



# ESCAP ....

Is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region



... uses its **convening power** to bring countries together to address issues through regional cooperation

# ESCAP work rests on three pillars



Inter-governmental

Addressing the Challenges  
of Population Ageing in  
Asia and the Pacific



Analytical



Technical cooperation

# ESCAP work is multidisciplinary



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

01 | **MACROECONOMIC  
POLICY AND FINANCING  
FOR DEVELOPMENT**



02 | **TRADE, INVESTMENT  
AND INNOVATION**



03 | **TRANSPORT**



04 | **STATISTICS**



08 | **ENERGY**

05 | **SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT**



06 | **ENVIRONMENT AND  
DEVELOPMENT**

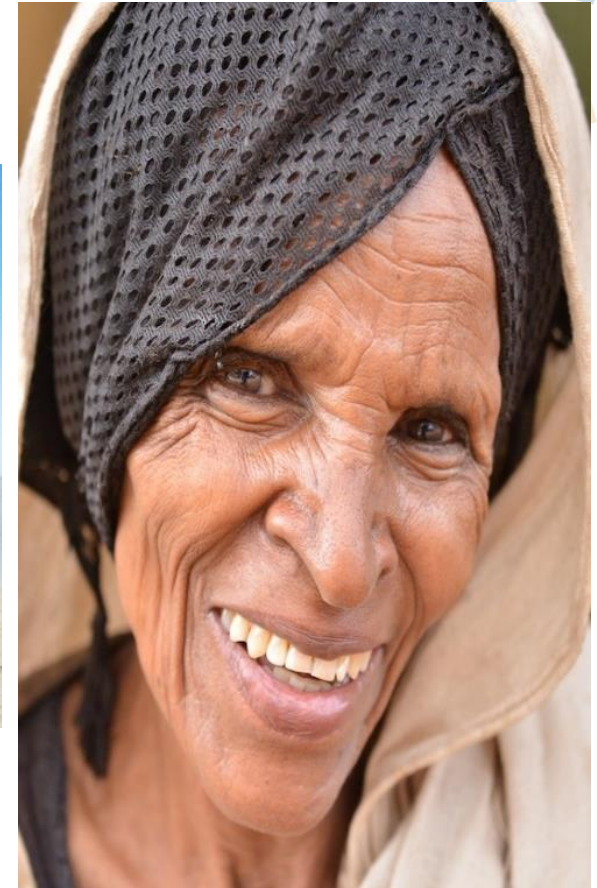


07 | **ICT AND DISASTER  
RISK REDUCTION**



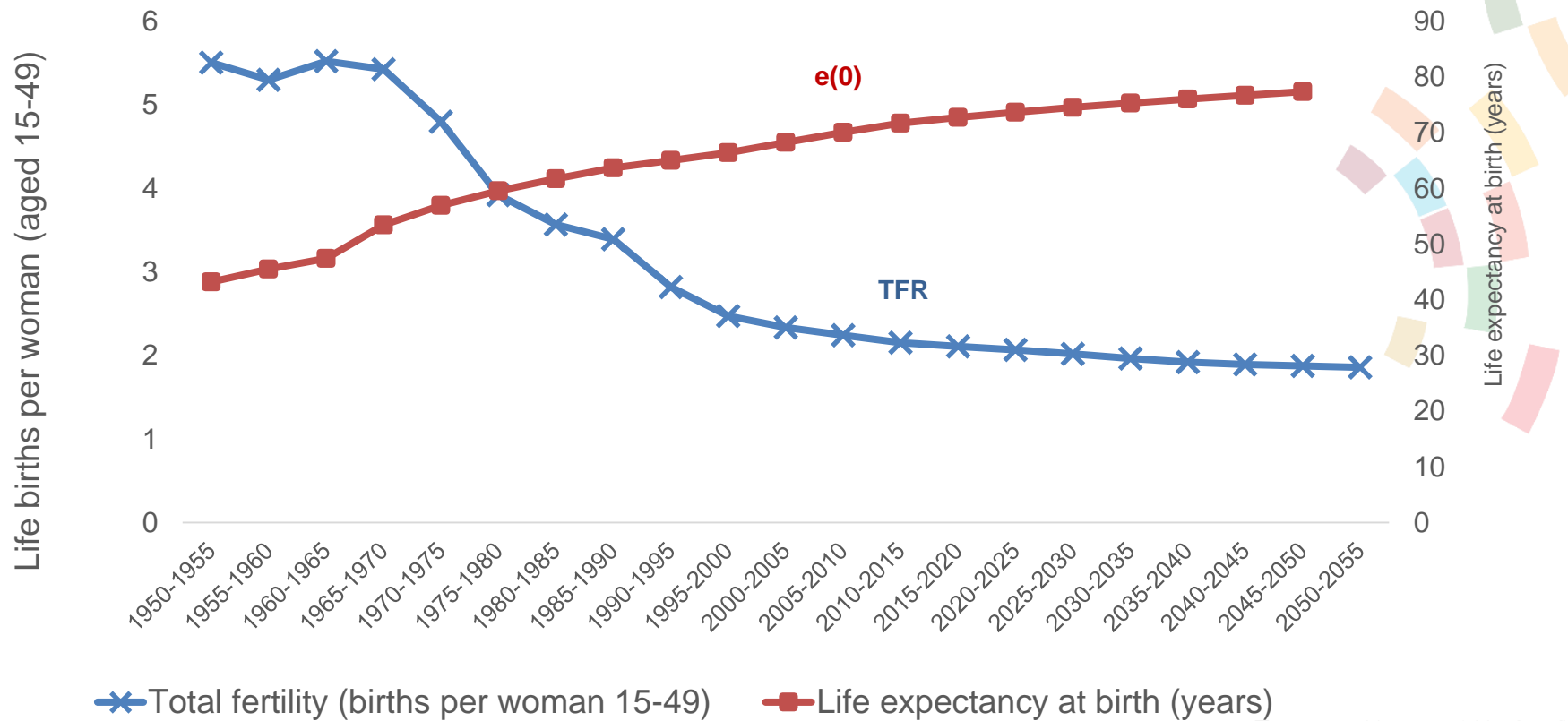


# Older persons: many faces of one of the major achievements of development



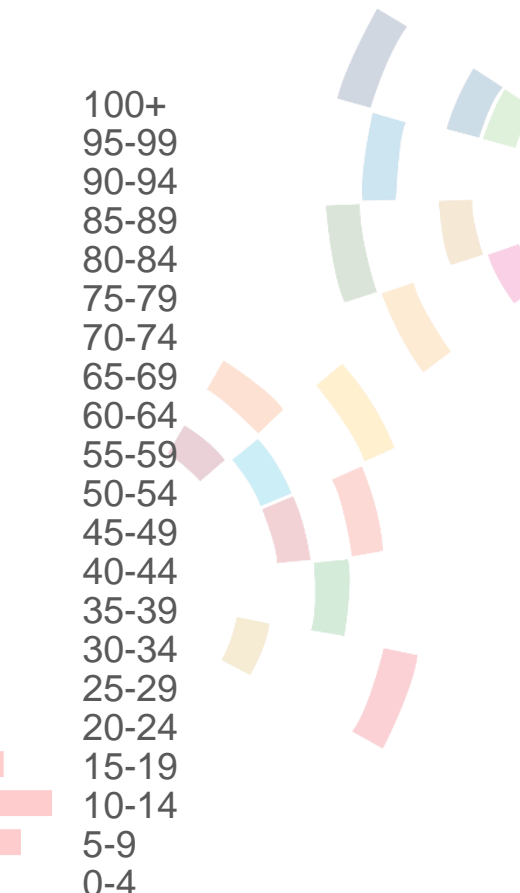
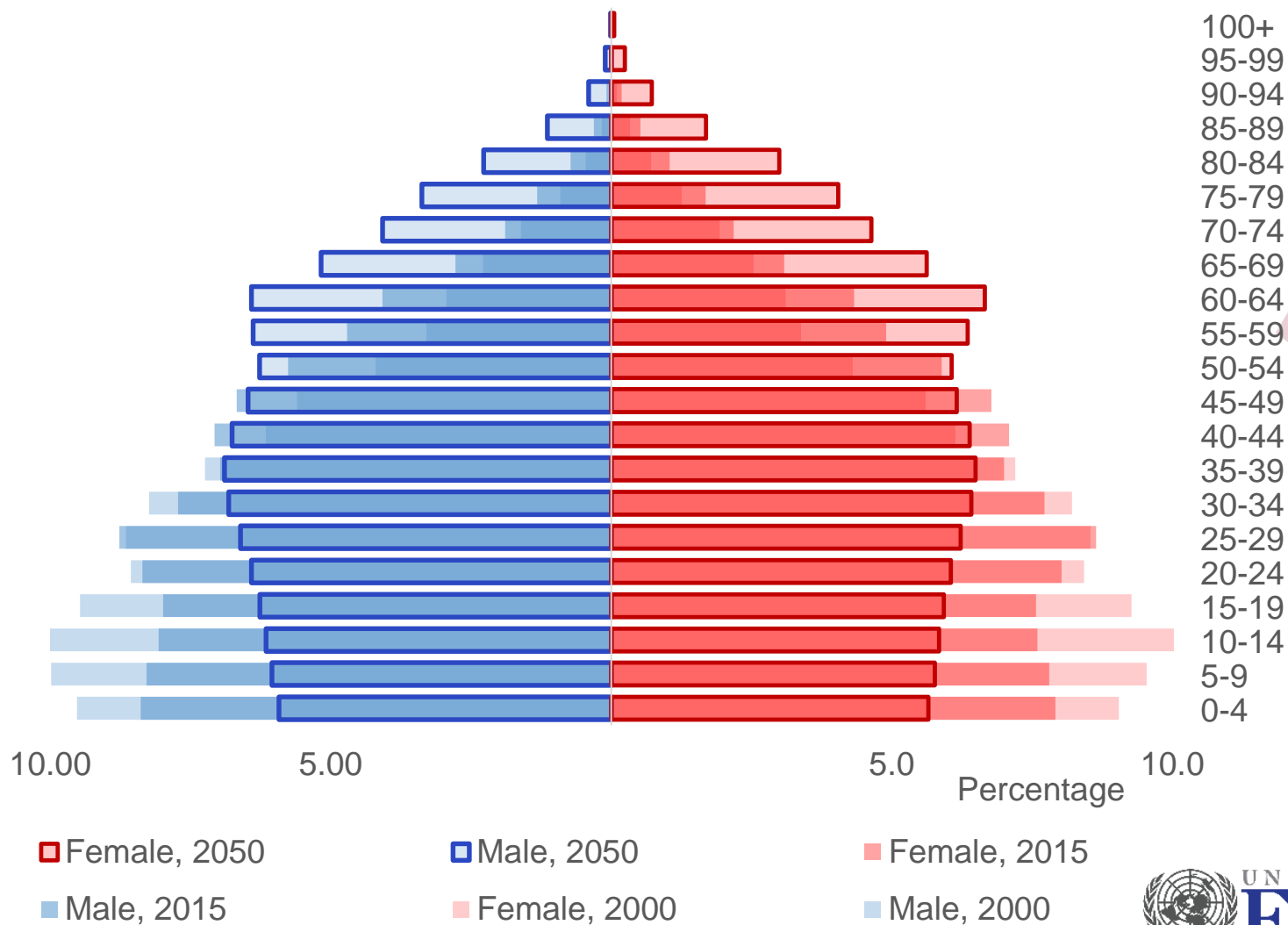
# Demographic transition, Asia-Pacific

(total fertility rate and life expectancy at birth, 1950-2050)



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).  
 World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition; United Nations,  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017) (Asia-Pacific = ESCAP members).

