices • contribution of opinions on draft policies and laws and participation in supervising the enforcement of policies and laws • Other social activities in the interest of organisations and the public • sets out the responsibilities of the state to create conditions for the elderly to express their views • conditions for elderly with special skills and experiences to continue making contributions • providing preferential credit loans to the elderly • praising and commending the elderly who record outstanding achievements • encouraging conditions for the elderly to carry out activities of promoting their role • Article 20 on The elderly's longevity congratulations and celebrations • Subsequent **Decrees and Circulars** provide the regulation and guidance for implementation of these measures • June 6 is taken as the Viet Nam Elderly Day.

OLDER PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATIONS/OLDER PERSONS SELF-HELP GROUPS: INCLUDED IN OP STRATEGY/LEGISLATION • Community-based learning centres and clubs • **MIPAA 2010 Review Case study for Viet Nam** states that so far, 85% of provinces have clubs for open-air physical exercises. Also notes, to date, about 160 clubs/groups of older people were formed by Viet Nam Women's Union in different provinces of Viet Nam, bringing benefits for about 9,000 older men and women • **Annual report of Viet Nam National Committee Ageing, 2014** notes that, as of end 2014, there are 58,099 various clubs attracting 2,597,630 older people, of which 834 Intergenerational Self-help Club (ISHC)- a comprehensive model bringing benefits for about 35000 older men and women • **National Plan for the Elderly 2012-20** includes target of over 5,000 clubs to be set up to provide care and promote the role of the elderly by 2020.