Ensuring rights and choices amid demographic change

Regional report on the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action

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ICPD30 review in the UNECE region

- Five-year periodic reviews of implementation of ICPD Programme of Action
- Regional technical report
  - UNECE ICPD Monitoring Framework
  - Achievements, setbacks, impact of crises
  - Inform 30-year global review of ICPD
Context

- Health crisis (COVID-19)
- Conflict and humanitarian crises
- Economic crisis
- Rapid demographic change
- Pushbacks
Population dynamics and sustainable development

Families, sexual and reproductive health

Inequalities, social inclusion and rights

UNECE ICPD Monitoring Framework: 79 indicators
Progress in most areas overall

BUT

Disparities persist within and across countries

Recently, progress has slowed or even reversed in a number of areas
Population dynamics and sustainable development
Changing demographic realities

Total population (UNECE region): **1.3 billion**.

The region's population is **projected to grow** until about 2050, but many countries already have declining populations.
Later childbearing and declining fertility rates across the UNECE region

Total fertility rate (live births per woman) and Mean age at childbearing, UNECE region

- Fertility rate
- Mean age at childbearing
Recovery in life expectancy at birth following the COVID-19 pandemic

Life expectancy at birth, UNECE region

Women
Total
Men
More people migrate into the UNECE region than emigrate from it, but **net migration is at the lowest level since 1994.**
Men and women are staying in the labour force longer

Average effective labour market age in years, UNECE median

- **Men**
- **Women**
Strengthening demographic resilience

Invest in **individual capabilities** across the life course

Remove barriers to **fulfilling potential**

Promote **healthy ageing**

Make societies and labour markets **more inclusive**

Mitigate and address effects of **climate change**
Families, sexual and reproductive health across the life course
Progress on maternal mortality is slowing

Maternal mortality ratio, deaths per 100,000 live births, UNECE average (SDG 3.1.1)
Women's use of contraceptives has **barely gone up** over the past two decades.

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Data reflects contraceptive use among women of reproductive age married or in union.
Adolescent birth rates continue to decrease almost everywhere in the UNECE region, but remain high in some countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
Nowhere else in the world has the HIV epidemic grown faster since 2010 than in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
Increased investment in integrated SRH packages

Address **inequalities in access** to SRH information and services

Expand range of **SRH services** under UHC

Mainstream **comprehensive sexual education**

**Decriminalize HIV** and eradicate **stigma and discrimination**
Inequalities, social inclusion and rights
Women remain underrepresented in parliaments and managerial positions

Proportion of women in parliaments (SDG 5.5.1) and managerial positions (SDG 5.5.2) (%)

- Proportion of women in the total number of persons employed in managerial positions
- Proportion of seats in national parliaments held by women
1 in 4 women is unable to make decisions about sexual and reproductive health care, contraception, and who to have sex with.

(In 11 UNECE countries with data.)
The share of people who believe it is justifiable for a man to beat his wife has increased in half of countries with data

Often young people are more likely to agree that it is justifiable than older age groups
Persons with a disability are 3 times as likely to be unemployed.

Unemployment rate by disability status (%), select countries (SDG 8.5.2)

- Without a disability
- With a disability
Unlocking development potential for all

Empower women and girls and protect their rights

Support reconciliation of work and family responsibilities for women and men

Provide equal access to decent work, adequate income, and quality education

Prevent and eradicate gender-based violence and all forms of discrimination
The way forward

Understand **population dynamics**

Assess **data gaps** in context of national policy priorities

Design evidence- and rights-based policies that build on **individual potential and capabilities** and that **advance gender equality**

Take a **multi-stakeholder approach** and **forge broad-based alliances**