# Asia-Pacific, 2050



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). *World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).

# A growing number and share of persons 65+ in Asia-Pacific

(in thousand - % of total)



2019

415,779 – 9.00%

2030

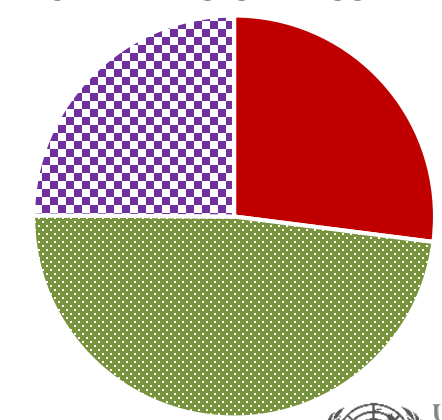
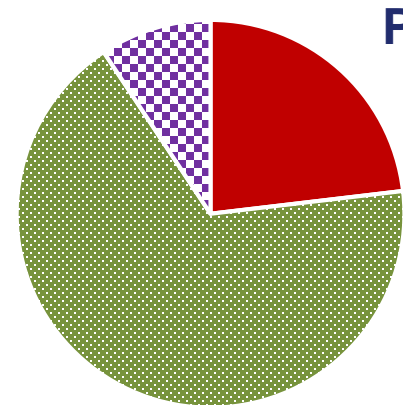
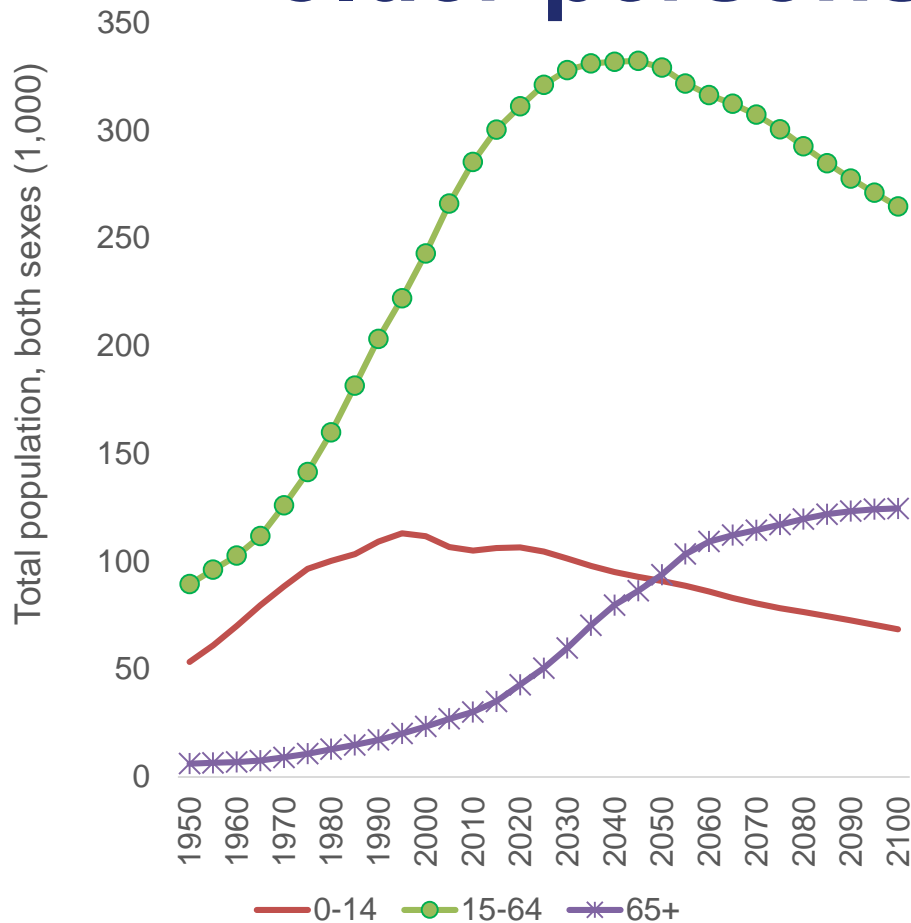
611,019 – 12.3%

2050

965,438 – 18.15%



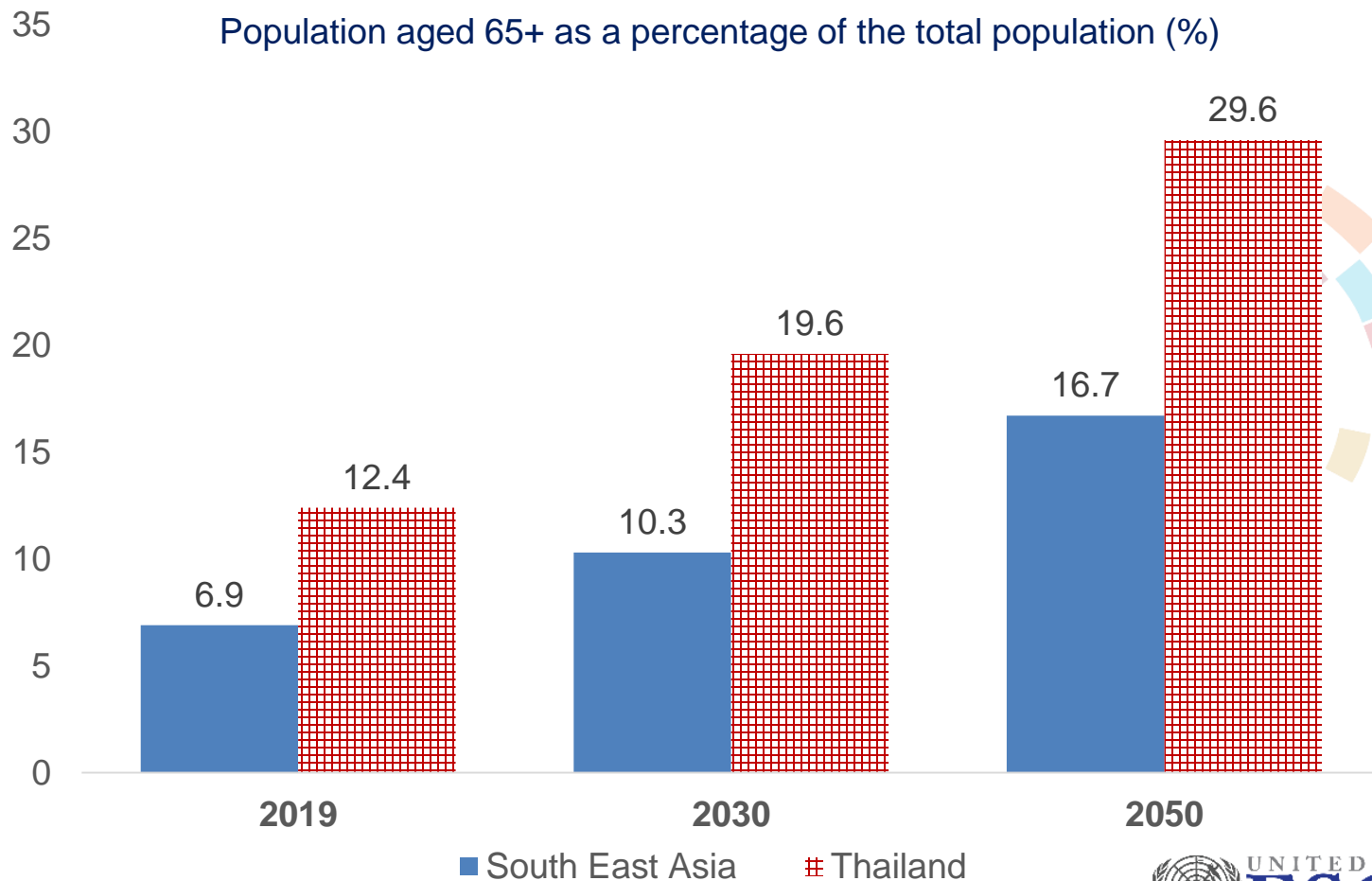
# In Asia-Pacific, by 2050, number of older persons > younger



