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**Report of Workshop in support of the establishment of the
Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated Data**

22-24 August 2017, Winchester University, United Kingdom

Summary

To address the challenges presented by an ageing society at a global level in a formal and systematic way, a group of interested stakeholders (referred to in this context as ‘the informal Group’) are currently working together to enable the establishment of a City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated Data.

The informal Group has held several informal consultations with a wider field of interested stakeholders and convened a side-event in the framework of the 48th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) in March 2017. The side event was attended by 19 National Statistical Offices (NSOs), showing strong interest in the proposed city group. Further, the UNSC has included an agenda item on ageing and age-disaggregated data in the draft agenda for its 49th Session (2018), where the proposed city group will be formally considered for adoption by the Commission.

The informal group of interested stakeholders organized an international workshop in Winchester, UK, from 22-24 August 2017. The main inputs to the workshop were:

1. **Expert presentations** on ageing and age-disaggregated data.
2. **Sharing of good practice** with similar processes at national, regional and global level.
3. **Draft TOR and Concept Note** prepared by the informal support Group.
4. **Technical briefs and issues papers** prepared by interested stakeholders.

The workshop brought together relevant experts and officials from NSOs , UN agencies, government ministries, civil society, academia and the private sector around a platform for discussion and sharing of good practice in the field of age disaggregated data and ageing statistics. The format of the workshop was working groups and plenary discussions.

  

The objectives of the workshop were to engage key stakeholders from NSOs, government, academia, civil society and the private sector to share knowledge and experience on the core issues of age-disaggregated data and ageing statistics, and to advance consensus for the establishment of the City Group as follows:

* ***Objectives*** *of the proposed City Group*
* ***Proposed activities*** *of the City Group*
* ***Expected outcomes and deliverables*** *of the City Group*
* ***Membership and Organization*** *of work of the City Group*
* ***Expected duration*** *of the City Group*

The outcome of this workshop will constitute a critical input into the finalization of a report to be submitted to UNSC at its 49th session in 2018, when the Commission is expected to formally consider the establishment of the Titchfield Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated Data.

The detail of the workshop sessions is summarized below. For more information see: [Link to workshop agenda, presentations, participants, blogs etc.](https://gss.civilservice.gov.uk/titchfield-city-group-ageing/)

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| **Welcome***John Pullinger, UK National Statistician* | John introduced the workshop and thanked everyone involved in the organisation.*Key messages:*Statistics are essential to meeting the 2030 agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We need to be able to measure how we are progressing, and disaggregation of statistics is crucial in achieving this.John reflected on the scale and importance of the SDGs, and the importance of addressing the challenges of measurement associated with monitoring progress against these.City Groups bring together people who care about addressing a particular statistical issue. They are important, but need to have a clear remit, a clear programme of work, that it is well supported by NSOs, with stakeholder support, and a clear timeline for the Group. |
| **Setting the stage for the Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated Data in the framework of global development***Rosemary Lane, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)* | *Key messages:* Population ageing has increased gradually in Europe, but developing countries are facing more rapid population ageing; the number of older people in developing countries is set to quadruple over the next 50 years. The Madrid Plan (2002) recognizes that population ageing is taking place in developing countries too and challenges societies to give older people opportunities to reach their potential. It is the guiding framework for the development of ageing policy and advancing the welfare of older people.There is an urgent need for information about older people. The lack of globally comparable data on ageing has led to ageing being ignored at national levels and the implementation of the Madrid Plan has been uneven at best. But research can provide essential evidence where it includes age and sex disaggregation. Without evidence, it is hard to convince governments that policies need rethinking. Ageing has not been a priority because it is assumed that older people are either looked after by family, receive pensions or are not a majority or priority group.The SDGs are helping to develop a life course approach which embraces all social groups and there is a strong call for age and age disaggregated data across key targets, as ageing will impact on the achievement of the SDGs. Key issues include: urban/rural differences, accessible infrastructure, participation in the labour force, the economic impact of older people, affordable care, new economic opportunities for older people, the care giving economy, promotion of social inclusion and intergenerational relationships. However producing comparable statistics to meet this call is challenging. The UN DESA produced a report about challenges in measuring the SDGs. Some observations from the report about three of the goals:* **Goal 1 (to end poverty in all its forms everywhere)** – some older people

