

The MDG agenda: including
older persons in anti-poverty
strategies.

UNDP

BDP/Poverty Group

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The Millennium agenda sets quantitative targets for seven development goals that are monitored by 30+ specific indicators.

The Millennium Goals:

1. Eradicate poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

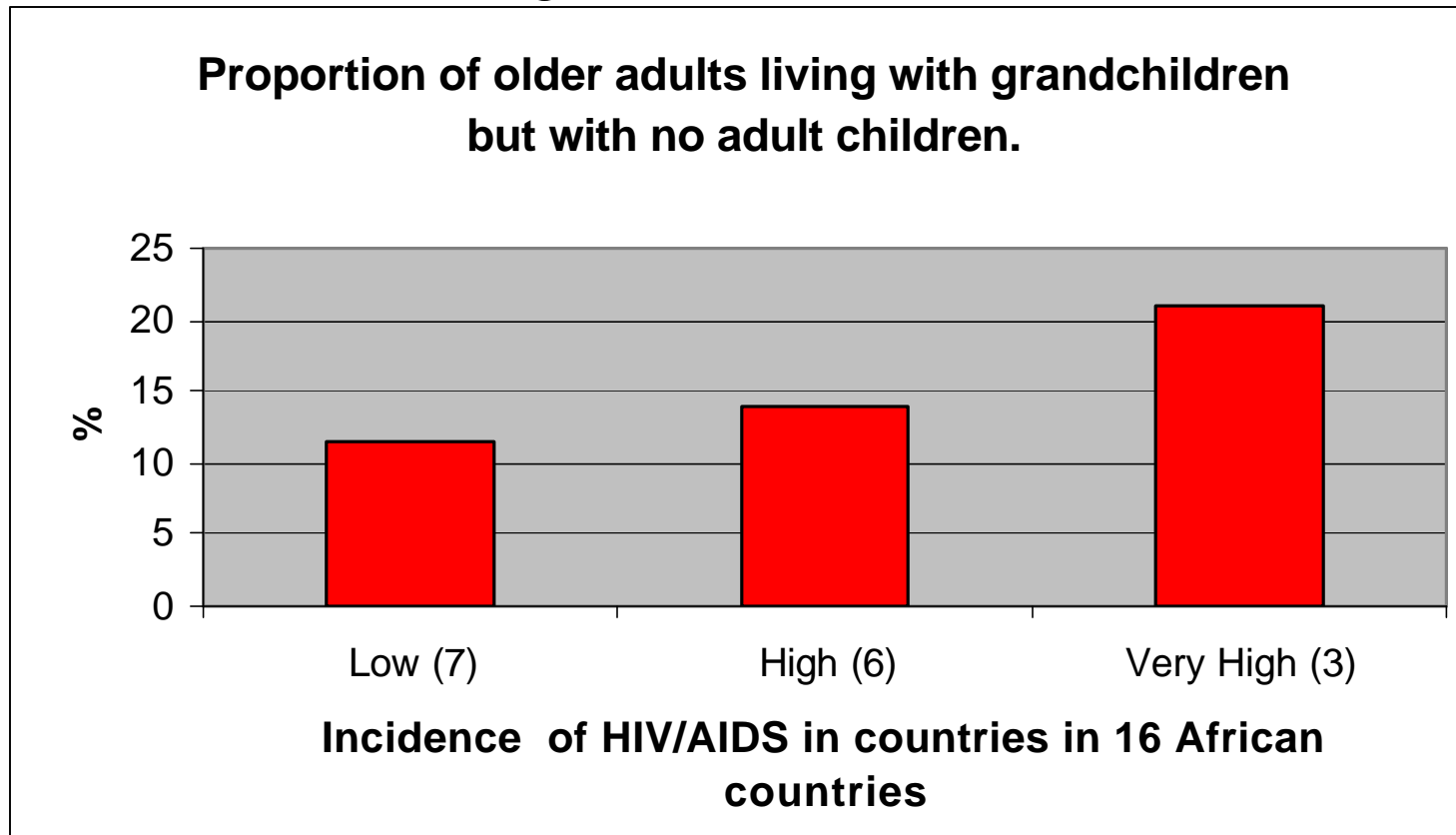
The MDG agenda and ageing

- Ageing is not an issue explicitly referred by any of the goals or targets.
- However, addressing the living conditions of old adults is crucial to effectively and fundamentally reduce poverty and accelerate progress towards the MDGs.
- Incorporate the challenges posed by ageing in LDCs to the MDG development agenda, monitoring and campaigning.