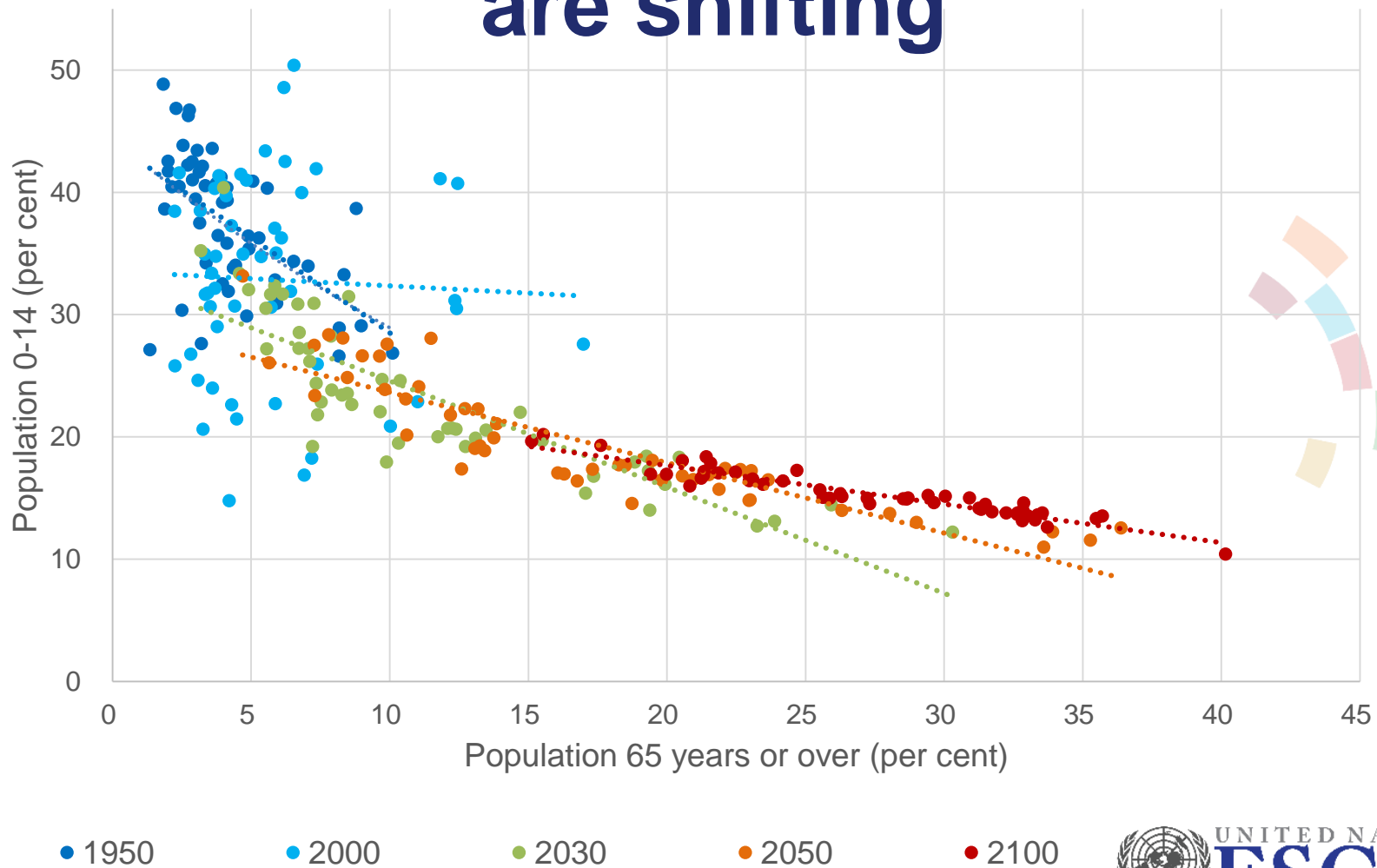
Per cent of total population  
**2020**

**2100**

# Share of older persons (65+) in Thailand > share of older persons in South-East Asia, 2019, 2030, 2050



# In Asia-Pacific, age structures are shifting

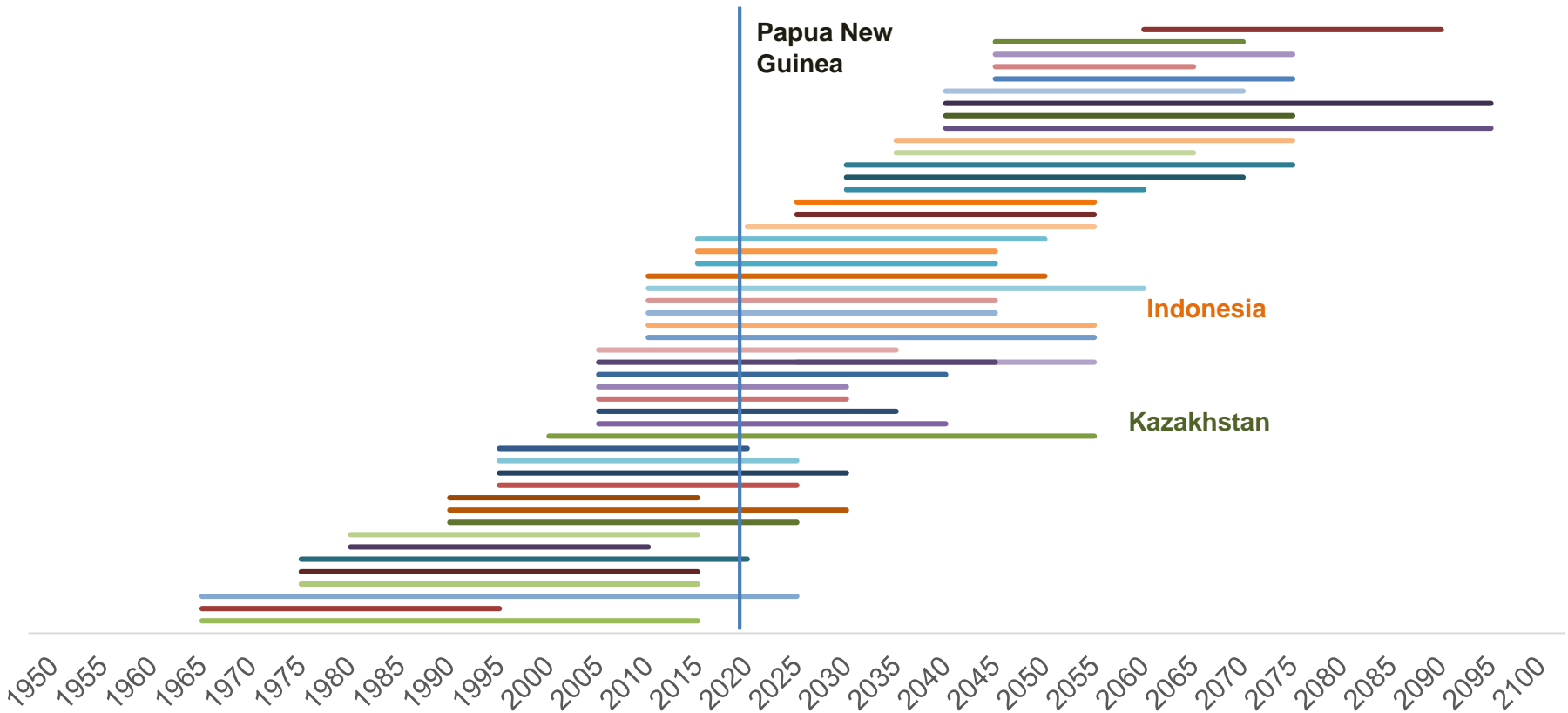


# Demographic window explained



- Share of children falls (permanently) below 30%
- Share of older persons is (still) less than 15% (*UN 2004*)
- Demographic window = window of opportunity for economic development
- Requirement:  
Larger investments in people (education), infrastructure and jobs become possible

# Demographic window open or opening for countries in Asia-Pacific



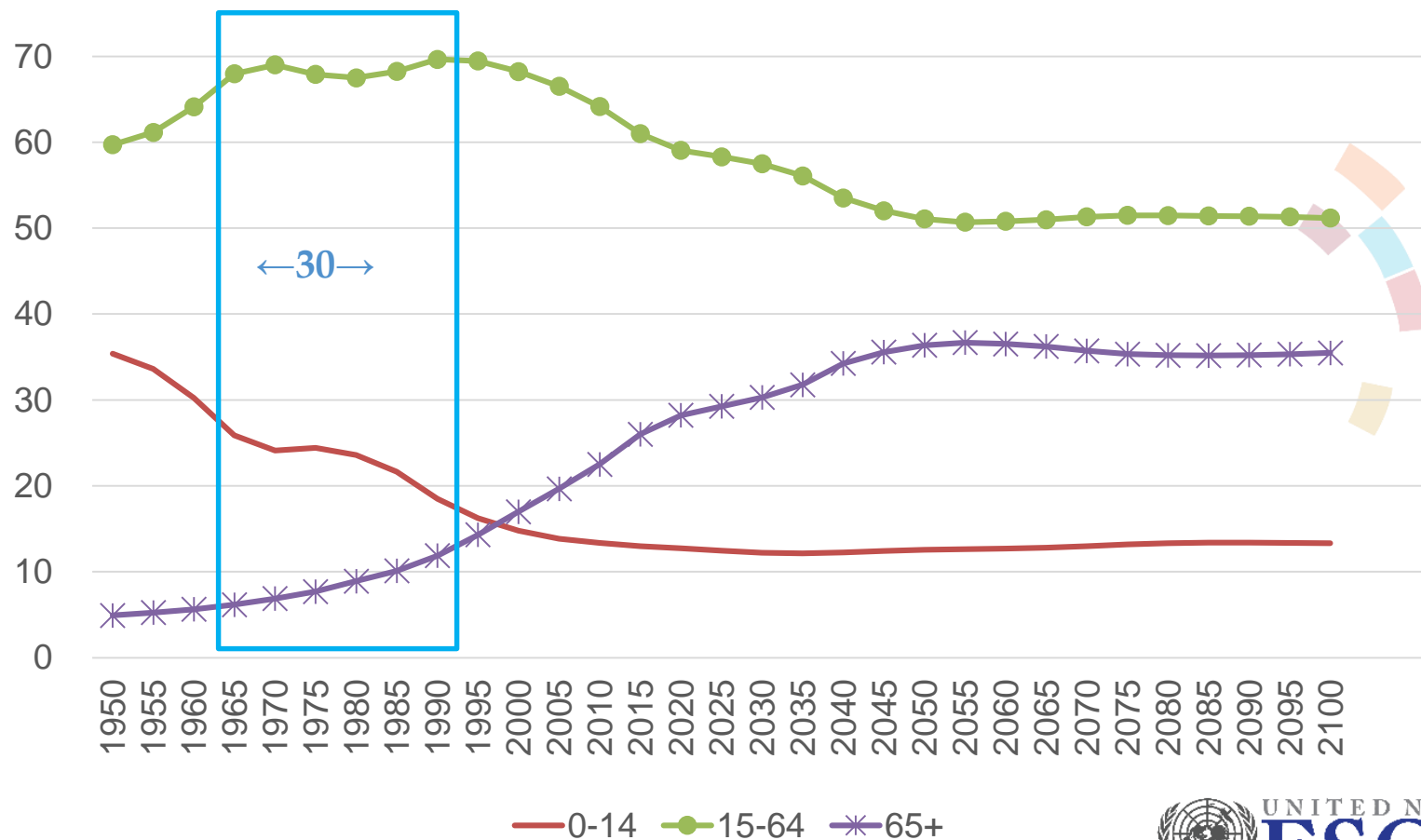
Children (0-14) < 30% and older persons (65+) < 15%



