

Getting started with Mainstreaming Ageing

Introductory workshop

10 November 2021
14:00 – 16:30 CET



Learning objectives



Enhance your understanding of the concept of mainstreaming ageing and its benefits

Think about and exchange on first steps in building the case for mainstreaming

Enhance your knowledge of international guidance and tools available

Our programme today

1. Why mainstreaming ageing?
2. Getting started: building the case for mainstreaming ageing
3. Resources available



I. Why Mainstreaming Ageing?

Why mainstream ageing?

Demographic change – population ageing – has social and economic implications for which societies need to prepare and to which they need to adapt.

The **transformative change** required to adapt societies to the implications of population ageing and to meet the needs and rights of all age groups cannot be achieved without a **coordinated, whole-of-government** and **whole-of-society** effort.

Population in the UNECE region is ageing

2020



16.9%



30%



Source: 2019 Revision of World Population Prospects
UNECE region (except Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino)

Population in the UNECE region is ageing

2030



20.4%



29%



Source: 2019 Revision of World Population Prospects
UNECE region (except Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino)

Population in the UNECE region is ageing

2050



24.3%

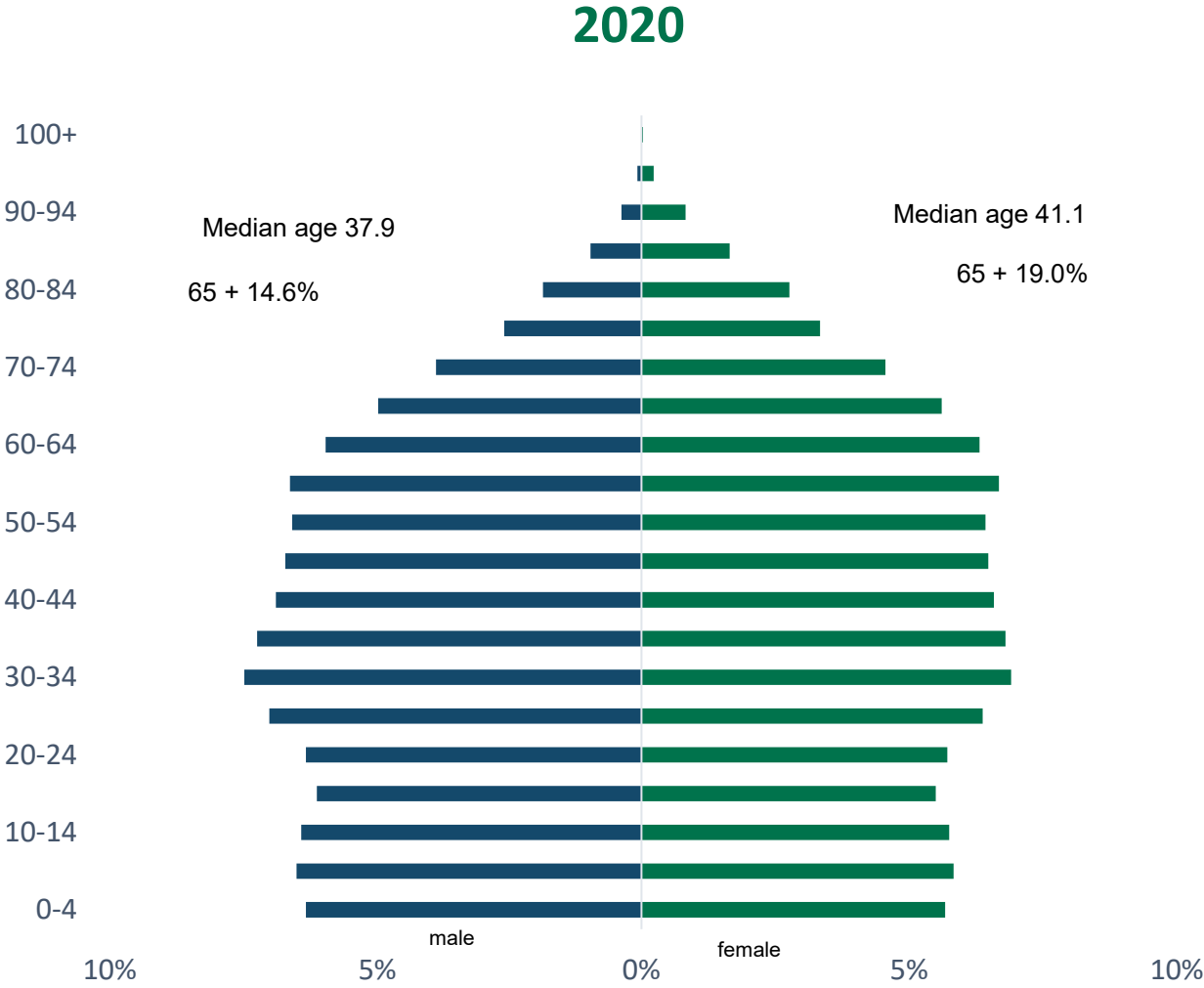


27%



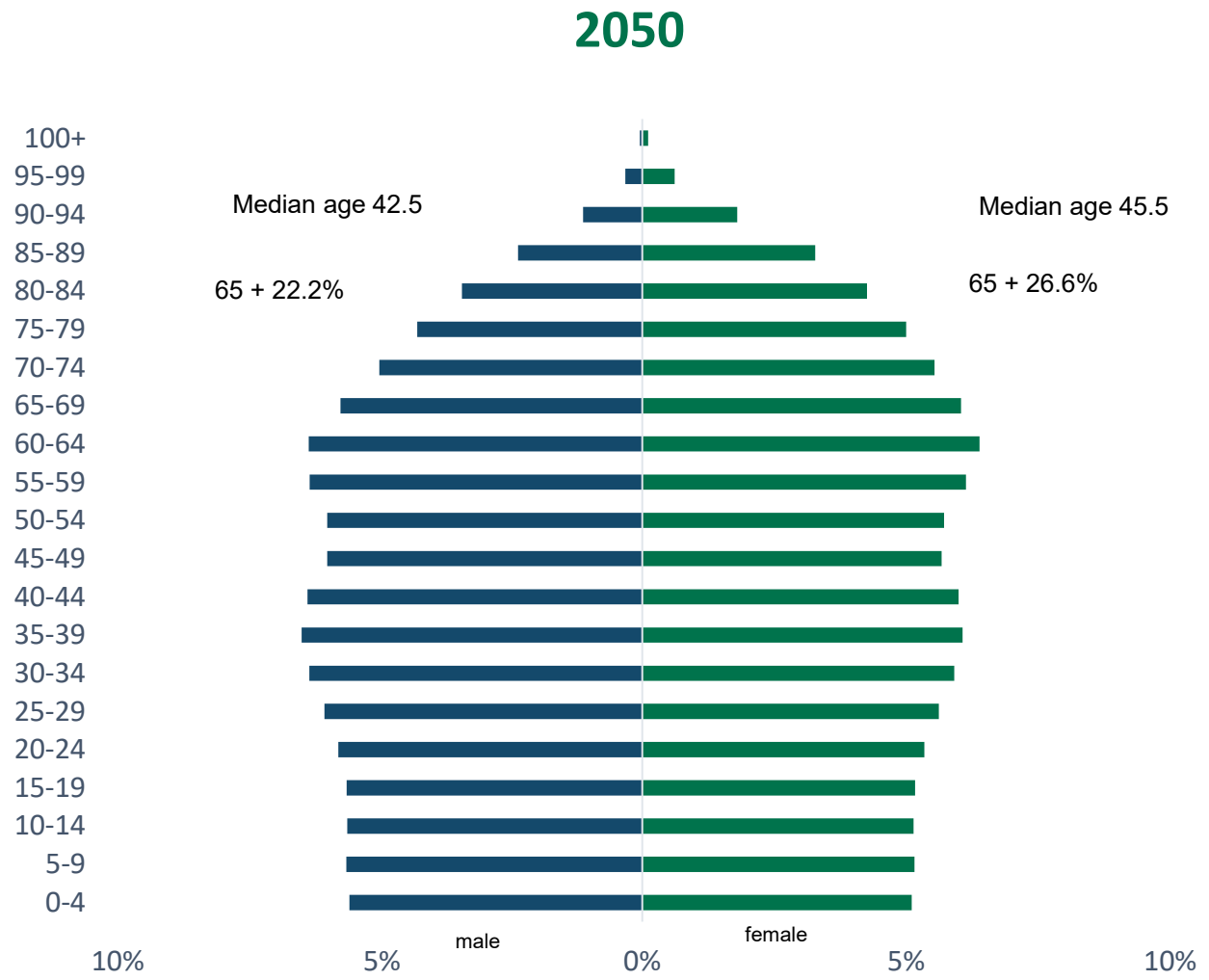
Source: 2019 Revision of World Population Prospects
UNECE region (except Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino)