are more at risk of poverty, even in developed countries. But most poverty statistics are produced at household level and do not capture intra-household differences between and across age groups. Therefore it is hard to determine poverty levels for older people in these households.* **Goal 3 (to ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages)** – some targets for the prevention of premature mortality have upper age limits which exclude older people. Targets on non-communicable diseases examine the probability of dying between age 30 and age 70 as a measure, which again provides no evidence for older people. There is an imbalanced focus of health services on young or middle aged people in many countries; therefore demographics and the right to healthcare for all need to be better reflected in the data.
* **Goal 5 (to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls)** – many age and sex breakdowns for systematic data collection about violence against women stop at age 49, not covering ages above reproductive age. Violence against women is often perceived as younger women’s issues, but there are many reasons why violence still occurs at older ages. As a result of the research, UN Women are including older women as a target group in their plans.

UNECE Conference of European Statistics set up a task force on ageing related statistics – their research would be useful to look at. In addition, the drafting and negotiations around SDGs forced many stakeholders to break out of siloed thinking and assumptions about social groups. Issues of commonality were discovered and end users and producers were encouraged to discuss what is important to measure and why. This inclusive approach should continue in the future. |
| **Policy challenges relating to ageing**i) Perspectives on ageing and agency: Implications for policy and data systems*Patricia Conboy, HelpAge*ii) Leave no-one behind principles*Papa Seck, UNWomen* | *Key messages:***How we define old age is important**. It is a social, cultural, and socioeconomic process. The way we define it is affected by the context in which we grow old. Older people are often seen in terms of numbers, as a burden that needs to be planned for, people who are in decline and passive participants in the wider global discussion. Instead we need to think about older people in terms of how people age, how we can influence that, and older people as active agents who are empowered in this discussion and in influencing policy.**The importance of disaggregating data, and collecting data in the first place**. Surveys often focus on children and women of childbearing ages, with an age cap and limited questions relating to older people. An age cap of 60+ (or even 50+) is a black box, which does not allow us to understand ageing and assumes homogeneity within this group. A key principle of human rights is the production (or not) of data. And as policy is often driven by data, if data is not collected on older people, their needs / issues are not addressed. However disaggregation (by age and a wide range of other characteristics which interact with age) can result in small numbers which has implications for both data security / identifiability of individuals, and the robustness of resulting statistics.**Surveys should be designed to include questions that are targeted towards and relevant to older people (right questions = right data).** However, **care should be taken in how surveys are administered.** Questions relating to elder abuse may not be feasible or safe to ask if the survey is conducted in a household setting. With sensitive questions and / or groups, the way the questions are asked by the interviewer, and how they are perceived by the respondent, may not be how the survey designer intended and there is the real possibility to do harm.**Lots of different data sources should be used**. Administrative data is a rich data source at a population level, but is often underutilized. We need to make the most of the data sources we already have available, improve existing sources of data and create new ones, and make use of non-official data sources to better understand and inform policy around ageing issues.**Ageing in itself should not be a disadvantage**. Other factors turn age into a disadvantage, with root causes often in earlier life or due to life experiences. Sometimes bad policy can contribute to these disadvantages, such as bad pension design (disadvantaging women compared to men). No One Left Behind should also focus on not letting people fall behind in the first place. |
| **Policy challenges relating to ageing**iii) Healthy ageing*John Beard, World Health Organisation* | The need to understand population diversity is key- there is no ‘typical’ older person. We should be cautious about a generic view of ‘older people’. We need to understand the life course in terms of different stages of capacity rather than chronological age. There is inequity of physical and mental capacity within age groups.The centrality of health in the challenge of ageing populations was emphasised. Healthy ageing defined as ‘the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age’. Opportunities to foster healthy ageing need to be recognised; Intrinsic capacity starts to decline in mid life and declines sharply in later life however much higher functional ability is attainable at all ages if healthy ageing is considered and changes made in early part of life. The global strategy and action plan on ageing and health is committed to action on healthy ageing. It recognises the importance of age friendly environments in determining physical and mental capacity across a person’s life course and into older age; the need for health systems aligned to the needs of older populations; long-term-care systems that enable older people, who experience significant declines in capacity, to receive care and support; and the need for better measuring, monitoring and research with appropriate measures of healthy ageing agreed on and collected through vital statistics, health and social care services, and population surveys across countries .Development assistance for health targets younger age groups more than older age groups relative to their disease burden with 90 percent of the assistance going to people below the age of 60 and this disparity has increased in recent years.