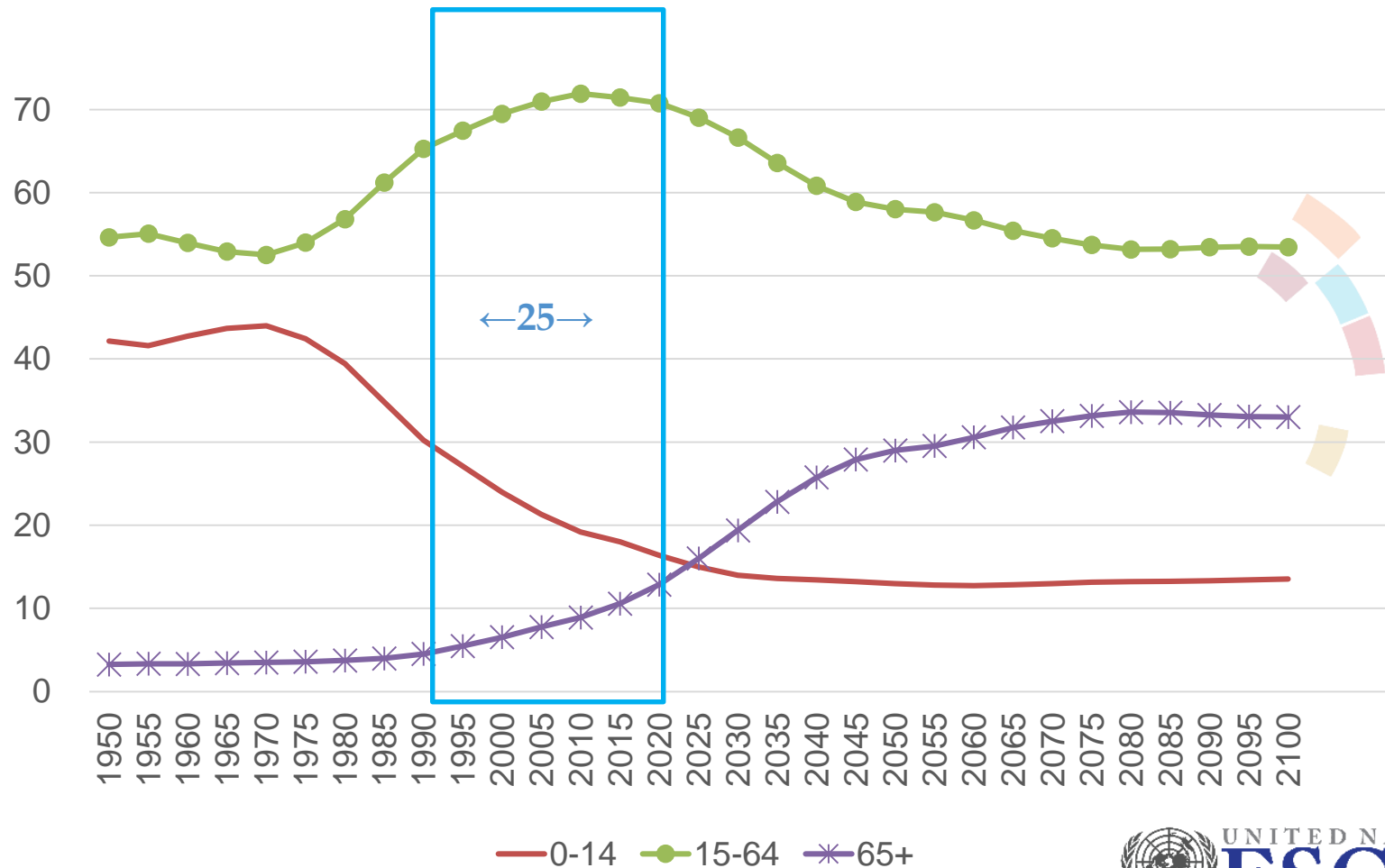
Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). *World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).



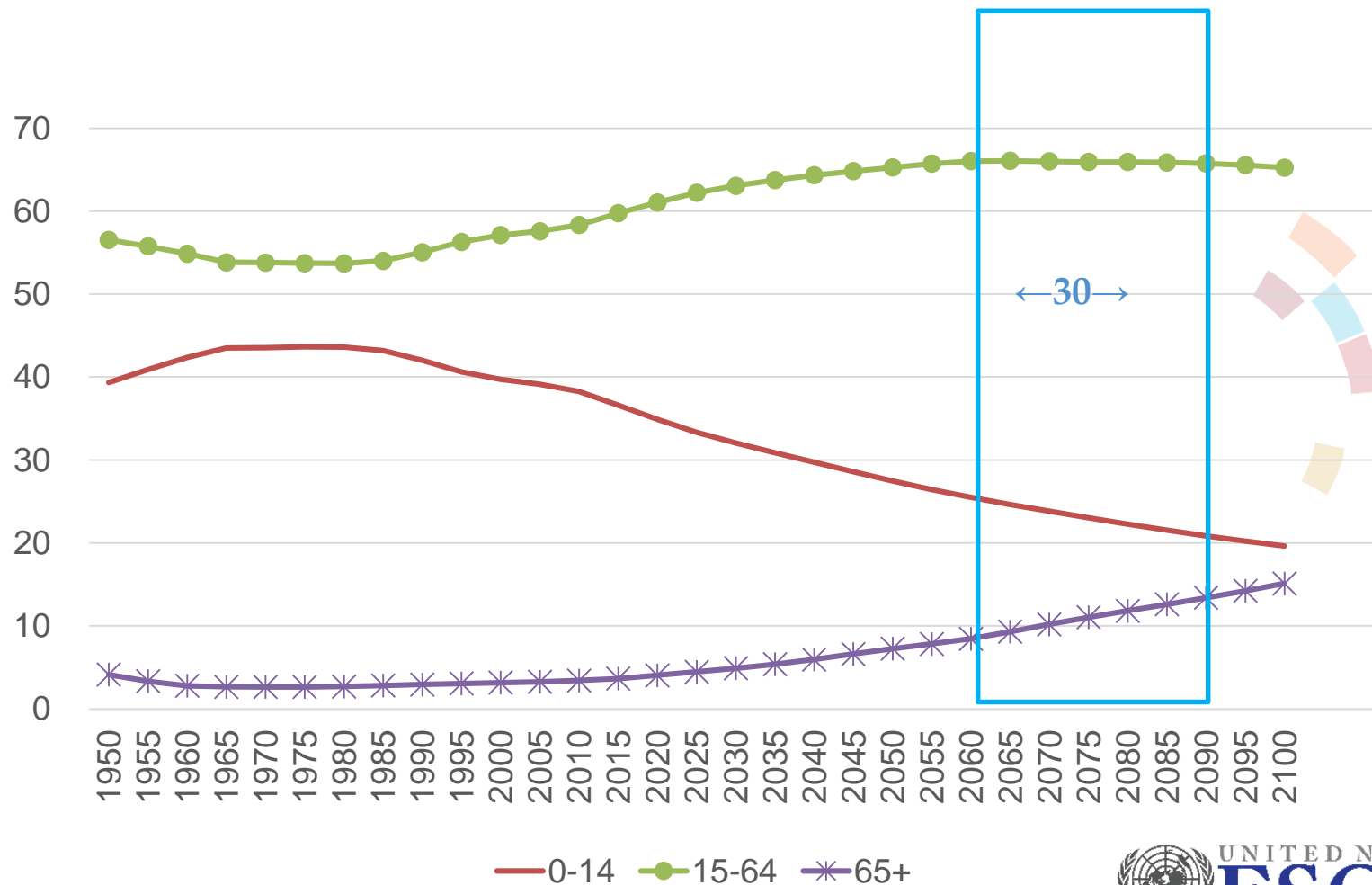
# Demographic window – Japan



# Demographic window – Thailand

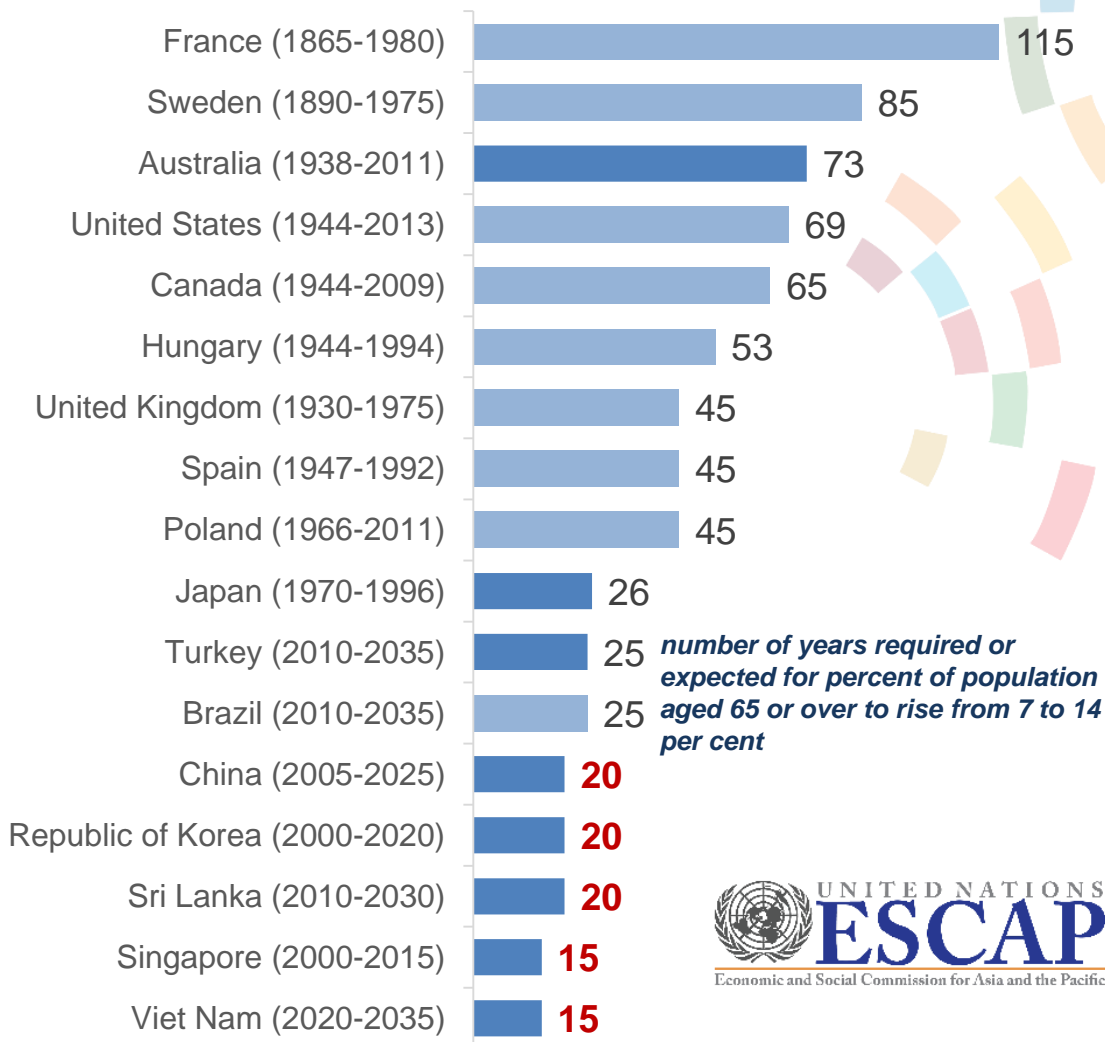


# Demographic window – Timor Leste



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). *World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).