The MDG agenda and ageing

- The role of older adults in development.
 - Older adults being main care givers in households with absent parents.
 - Labor discrimination against older adults slows progress towards the MDGs.
- So, education and health deprivation among older adults slows down progress towards the MDGs.
- Focus in the needs of older adults:
 - Poverty is higher among the elder
 - But even if it is not, in high poverty countries more older adults struggle to survive in poverty.

It is common for old adults to live in extended families, but in high HIV/AIDS countries many old adults become the principal care givers of grandchildren

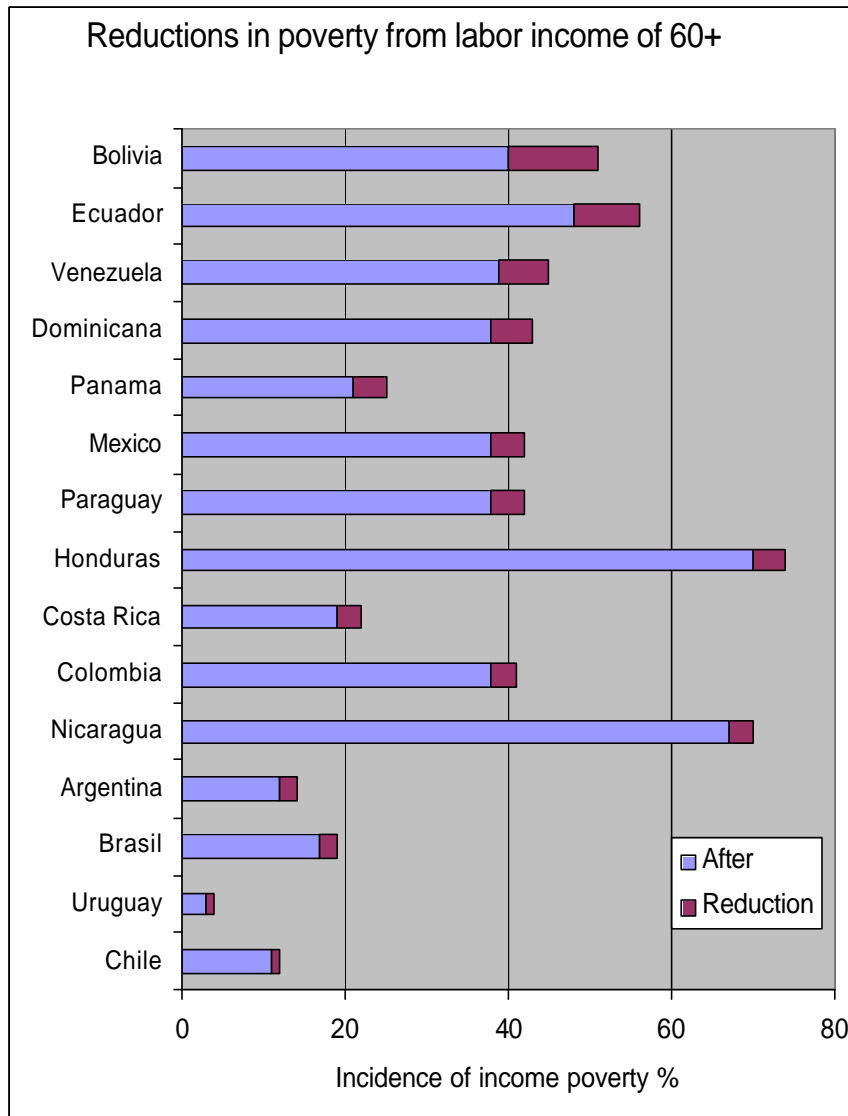


Living conditions of older adults in Latin

America & the Caribbean (ECLA data):