( Source:Skirbekk, 2017)Need to recognise older people as consumers. A example from the National Transfer Accounts of South Korea was presented showing the level of consumption remaining at relatively high levels throughout adult life despite the sharp decline in labour income from the age of 50 onwards.It was proposed that more realistic measure of population ageing should be employed, for example, remaining life expectancy (prospective measures) and old age dependency ratio that takes account of pension age.Misconceptions should be challenged – e.g. older people are a burden; family care is cost free; health care increases exponentially with age; 70 is the new 60It was proposed that we will have failed in our endeavours if the discourse on ageing is still driven by measures such as coarse demographic projections, the traditional OADR; stereotypical health status assumptions and failure to consider inequities and environmental impacts on healthSuccess for the proposed Titchfield City Group would be:1. A greater understanding of the heterogeneity across age groups and an end to categorising people as ‘old’ or ‘older’
2. Population statistics that included ‘time to death’
3. Understanding socio-economic and environmental impacts on the life course and the impact that this has on need.
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| **Policy challenges relating to ageing***facilitated by Rosemary Lane* | Interactive discussions. |
| **Understanding the data gaps and measurement issues in ageing statistics***Asghar Zaidi, University of Southampton* | There are many challenges related to statistics about ageing and age-disaggregation.Older people are the most heterogeneous group and should not be reduced to a single group. Access to disaggregated data is essential to understand the life course and how early life experiences impact on later life.Challenges are faced in many low and middle income countries: limited information is available on pensions, health and functioning, group sizes are too small for meaningful analysis, and there are considerable time lags.We need to take stock of what ageing related data is available in each country, assess what data gaps there are, and decide what longer term investments are required to support capacity building. Specialized surveys on older persons are required alongside proper training of enumerators to ensure availability of high quality data.We need to communicate, coordinate and collaborate – internationally, and with civil society, to improve knowledge and policy practice. |
| **Establishing information and data requirements: Understanding policy needs and data gaps** |
| Parallel 1**A life course approach to ageing**Coordinator: Alex Mihnovits, HelpAge*Mark Hanson, Southampton University**Eppu Mikkonen, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland**Yoav Ben-Shlomo, Bristol University* | *Key messages:*From the very beginning of life, experience is not equal and is dependent on context.Biomarkers can be useful when assessing health over the life course, for example grip strength, gait speed etc.City group work should be seen as operating through multiple trajectories, of which trajectories of health are only one. We should investigate how these manifest and interact on an individual level.Linkage of administrative data shows promise for future research; however we must be careful with how information is collected by government, that we understand this fully and consider researchers that may be using the data further down the line in longitudinal studies.Health also includes elements of capacity, ability, capability and freedom. A strengths based approach of what you can achieve, rather than what limits you. By framing the debate positively, we can engage more groups. |
| Parallel 2**A topic-based approach to data gaps**Coordinator: Papa Seck, UN Women*Josie B. Perez, Philippine Statistics Authority - (a country perspective)**Papa Seck, UN Women - (violence against women; challenges and overcoming the obstacles)* | *Key messages:* Look to use alternative data sources such as big data and administrative data. Capacity building - the issue of funding and balancing between the short and long term gaps in health and safety prevention data. Learning from existing experience, for example, the South African Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) where age caps were removed. Trying to get to a place where we can objectively say what would happen if we removed the age caps. Consider how we best engage when it comes to moving beyond the age caps. Changing mandates. Some of the surveys were made in the 80s so may not be relevant now. Mandates may need to be updated.  |