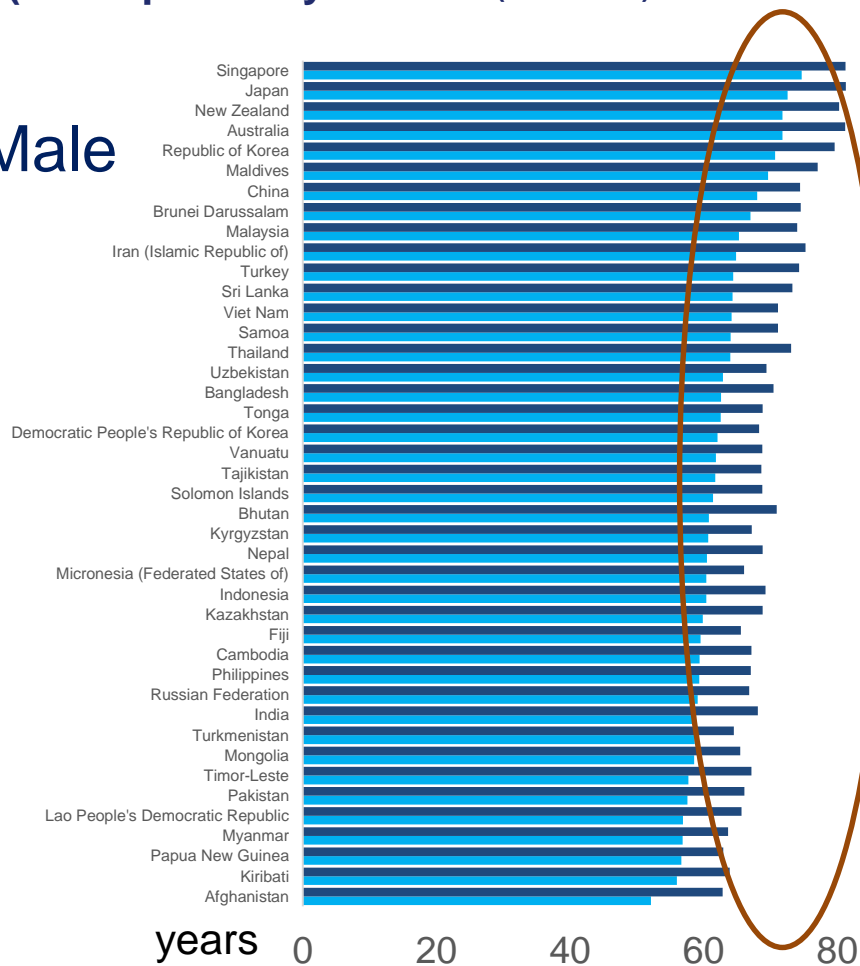
# In Asia-Pacific, many countries experiencing rapid population ageing



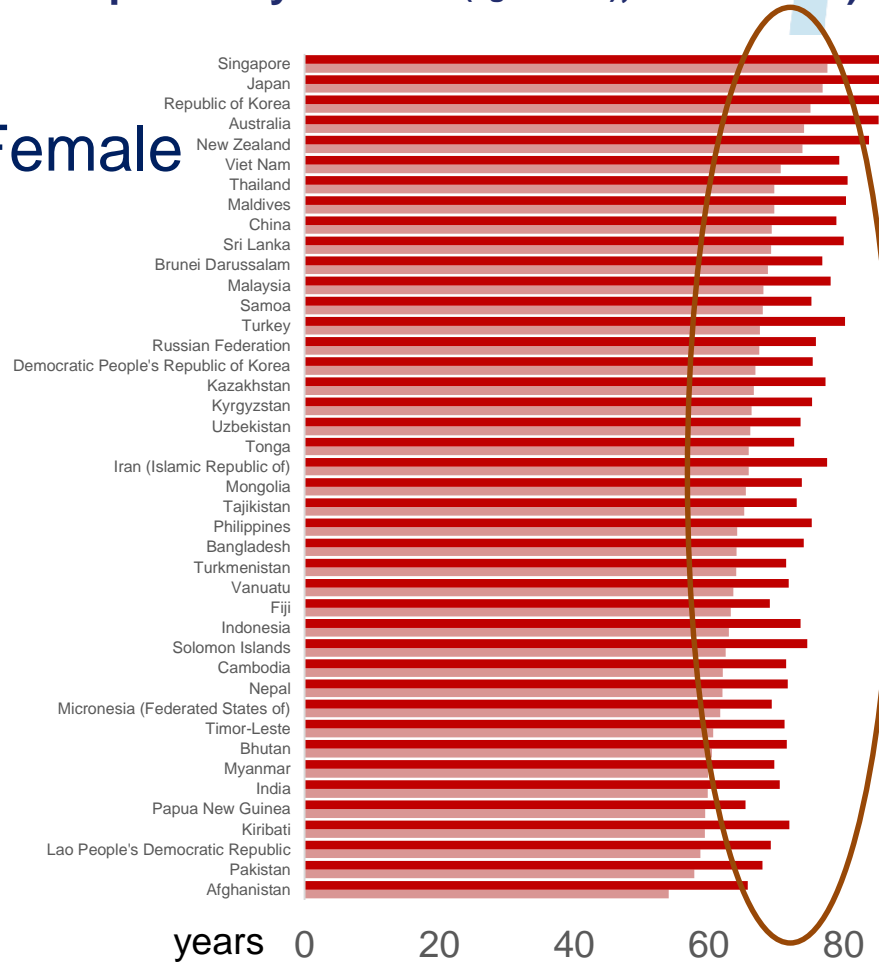
# In Asia-Pacific, older persons often spend up to 10 years with impairment

(life expectancy at birth (dark color) vs. healthy life expectancy at birth (light color), 2015-2020)

Male



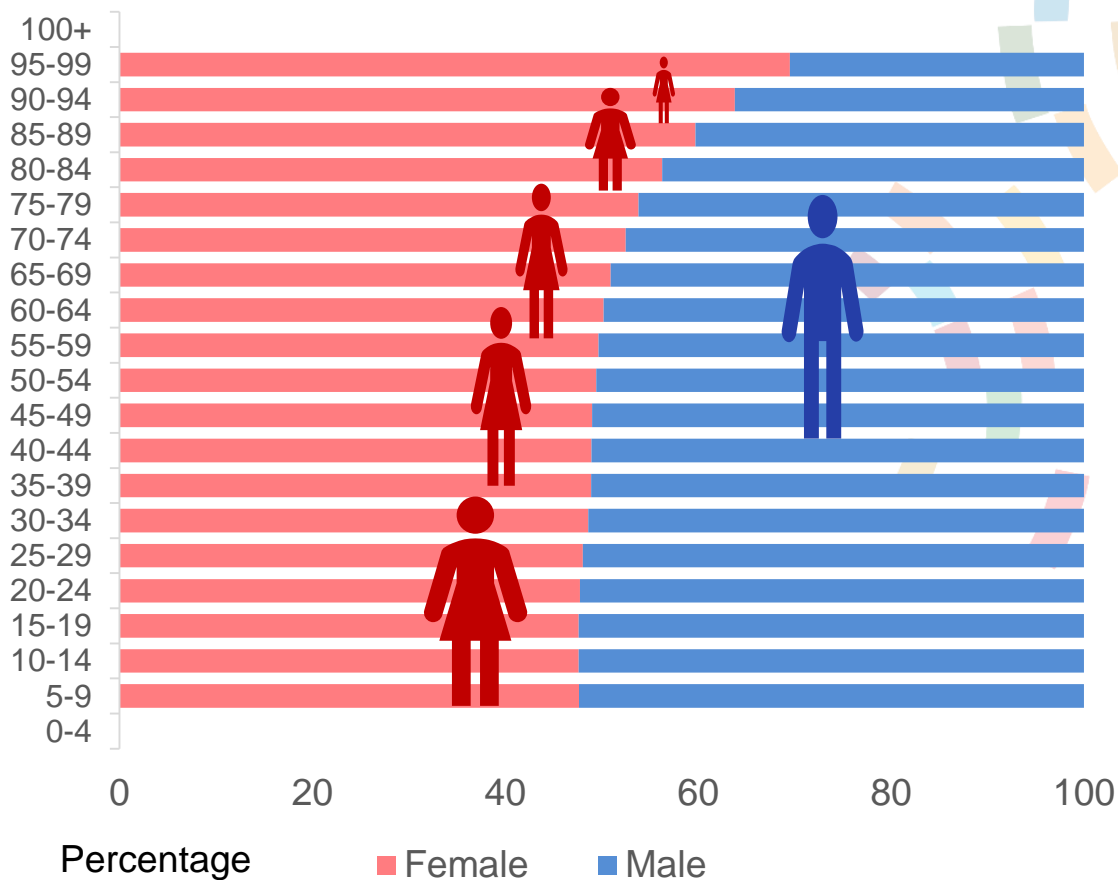
Female



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). *World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017); WHO, *Global Health Observatory data repository*, <http://apps.who.int/gho/data/view/main.HAL.FXV> (accessed 28 April 2019)