- Income poverty significantly affect households that include persons age 60+.
- Poverty affecting older adults is particularly high in rural areas,
- and for older female adults in rural locations.
- Poverty among older adults is not higher compared to younger groups.
 - Older adults accumulate assets.
 - Self-selection.

Older adults can greatly contribute towards the MDGs.



- Contributions to household income from older adults are key in some LAC countries.
- This income often lifts households out of poverty.
- This occurs in countries with high incidence of poverty.
- Eliminating labor market discrimination against old adults helps the poor.

Lack of progress in MDGs means many more older adults will be facing deprivation

- Within the time span set by the MDGs, between now and 2015, 62 developing countries will increase their population 65+ years old by more than 50 %.
- Some of these countries have good development performances. But others face challenges.

62 developing countries will increase their population 65+ years old by more than 50 %.

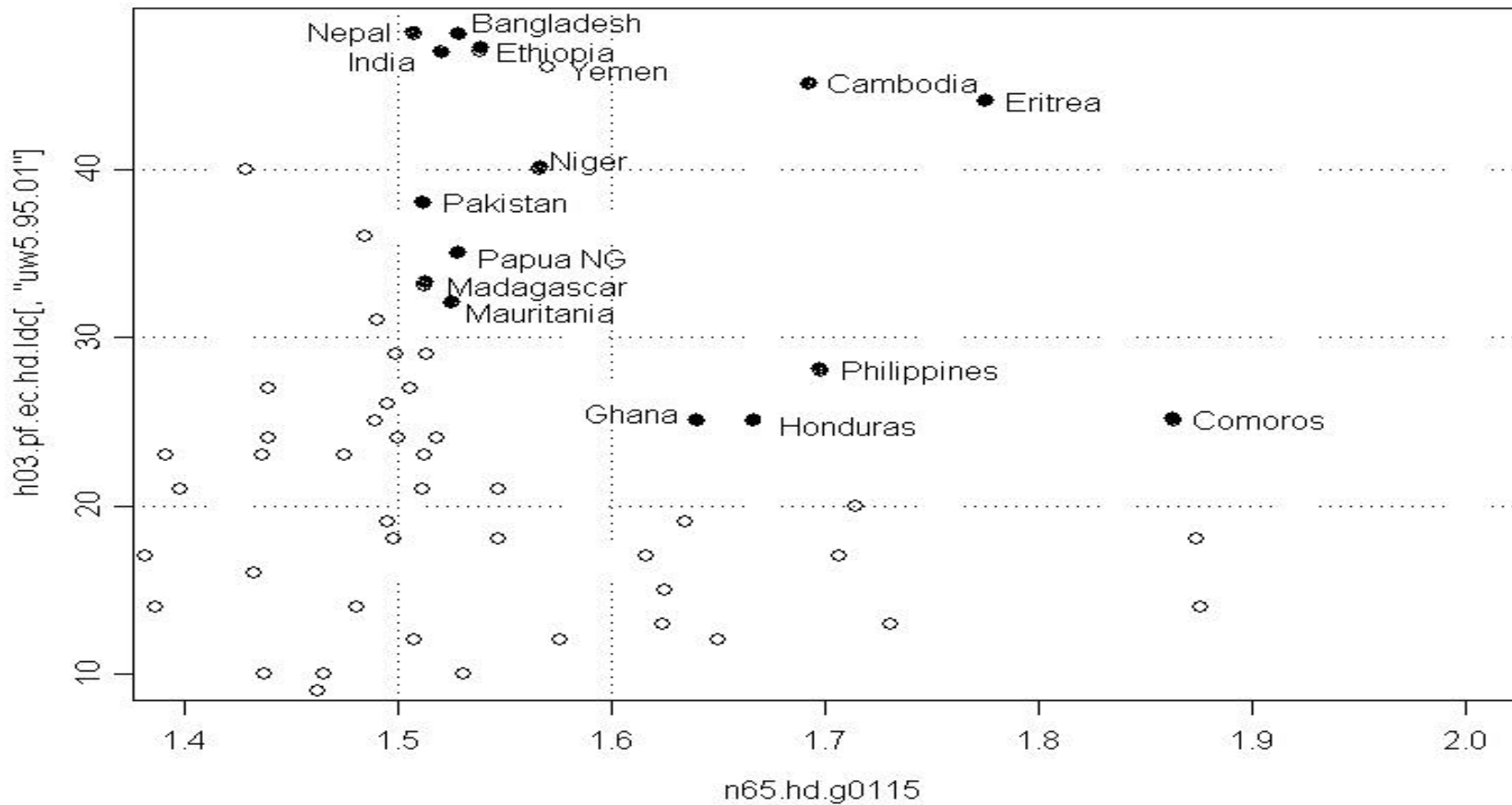
| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Bahamas | Egypt | Malaysia | Rwanda |
| Bahrain | El Salvador | Mauritania | S Arabia |
| Bangladesh | Eritrea | Mexico | Senegal |
| Belize | Ethiopia | Nepal | Singapore |
| Bolivia | Fiji | Nicaragua | Solomon I. |
| Botswana | Gambia | Niger | South Africa |
| Brazil | Ghana | Nigeria | St Lucia |
| Brunei | Guatemala | Oman | Sudan |
| Cambodia | Guinea | Pakistan | Syria |
| Chile | Honduras | Panama | Tanzania |
| Colombia | India | Papua NG | Thailand |
| Comoros | Jordan | Paraguay | UAE |
| Costa Rica | Korea | Peru | Vanuatu |
| Cote d'Ivoire | Kuwait | Philippines | Venezuela |
| Dominican | Libya | Qatar | Yemen |
| Ecuador | Madagascar | | |