| Parallel 3**The impact of ageing through static and dynamic effects**Coordinator: Eduard Jongstra, UNFPA*Eduard Jongstra, UN Population Fund**Hyungseog Kim, UN Population Fund**Steve Smallwood, Office for National Statistics* | *Key messages:*Age-standardization is important as it accounts for changes in age structure, thus provides information on other factors. The city group should aim for disaggregated data to allow for age-standardization, although this should not be used alone, as this also means you are filtering out age impact which may be important to look at.It may be difficult to improve SDGs without using age-standardized measures to account for changes in the age-structure. The city ageing group may need to think of some new indicators to propose as alternatives to the current age-related SDGs (what would they be, timeframes etc.)Qualitative studies may be important to enable us to better understand and articulate what the data is telling us.To understand ageing it is also important to look at things in earlier stages of life, such as diet, as this has an effect on other indicators (life course approach). There is a need to understand more about the social and economic aspects of ageing on the family structure – e.g. effects of caring for elderly relatives on wellbeing of family members etc.There is a need for deeper analysis of the extent of the 2nd dividend on the NTA (National Transfer Accounts) which looks at income and expenditure broken down by age. |
| **Establishing information and data requirements: Understanding policy needs and data gaps** | *Feedback and interactive discussion – summarising the main points from parallels 1-3** A life course approach should be taken. It does not mean investing in just the earlier stages in life but must include all stages of life.
* Many of the current surveys were developed in the 80s and where the needs have changed it may mean that the mandate needs to change in order for the surveys to be updated.
* Age disaggregation and age standardisation give different results. It is important in the context of SDGs that the right approach is taken – especially where there may be cohort or period effects (the risk of static denominators).
* There were discussions about data sources and big data and its potential uses. Examples looking at how it is being used for ageing data. Qualitative studies are required to ensure we can understand the phenomena in the data.
* We need to learn lessons from current practice e.g. South Africa where they record data on violent crimes on women without age caps.
* There was discussion regarding the focus for the proposed Titchfield Group. We need to ensure that we focus on delivering what is needed to answer the questions posed by users – so that we throw a spotlight on areas where interventions need to be made to support the ‘leave no-one behind’ agenda.
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| **Why do the data gaps exist? Exploring the data issues and barriers to solving them – Case studies** |
| Parallel 4**Making the most of existing data sources**Coordinator: Kim Bradford-Smith, DFID*Andre Lebel, Statistics Canada**Drystan Phillips, University of Southern California**Kirsty MacLachlan, National Records of Scotland**Zach Christensen, Development Initiatives* | *Key messages:*There is often more data available than we realize. The global ageing datasets presented by Drystan Phillips are an example of data already compiled in an internationally comparable way. We need to make sure existing data is accessible and the best possible use is being made of it. Often it is not, e.g. longitudinal data in the Philippines that was not used.Household survey instruments are not fit for purpose due to issues relating to sample size, age caps, difficulties in disaggregating data or the exclusion of institutional populations. We need to think about alternatives.Constrained budgets are an issue – even in developed countries. We need to understand how to address this.One answer is a greater focus on admin data and record linkage. This requires a different set of skills to traditional data collection and surveys.Microsimulation and synthetic data have the potential to be very useful in corroborating more traditional methods. |
| Parallel 5**Improving existing data collection instruments**Coordinator: Serge Kapto, UNDP*Isabelle Schmidt, Statistics South Africa**Bill Anderson, Development Initiatives* | *Key messages:* There needs to be a conceptual framework which everyone needs to agree to or there will be variations on the theme. This framework needs technical norms and standards for everyone to adhere to. Within this, the issue of talking to countries with different needs and levels of development needs to be taken into account because for some, funding may be an issue. The framework will hopefully mobilize resources and strengthen the capacities of those involved. Agencies need to see themselves as part of the process and they need to be proactive in their approach by reviewing initiatives and building capacities in different areas. There also needs to be a level of political engagement with the topic.The need to align with the SDG framework is something to consider as they are very important as a primary frame of reference. However, it was discussed that there should also be a wider framework as the scope of the SDGs is limited in time with issues of ageing hitting some countries after 2030. It was discussed that for some countries, such as African Nations, aligning to the SDGs is important for leveraging funding which would enable them to channel resources properly. Although the need to align to the SDGs is important, we need to incorporate what is relevant to what the city group is trying to accomplish.For the time being we cannot get rid of surveys as they have the value added of telling the human story because they provide more information about a person’s life experience; instead a symbiotic approach is needed.‘Low hanging fruit’ - deliverables essential for people to make necessary investments in ageing statistics and also to create credibility for the group. |