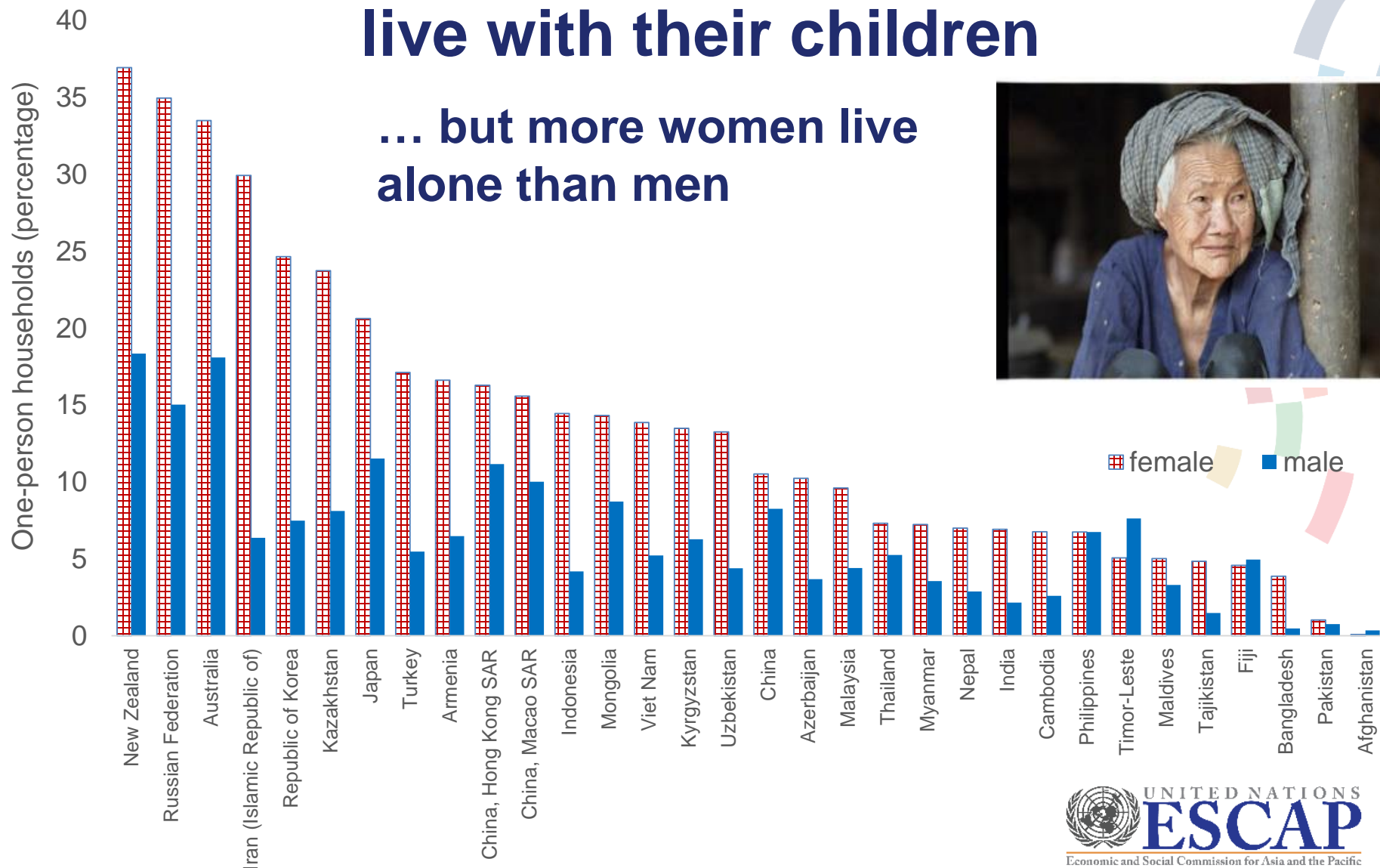


# In Asia-Pacific, most older persons 60+ are women, 2019



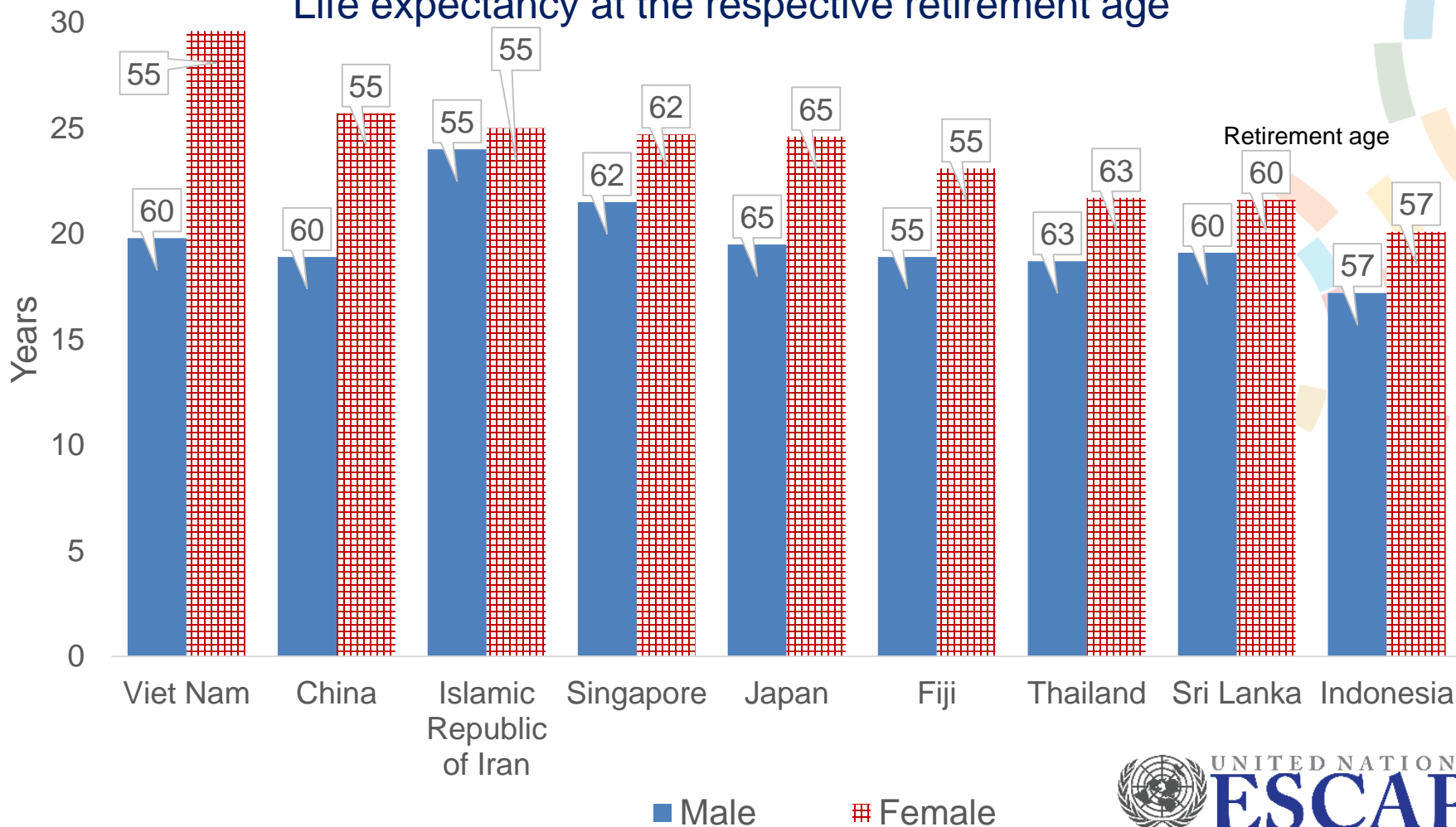
# In Asia-Pacific, most older persons (65+) live with their children

... but more women live alone than men



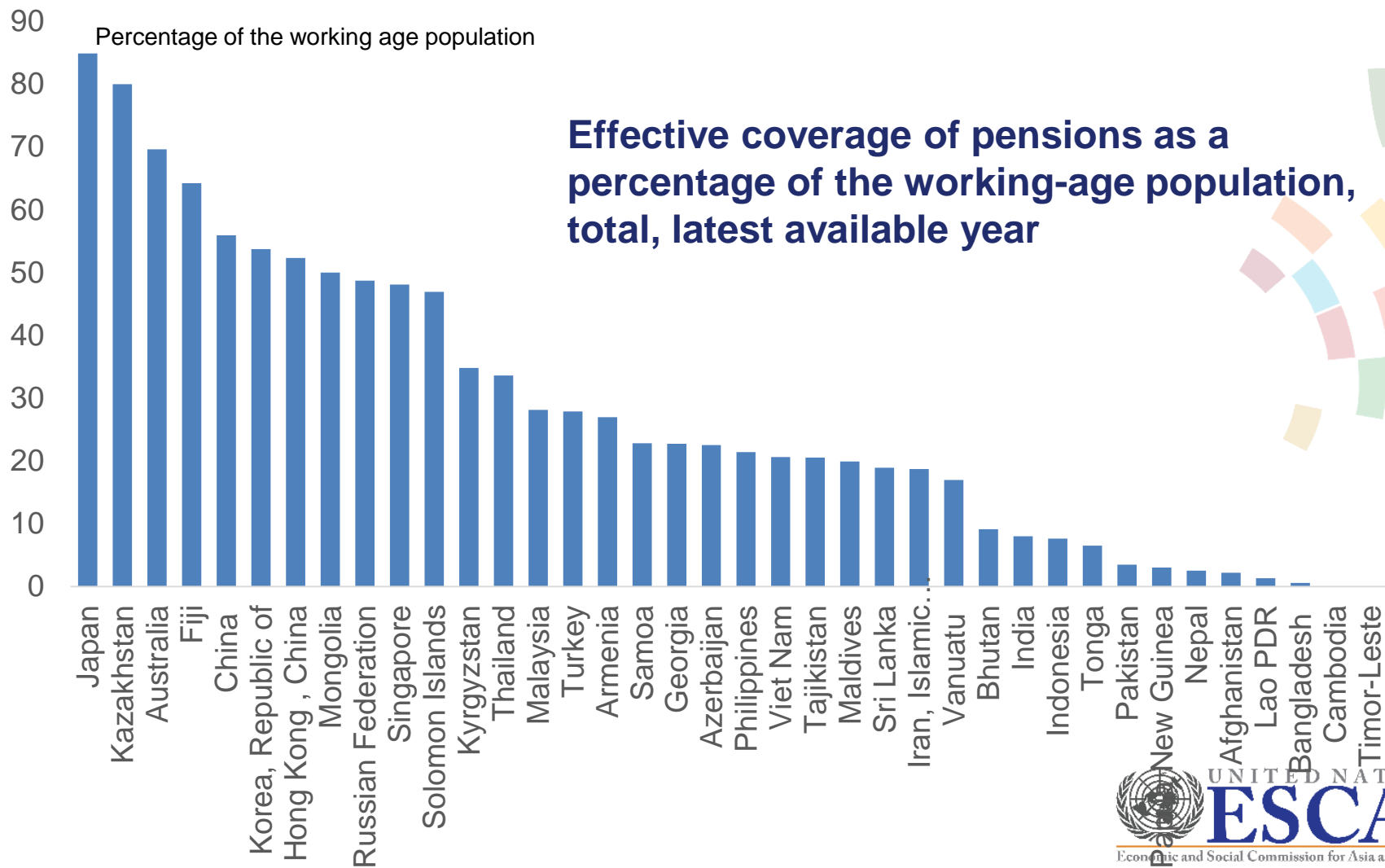
# In Asia-Pacific, people still live between 19 and 30 years after retirement

