Adopting an Age-Sensitive Lens
to Policy Making
The West Asia Experience

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Ageing in the West Asia Region: Opportunities and Challenges

- Pace of change
- Population dividends
- Culture and norms
- Heterogeneous experience (vertical & horizontal)
Evolving Long-Term Care Markets: International Trends and the West-Asia Region

- Personalisation
  - Person-centred approaches
- Choice and control
- Cash-for-care schemes
- Independence & Self-care
  - Advanced Technology
- Families & communities

- Ageing in place
  - Moving away from residential (care homes) to home care
- Marketisation
  - The role of the private sector

- Reliance on the family
  - The ‘invisible’ welfare scheme
- (un)sustainability of family care
  - Socio-economic and demographic changes
  - Emotional burden
  - Competing opportunities

- LTC jobs one of the fastest growing markets across the globe
- Attracting women in particular
  - Labour gender-gaps

- Suitability/adequacy of care
- Employment opportunities within a context of high female unemployment rates

13 February 2023
Case Study 1: LTC in Egypt

• The role of families & charitable organisations
• Universal Health Insurance (UHI) launched in 2018
• Social protection: two schemes, ‘Takaful’ (solidarity) and ‘Karama’ (dignity), since 2015
• The Older People’s Rights’ Law, 2021, is being debated
• New initiatives currently in progress: The Golden Card; ‘Al-Tadamun’ older person’s companionship programme
  • Piloted in 2019 with 51 successfully trained individuals
  • A new scheme is currently being prepared
Case Study 2: LTC markets in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

LTC market is estimated to be one of the major growth sectors in KSA (esp. rehabilitation, extended care facilities, psychiatric centres and home health care)

Health care transformation as a part of the ‘Saudi Vision 2030’. Home care is a core element

Funded by the government with some services purchased from the private sector
Funding LTC: A win-win situation

- A window of relatively low cost
- Young population
- Job creation opportunities
Main-Streaming Ageing: An Eco-System Approach

Empower older people & enhance self-care
- Through the life course & Public engagement (language and images)
- Support informal carers

Create formal mechanisms for LTC provision
- Market shaping
- Holistic approach
- Set standards and regulations
- Partnership working & integrated services

- Integrated Care: cost and responsibility sharing
- Develop and train a diverse workforce
  - Creation of job opportunities and career opportunities
  - Capitalise on the window of youth dividends
- Pilot & evaluate
- Funding and financing LTC
- Lessons from COVID19
Thank you for listening

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