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| Parallel 6**Identifying and collecting new data to address identified data gaps** Coordinator: Karoline Schmid, UNDESA*Karoline Schmid, UN, Department of Economic and Social Affairs**Emma Nelson, Office for National Statistics* | *Key messages:* The key is understanding what the untapped sources are for ageing, and who we need to talk to, to get those sources. We must also take the work on standardization of approach and apply it as widely as possible.ONS needs to share its expertise and findings to help others to benefit from its work. But this needs to draw out the commonality, and not get hung up on the specific differences. Can a paper of ‘Arguments that have worked before?’ be produced.Start with the gaps and questions we have and look at what each source can do for us, in particular around low level geographic disaggregation, and age splits.Survey data focusing on the older ages, in particular on their health and wellbeing is lacking on the evidence of MISA. The challenges people face when ageing can be the same internationally (loneliness, accessibility to services) or are specific to countries, areas or cultures (fear of witchcraft, cultural practices around older peoples roles). |
| Parallel 7**Innovative approaches to ageing statistics**Coordinator: Angele Storey, ONS*Frank Donnarumma, Office for National Statistics* *Alessandra Carioli, World Pop**Anne Vibeke Jacobsen, Statistics Denmark* | *Key messages:* Importance of building relationships in obtaining available data: Administrative, governmental and commercial data is available that could be used to help answer ageing questions. The Digital Economy Act in the UK should help with this process. Make the most of technology that is available: For example, predictors for health outcomes could be developed; gait is a powerful predictor of health and could be used to create an algorithm to randomly sample gait speed and link to personal data and geo- referenced data. Make use of new techniques to better inform policy makers and target health programmes: Example – the production of precision mapping of key demographic and health indicators in low income settings by combining National Household Survey data with geo-located survey cluster data in a statistical model that enabled highly accurate predictions to be made in unsampled locations.Consider target audiences: 49% of working adults in UK lack level 1 numeracy skills (e.g. understand percentages); we need to understand our target audiences and present statistics in an accessible way. At the same time it’s important not to oversimplify as this can lead to misinterpretation and danger of proliferation of incorrect messages via social media |
| **Why do the data gaps exist? Exploring the data issues and barriers to solving them** | *Feedback and interactive discussion - summarising the main points made during Parallels 4 – 7.*Case studies from Scotland and Canada demonstrated that even in developed countries budget constraints impact on data collection, for example fewer longitudinal surveys being commissioned.Discussion focused around the strengths and limitations of different data sources and different data types in different situations. Where admin data are of good quality, investment is needed to ensure that the data can be used to measure what is needed, and in a way that protects individuals’ privacy.Where admin data have poor coverage, survey data are essential to fill the gap. It is therefore important to understand what data are available and the relative strengths and weaknesses to ensure we use the data in an informed way. |
| **Means of implementation: Capacity development, co-ordination and partnerships***Philomen Harrison, CARICOM (challenges and opportunities)**Serge Kapto, UN Development Programme (SDG challenges)* | *Key messages:*CARICOM, is a community of Caribbean countries; some of the challenges and opportunities facing small statistics-producers in particular were illustrated.Challenges for member states include: small population, lack of resources (and funds for statistics), lack of economies of scale and high transport/ communications costs. Specific challenges for statistics producers are: outdated legislation, ICT infrastructure and organisational structure, shortage of staff with the required professional skills, need for a better statistics 'culture' (more willingness to share data) and the lack of a long-term strategy for statistics.Opportunities for stats producers include: high-level political advocacy (statistics is a standard agendum on the Heads of Government conference), the need for governments to tie investment in statistics into developmental spend from external sources, more attention from international organisations, and the development of a strategic plan using PARIS21 templates as a starting point. CARICOM is looking to build centres of excellence, a Virtual Stats Office and a Regional Institute for Statistics Training and Research. Need to leverage the power of ICT in statistics production but this needs new skills.Implications for statistics on ageing: relevant data from censuses but less from sample surveys, and little resources to produce analysis of ageing topics. Regional co-operation, IT skills, strategic framework and political will all needed to improve the situation. The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) challenge is significant - there are 232 SDG Indicators and some countries (including some LDCs) have only a small proportion of these available.The following work relevant to the City Group on Ageing is already happening:1. **IAEG-SDGs and Data Disaggregation group** looking to harmonise disaggregations and help countries approach the production of Tier 1 SDGs. Members: Germany, Jamaica, Cameroon, Bahrain, Brazil, France, Netherlands, India, Senegal, Canada, and Egypt.
2. **UN High Level Group for Partnerships, Co-ordination and Capacity Building** - sets out a roadmap for modernising sustainable development data and plans to strengthen national statistical capacities.
3. **PARIS21** - capacity development initiative recognising approach required under the 2030 Agenda must allow for a more complex and fast-moving world, involving multiple stakeholders to take work forward.
4. **Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data** - addressing the need for cross-stakeholder collaboration and build data to support sustainable development. The 'leave no-one behind' principle is relevant to the City Group. A Data Disaggregation charter is to be launched at the 2017 UN Conference.