Life expectancy at the respective retirement age



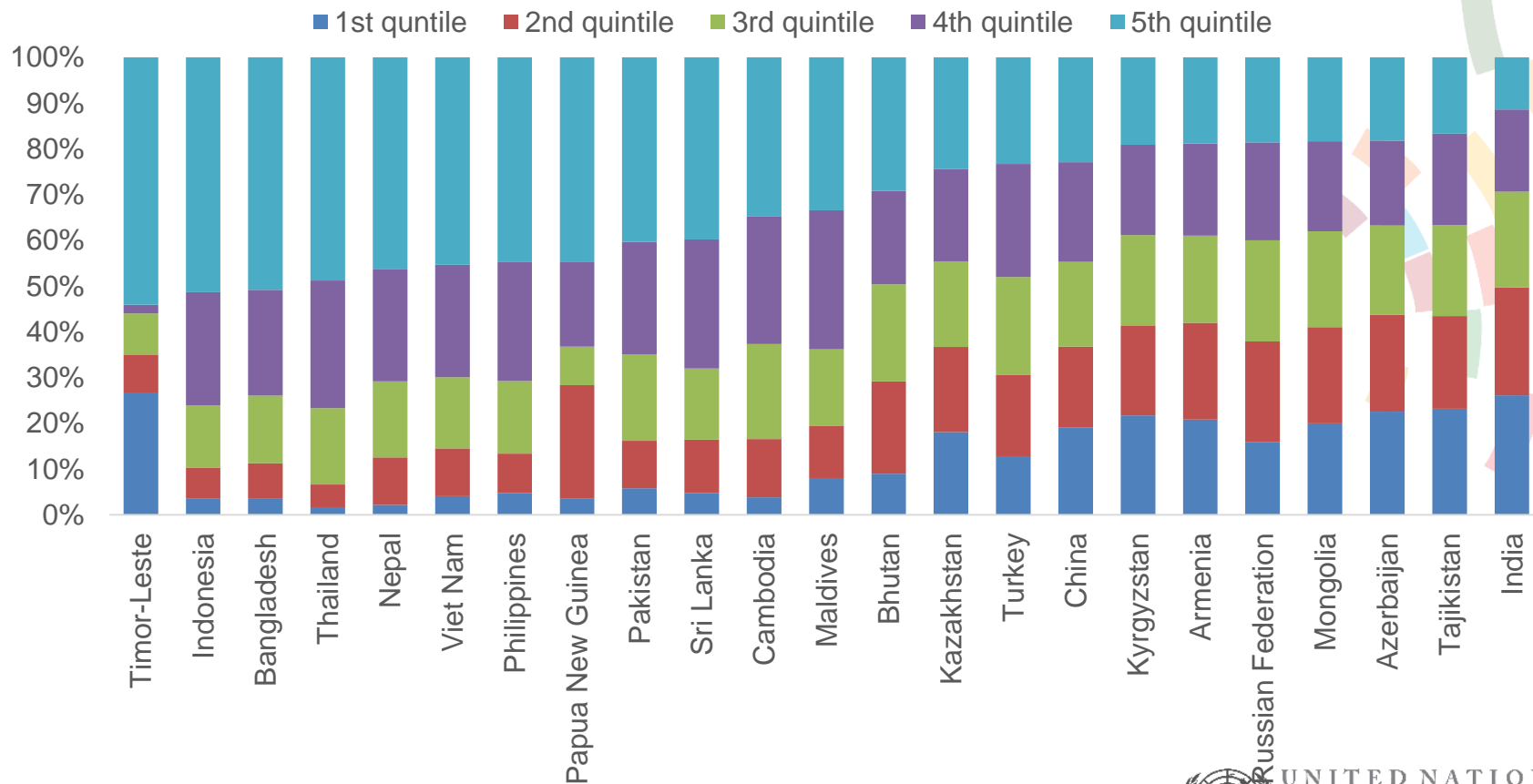
Source: ESCAP calculations with data from United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs: *World Population Prospects, the 2017 Revision*

# Coverage of pensions is low in most countries of Asia-Pacific



# Most pension beneficiaries are in highest income groups

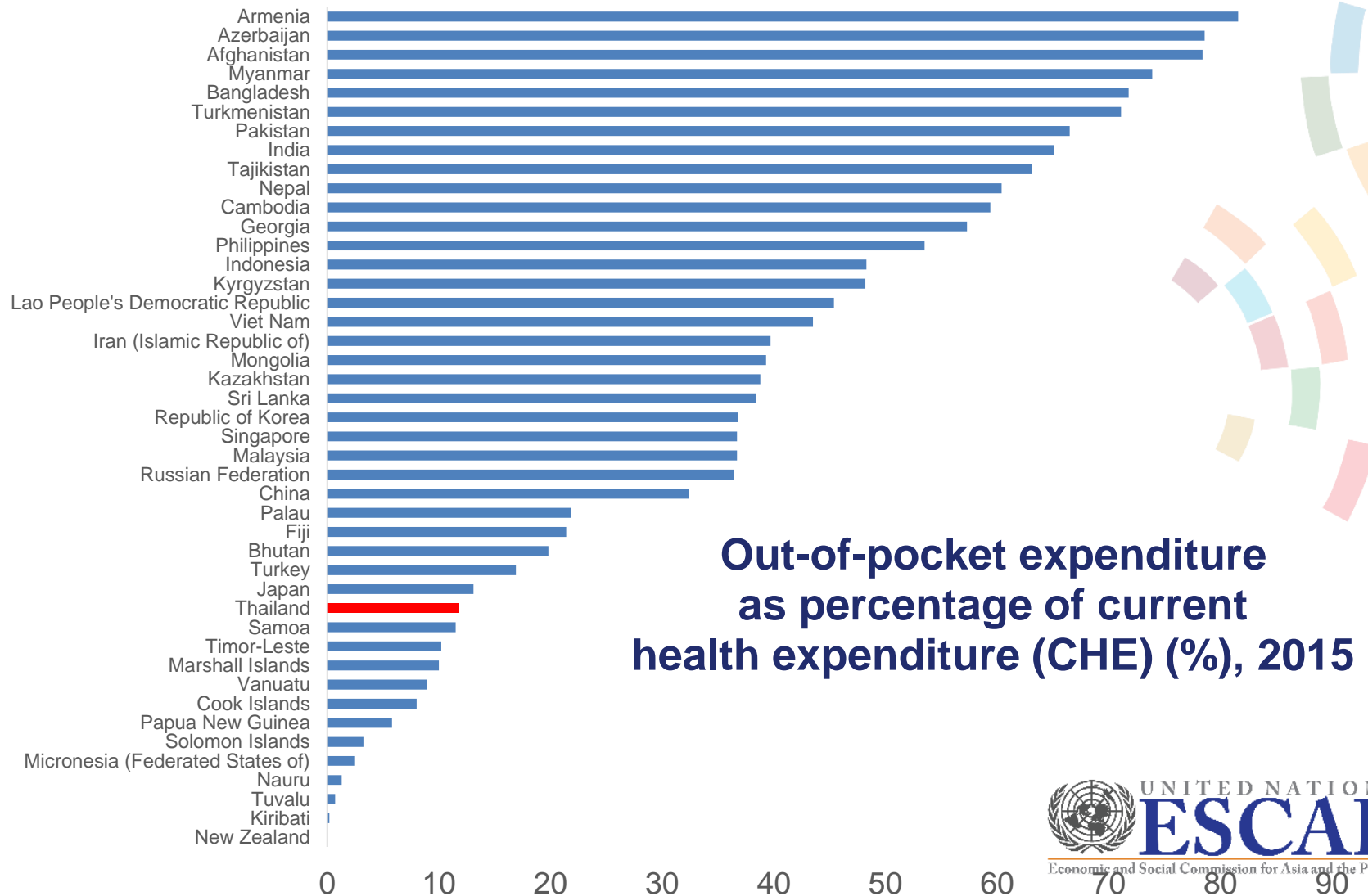
Contributory pensions: beneficiary incidence by income quintile



Source: World Bank, ASPIRE database, Atlas of Social Protection Indicators of Resilience and Equity, online, accessed 6 June 2019



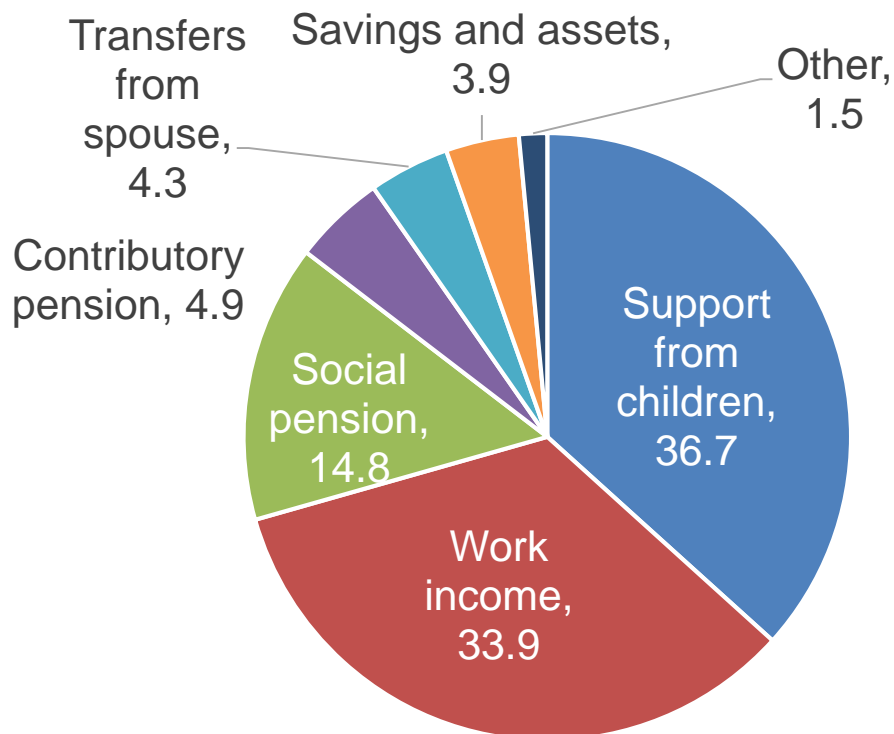
# Healthcare costs are mostly borne by private households



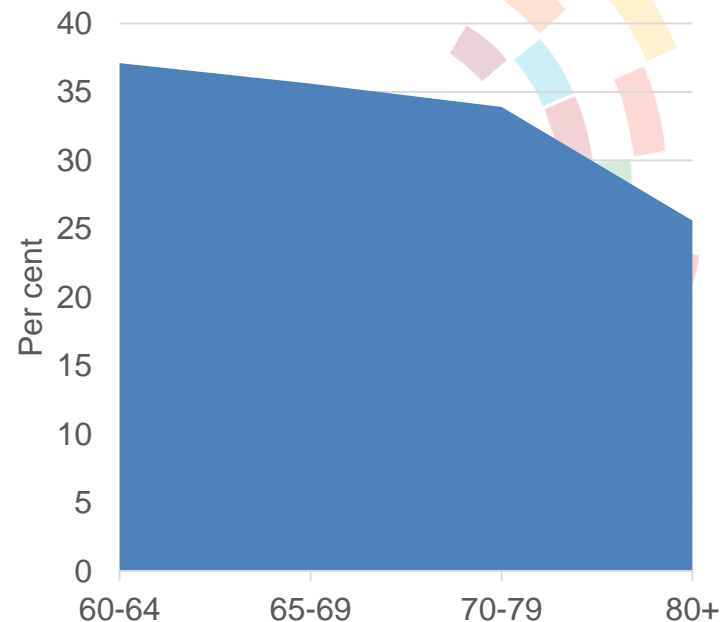
Source: WHO, Global Health Observatory Data Repository, online, accessed 10 June 2019

# Thailand: support from children and work income most important income sources of older persons

## Income sources of older persons in Thailand



## Percentage of older persons with savings by age group, 2011



# Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA)



Global guiding document on population ageing

Priority direction:

- A. Older persons and development;
- B. Advancing health and well-being into old age;
- C. Ensuring enabling and supportive environments.