The age structure of the population is changing



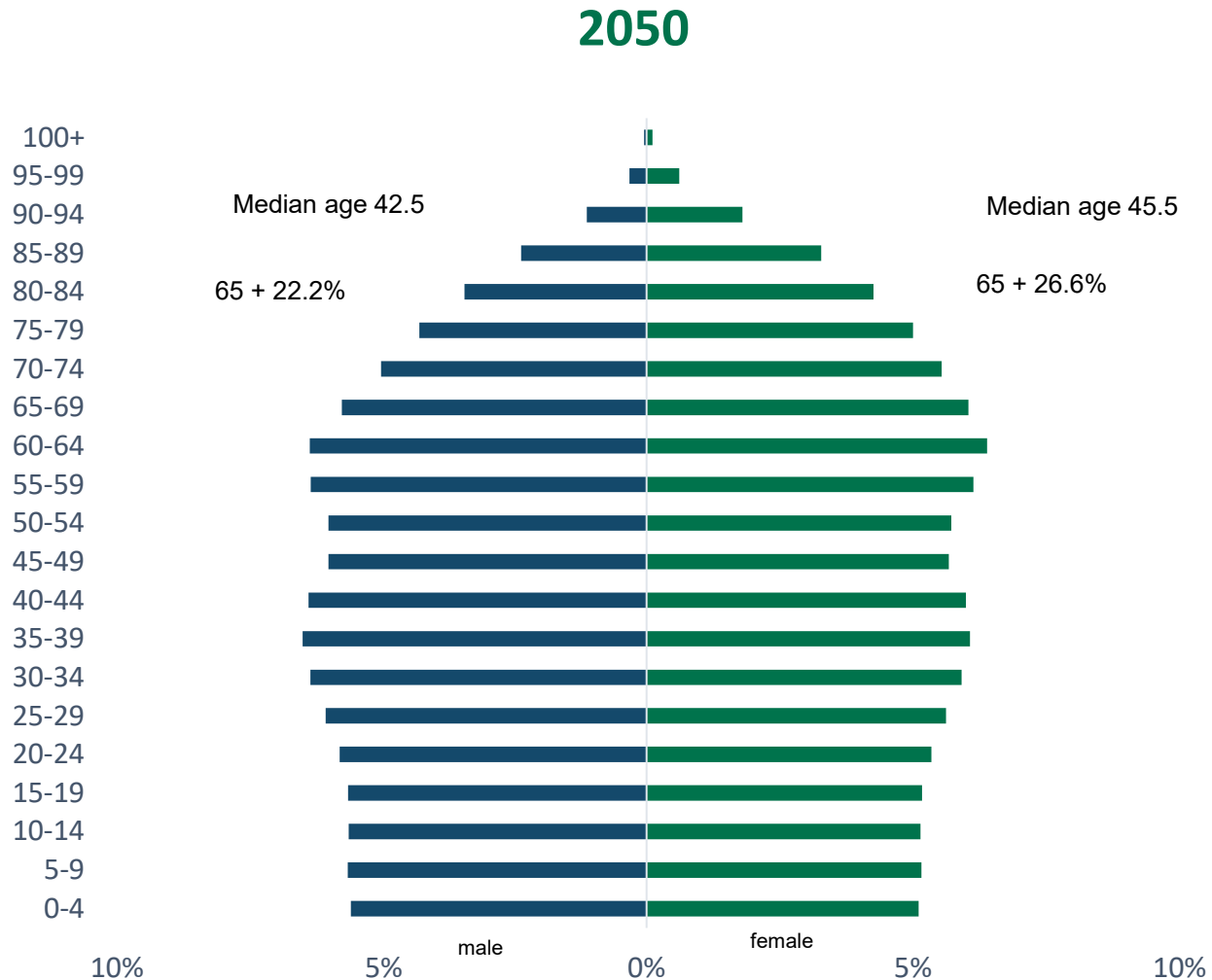
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The age structure of the population is changing