Key challenges include:* measurement of new thematic areas
* better institutional arrangements
* co-ordinating role of NSOs (sharing data from government departments rather than just being a statistics producer)
* lack of legal frameworks and strategies
* ICT and staff capacities
* lack of reporting protocols to international agencies
* need for better infrastructure to collect data
* data literacy
* differences between national and subnational methods
* that donor assistance does not necessarily meet the needs of the receiving country
* need to understand capacities and SDG data gaps
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| **Summary of issues that have emerged from the thematic workshops and emergent areas of work for the Ageing City Group** *Emma Rourke, Office for National Statistics, Director for Public Policy Analysis* | **Policy challenges*** 2030 Agenda, LNOB, Madrid Plan of Action, Human Rights – this is why we are generating action
* SDGs provide a unique opportunity to promote ageing on national and international development agendas
* explored the relationship between the policy challenges as articulated by data users and the statistical and data issues to meet them
* discussion about how we understand concepts of ageing and older persons
* misconceptions and stereotypes related to ageing

**Data challenges*** we need to make the best of all available data sources
* we need to have a long term strategic approach aligned to the SDGs
* we need to start with the user needs and requirements
* we need data to highlight where interventions can be made through the life course
* this may need different approaches in different countries
* we need data advocacy
* limitations of existing measures and instruments

**Data gaps and issues*** all countries have constrained budgets
* Household Survey instruments not fit for purpose any more – need individual based data without age cap
* We have more data than we think, use it!
* we need a framework to understand quality issues – e.g. political context
* how to strengthen all data sources, particularly admin systems
* How to unlock the wealth of data that exists but isn’t readily available? How to get access?
* how to link data from different sources, how to do microsimulation, explore other new techniques
* upskilling statisticians to work with new types of data and new techniques, building statistical capacity and differentiating needs
* visualisation of data to support communication and understanding of messages

**Ensuring we have user engagement throughout the development and use of data to address policy challenges*** understand the policy challenges – define the user need
* Where are the data gaps we need to fill to measure these? - What are the concepts and definitions?
* identifying ‘available’ data
* unlocking access to existing data, collection of new data
* processing data – linking, combining, cleaning etc
* analysing data – traditional and innovative techniques
* produce outputs to support user needs – privacy vs. disaggregation, simplification and visualisation vs. complexity
* feedback and new policy challenges
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| **Lessons from other city groups***Jennifer Madans, Chair, Washington City Group (via audio recording)**Serge Kapto on behalf of Celso Soares, NSO Cape Verde (PRAIA City Group)-**Future vision for City Groups on behalf of UNSD* | The **Washington Group** identified the stages in development of a City Group:* consideration of what you want to do, what kind of organisation will support that and ensuring there is a clear vision
* conceptualizing the issue and preparing option papers for the way forward
* taking the work forward, using evidence to support the decision making
* involving NSOs in analytical work, but this can be time consuming
* ensuring supporting technology (e.g. the website) is in place

Success for the **Washington Group** attributed to:* Interest from NSOs, governments, the UN, the public etc. - there was a big user demand.
* The breaking down of objectives and giving individuals ownership over the completion of these objectives.
* conducting testing in a publically acceptable, transparent way
* focus was, and still is on NSOs, but also with balancing this with other members too