# MIPAA - Timeline



1982 – Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing

**2002 – Adoption of MIPAA at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Assembly on Ageing**

1<sup>st</sup> Review

- 2007 – 1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Pacific Review of MIPAA in China: Macao Outcome Document - ESCAP
- 2008 – 1st Global Review of MIPAA at the 45th and 46th CSD sessions

2<sup>nd</sup> Review

- 2012 – 2nd Asia-Pacific Review of MIPAA in Thailand: Bangkok Statement - ESCAP
- 2013 – 2nd Global Review of MIPAA at the 49th CSD session

3<sup>rd</sup> Review

- 2017 – 3rd Asia-Pacific Review of MIPAA in Bangkok - ESCAP
- 2018 – 3rd Global Review of MIPAA at 52nd CSD session

**2022/23 ?????**

# MIPAA and 2030 Agenda



The 2030 Agenda is a holistic agenda -emphasizing the need to leave no one behind

MIPAA and the 2030 Agenda are complimentary

MIPAA provides a more detailed action plan for older persons





# SDGs and population ageing



high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, **gender, age**, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts (A/RES/70/1 - para 17.18)

SDG 1 – no **poverty**

SDG 2 – end **hunger**

SDG 3 – **healthy lives** and **well-being** at all ages

SDG 5 – **gender equality** for all women

SDG 8 – inclusive and **sustainable economic growth**,  
full and productive **employment** and  
**decent work for all**

SDG 10 – reduce **inequalities**

SDG 11 – **sustainable cities**

# Government views on population ageing – concern or not?

	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015
<b>Brunei Darussalam</b>	NA	NA	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Cambodia</b>	NA	NA	Minor	Major	Major	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Indonesia</b>	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Major
<b>Lao PDR</b>	NA	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Myanmar</b>	NA	NA	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Philippines</b>	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Major
<b>Singapore</b>	Minor	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major
<b>Thailand</b>	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major
<b>Viet Nam</b>	NA	Minor	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major

Source: Source: United Nations, World Population Policies Database.

[http://esa.un.org/poppolicy/about\\_database.aspx](http://esa.un.org/poppolicy/about_database.aspx) (accessed 27 April 2019); only countries with available data are shown.



Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

# What are the overarching principles/ values of an older persons' policy

## VISION

A healthy, empowered and active older population today and in the future supported and enabled over their life course to live a quality life with dignity and respect

## PURPOSE

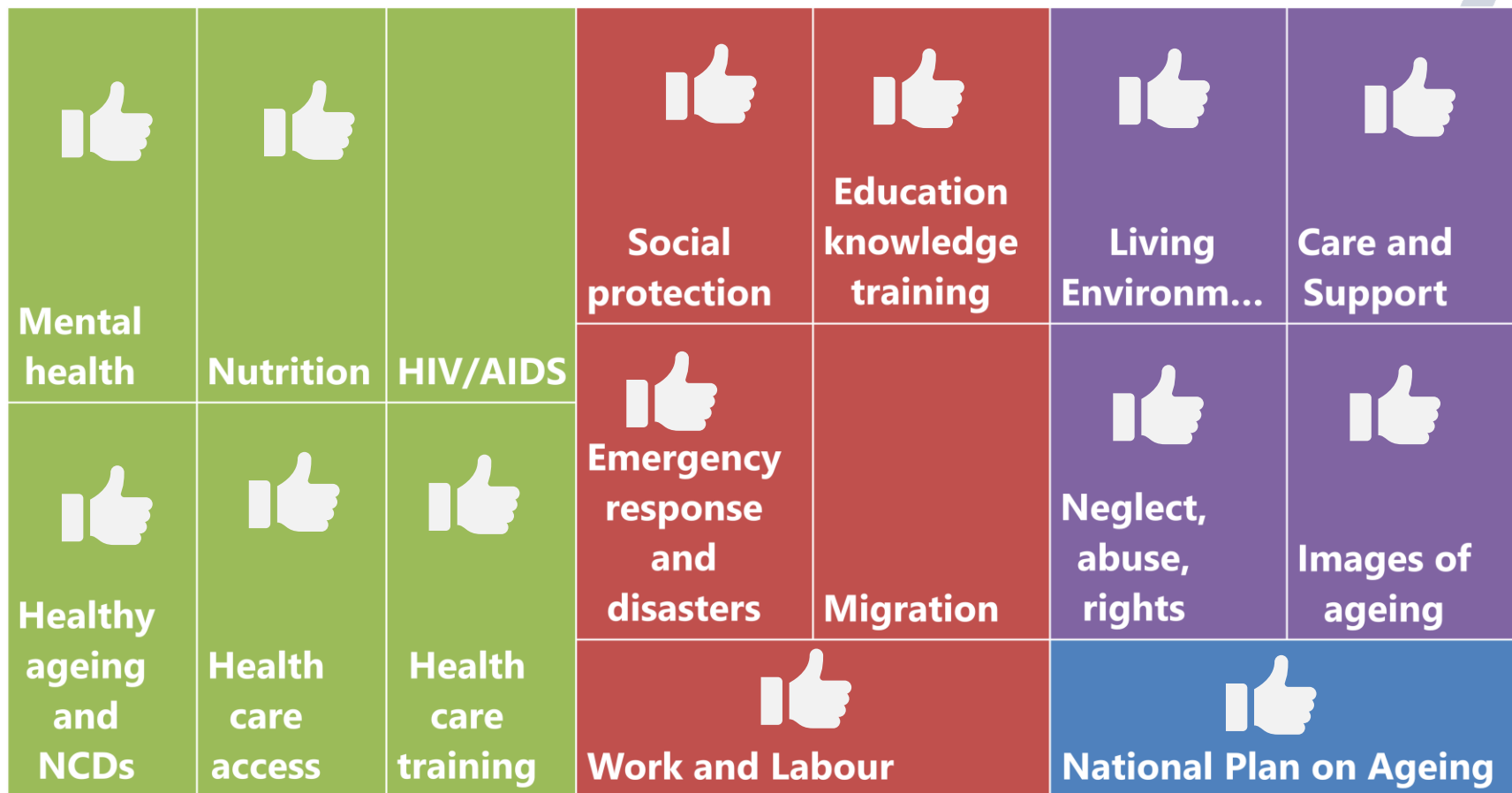
To provide a comprehensive framework and guide for enhancing the quality of life of older women and men

## OBJECTIVES

- Coordinate services for older persons
- Make services affordable and accessible
- Ensure the participation of older persons in Government policies
- Protect the human rights of older persons
- Provide a positive image of older persons

# National Plans on Ageing (MIPAA) - Thailand

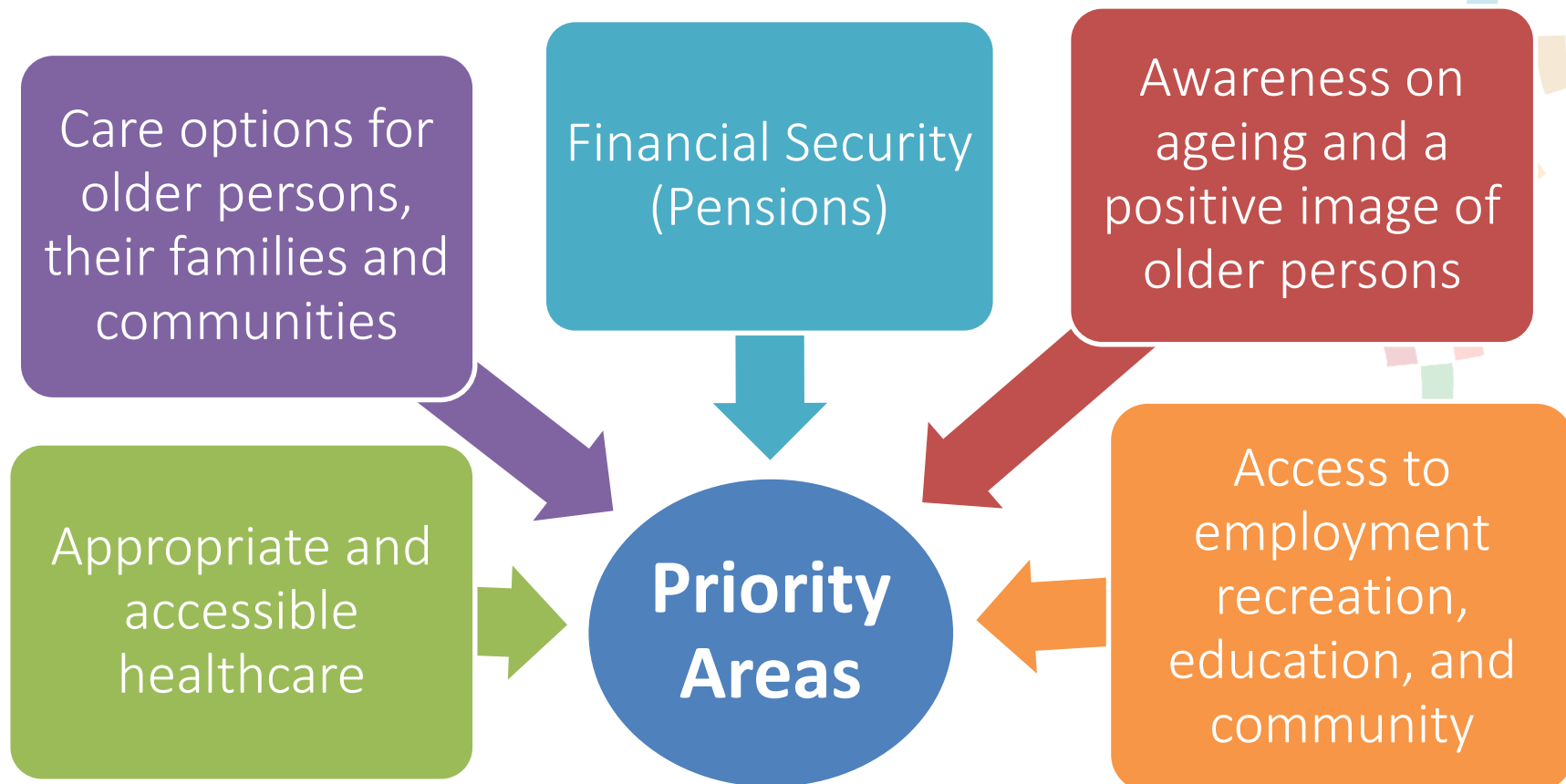
National policy, legislation and action plans focused solely on older people and ageing



- National Plan on Ageing
- Older Persons and Development
- Advancing Health and Well-being
- Environment

Source: Camilla Williamson, Policy Mapping on Ageing in Asia and the Pacific Analytical Report. HelpAge International, East Asia/Pacific Regional Office (July 2015)

# What should a national policy entail? A proposal



# ESCAP work on population ageing



- Supporting MIPAA review
- ICTs
- Capacity-building on data, pensions
- Active ageing index/dashboard
- Research and analysis on levels, trends and policies



# Population ageing agenda an agenda for all generations





# THANK YOU!

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