Income and hunger poverty is a concern in a number of the 62 countries with rapid increases in population 65+

| Countries | Undernourishment | | Income poverty \$1 pd | Population |
|-----------|------------------|---------|--------------------------|------------|
| | Range | Average | Average | 2001 |
| # | % | % | % | millions |
| 17 | 0 to 10 | 5.82 | 9 | 28.6 |
| 17 | 10 to 20 | 14.24 | 25 | 15.08 |
| 25 | 30 and above | 32.76 | 35 | 71.56 |

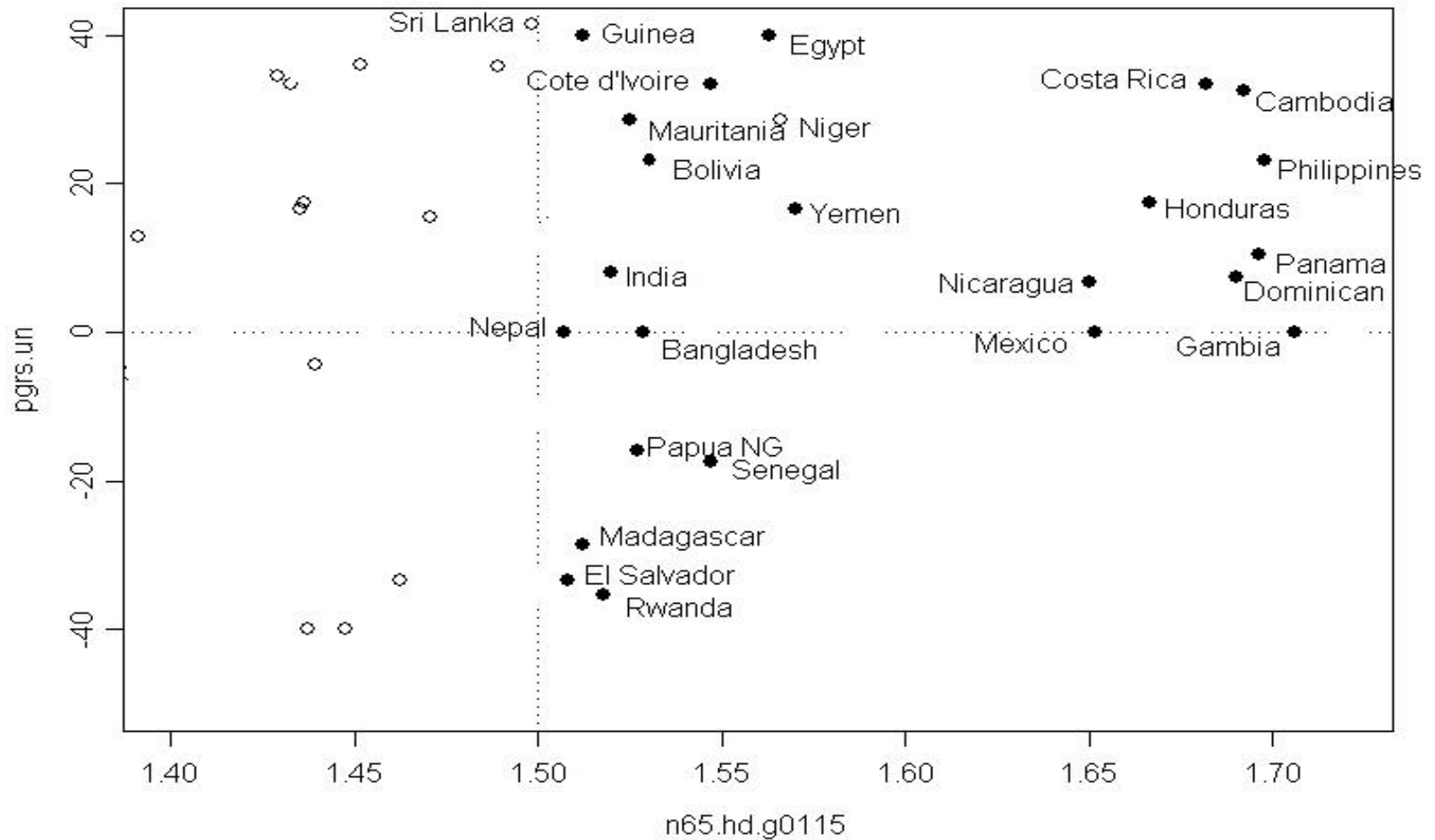
In 16 countries, rapid ageing combined with high underweight is a development concern.

ageing and under weight 2



In 23 countries, rapid ageing combined with slow progress in reducing under nutrition is a development concern.

ageing and mdg-progress in under nutrition target 2



The MDG agenda and ageing

- There is a need to increase our knowledge and understanding of MDGs and ageing.
- Reporting, campaigning and monitoring on MDGS and ageing should:
 - Inform national development debates.
 - More focused policy design.
 - Adequate monitoring of performance.

Accelerating progress towards the MDGs calls for policies that:

- Improve living conditions and capacities of older adults: reporting and campaigning on poverty or deprivation “pockets”.
- Adapt and nationalize MDGs to ensure development progress for all population groups.
- As in anti-poverty strategies, basic, universal, non-contributory assistance and promotion policies need to be in place.

Adapt the 5 MDGs

1. Eradicate poverty and hunger
 - Disaggregate by age.
2. Achieve universal primary education
 - Youth and older adults literacy.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
 - Disaggregate by age.
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
 - Disaggregate by age.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
 - Disaggregate by age.
8. Develop a global partnership for development
 - Youth and older adults un & under-employment