Increasing longevity – proportion of population over age 80 will grow from 4.5% in 2020 to 9% by 2050

Growing proportion of older persons over retirement age (65+)

Shrinking proportion of working age population

Shrinking proportion of children and youth following to enter the labour market

Demographic transition impacts economy and society

- Shifts in the demand for services
- Pensions, health care costs, long-term care
- Shrinking labour force – shortage of skilled labour
- Sustainability of the welfare state is at stake

What will happen if we do not prepare?

- Social protection and pension levels cannot be maintained for future generations
- Shrinking labour force may result in lower productivity and staff/talent shortages
- Costs of health and care services will rise
- Health and care workforce shortages may arise and quality of services may suffer
- Potential set backs for gender equality and human rights
- Intergenerational solidarity and equity may be affected

We don't start from zero

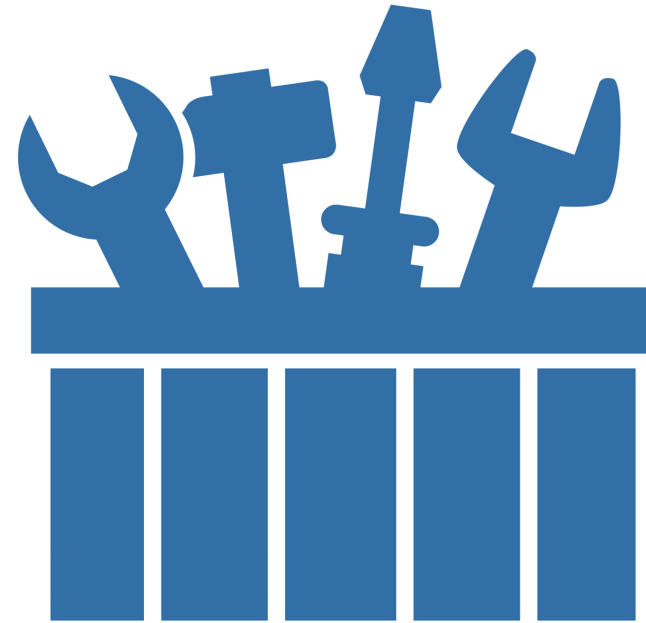
- ✓ Population ageing is widely recognized as a challenge for societies
- ✓ Most countries have undertaken sectoral reforms to address sustainability challenges (pensions)
- ✓ Many countries have developed cross-cutting national policies on ageing.

However, ageing is not yet systematically addressed in broader policies and remains often marginal on policy agendas

What is the problem with the status quo?

- Population ageing is not fully recognized as a key driver for sustainable development and not a considered a national priority
- Fragmented siloed approaches to ageing-related policy
- Short-term political perspective
- There is no systematic consideration of “age” in policymaking and no systematic mechanisms to hold decision makers accountable for negative impact of decisions taken today on different age groups and future generations.
- Lack of decisive and concerted action - This might reflect lack of a "common cause" around which to rally and lacking sense of urgency

Mainstreaming ageing is about building the backbone for better and future-oriented policymaking to adapt societies to population ageing through methods that facilitate the systematic consideration and integration of ageing issues in policymaking





What is Mainstreaming Ageing?

Origin of the concept

Gender mainstreaming

Assess the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies or programmes, in all areas and all levels.

Make women's and men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all political, economic and societal spheres so that men and women benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated.

Gender equality

Mainstreaming ageing

Integrate ageing issues in all policies at all levels.

“Secure gender-sensitive and evidence-based coordinated and integrated policies to bring societies and economies into harmony with demographic change”. MIPAA/RIS

A society for all ages

Definition

Mainstreaming ageing is a **strategy**, **process** and **multi-dimensional effort** of integrating ageing issues into all policy fields and all policy levels”

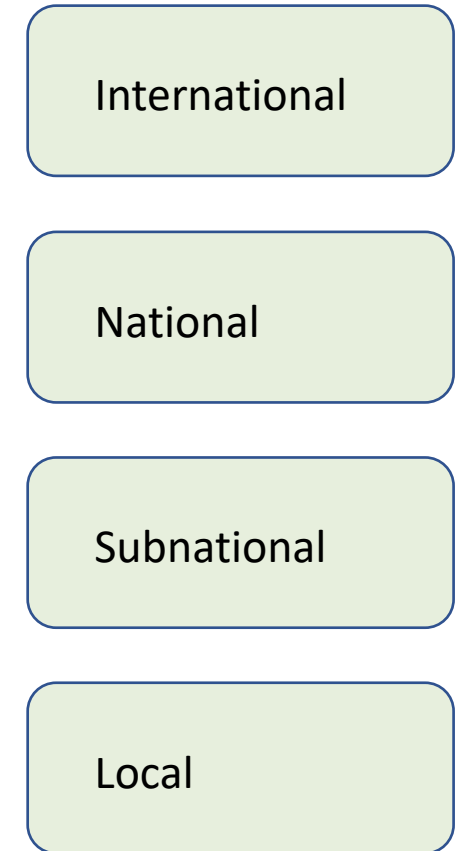
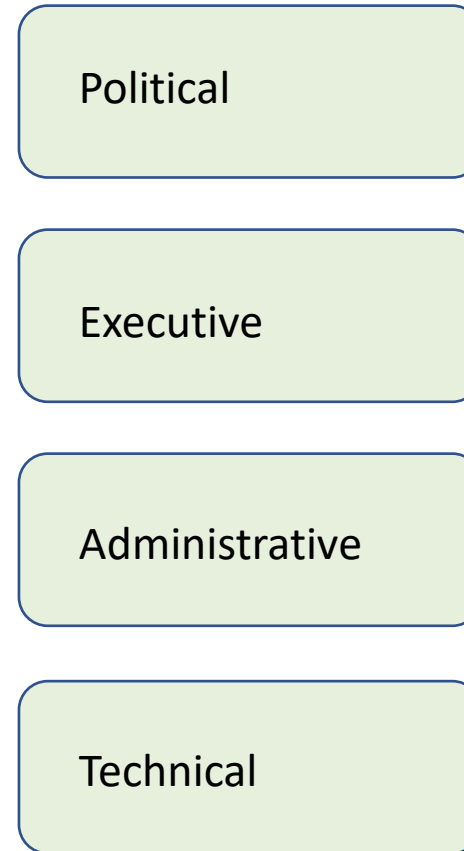
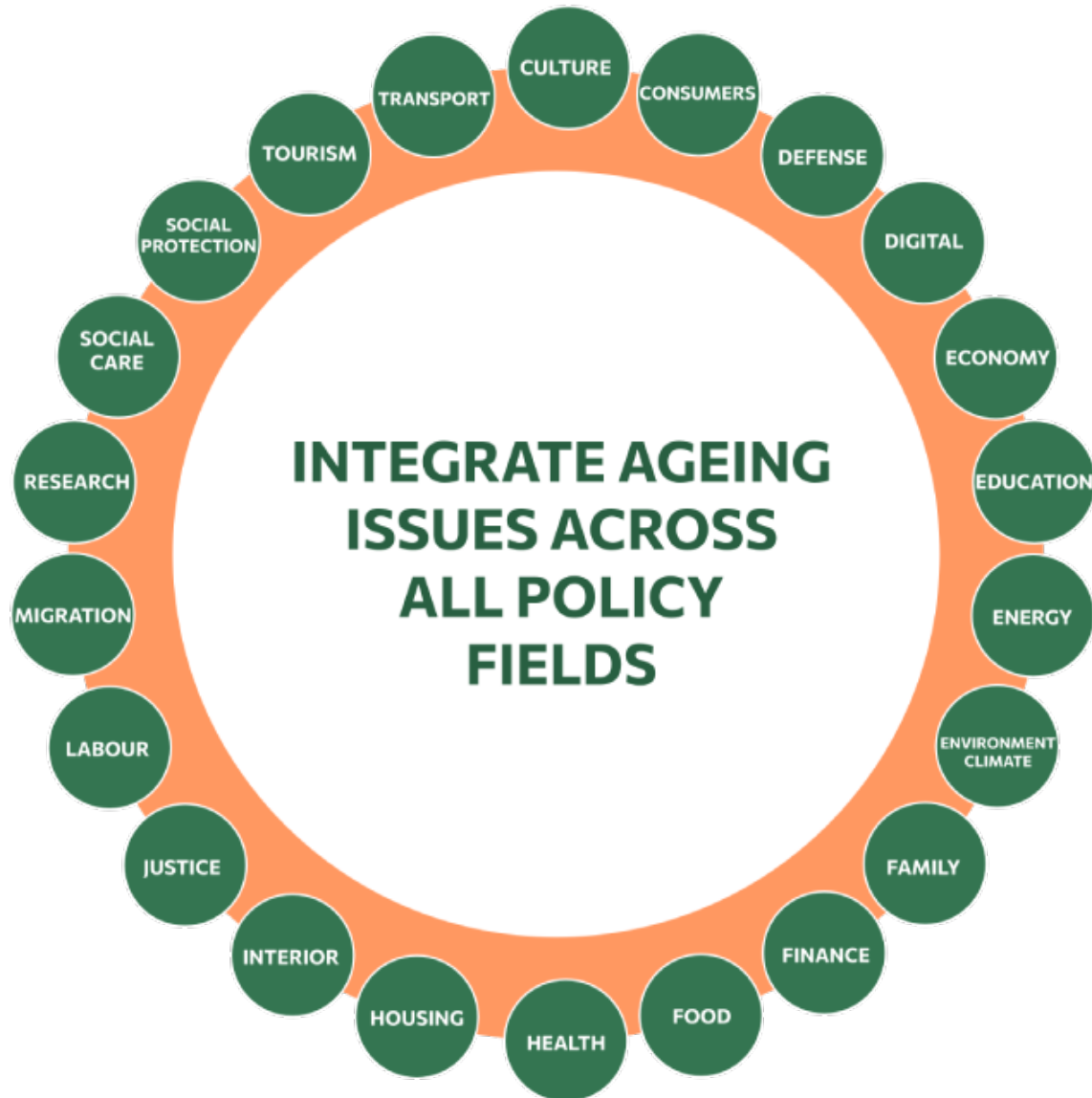
UNECE Policy Brief on Ageing #1 - 2009

- **Strategy** refers to mainstreaming ageing as a plan of action designed to achieve the long-term and overall aim of achieving a society for all ages.
- This includes a **process** that ensures that ageing is systematically considered and addressed by government policy
- It involves **several dimensions** of policymaking from agenda setting, policy formulation, adoption (decision-making) to implementation and evaluation

Individual and population ageing – twin track approach



Ageing across all policy fields and all policy levels



What is the value added of mainstreaming ageing?