The **Praia City Group** followed a similar organisational structure to the Washington City Group with a steering group, secretariat and members. Each working group had a chair to lead that workstream. It is important, however, to ensure the organisational structure works for the group rather than slowing it down. Resourcing the secretariat adequately is key to ensuring that the group maintains momentum, and it is important that countries hosting meetings have adequate capacity to be able to do this.It is also important to balance NSO ownership with stakeholder participation.**UNSD** are considering the future of city groups and are undertaking a review. They have given positive messages regarding the Titchfield Group so far. We have received the following guidance:* we need to be clear what the group is for
* we need to have a clearly defined programme of work
* we need good backing from NSOs
* we need broad support from other stakeholders
* we need a timeline and exit strategy

UNSD will be looking to us to submit a full report to the 49th UNSC in 2018. |
| **Ageing City Group - Objectives, terms of reference, outcomes and deliverables***Feedback and interactive discussion* | **Summary of objectives, deliverables and outcomes**1. Engaging users throughout all stages of the development and use of data to address policy challenges
2. Deliverables
	1. Report on good practice for user engagement to achieve evidence based policy
	2. Capacity building on part of users and producers of data to support engagement
3. Outcomes
	1. Working relationships established at regional and national level
	2. Users understand how data can help them address policy challenges – shift to evidence based policy
	3. Impact on society of evidence based policy decisions
4. Common understanding of core concept of ageing
5. Deliverables
	1. Conceptual framework for age related statistics building on existing work
6. Outcomes
	1. Common language established around age related statistics
	2. Better insight into ageing related policy issues
	3. Rethinking ageing to recognise the life course
7. Produce regional assessments of most important policy imperatives and the statistical requirements, existing and new data sources and the statistical measurement gaps
8. Deliverables
	1. Inventory at global level of available data – sets standard for regional and national inventories
	2. Regional assessment and recommendations report
	3. Gap analysis report
9. Outcomes
	1. Make best use of all available data and new data only collected where there is a clear gap – funding used effectively
10. Produce guidelines and case studies on age related statistics, harmonised standards, standardised methods for collection, processing and analysis
11. Deliverables
	1. Harmonised approach to collection and grouping of age
	2. Quality evaluation framework
	3. Modular toolkit for cleaning, linking, processing, estimation and analysing different types of data
	4. Recommendations on how to produce prospective statistics on ageing
	5. Recommendations on how to collect in different settings e.g. institutions
12. Outcomes
	1. Data analysis throughout the life course made possible
	2. Capability developed by data providers
	3. Forum created for new practices / innovation / sharing experience
13. To advocate for age and age-related measures and the importance of age-disaggregated data in relation to ‘leave no-one behind’
14. Deliverables
	1. Cost / benefit analysis of removing age caps where these are currently recommended for surveys
	2. Legislation and policy frameworks
	3. Dissemination good practices compendium
	4. SDG framework assessment
15. Outcomes
	1. Decisions about data collection are driven by cost / benefit evidence not assumptions

*Key messages*:1. It was agreed that a life course approach was needed with a focus on improving data on life course transitions.
2. Identifying and developing case studies would be important to build an evidence base in order to communicate the value of new approaches to statistics on age and ageing.
3. The groups all felt that engaging users with all processes, promoting regional links, and establishing global partnerships should be a key part of the strategy.
4. All groups felt developing a forum for sharing experiences, innovations, and the provision of a modular toolkit for good practice was needed. This could come in the form of non-commercial high level methodological advice.
5. All groups discussed the need for building an understanding of the core concept and to establish conceptual frameworks which also reflect regional variation.
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| **Membership and organisation of the Ageing City Group***Focus on logistics (e.g. memberships; advisory board; methods of working; communications; reporting mechanisms)**Ann Blake, Office for National Statistics* | **Membership** - Need to make it clear what level of commitment is required for membership, organisations may need to have different levels of involvement dependent on capacity. Terms of Reference will be important for specifying the level of involvement.**How should the Titchfield Group work?** – An annual meeting, plus working groups to tackle specific issues. There can be challenges in bringing people together and in working together. Regional sub-groups focusing on specific issues may help, as may ensuring annual meetings are not always held in the same region. Continuous engagement throughout the year will be important.**Timeline/Lifetime** - Maintain flexibility of work plan over time. Bi-annual checkpoints may be optimal to review the workplan and review the policy context and outcomes to date. We should ensure we are aligned with other organisations and the UNSC timelines.**Steering group** –The steering group is important in holding the group together. It should include representation from policymakers, with NSOs as the champions leading workstreams. Diversity is required, with input from academia. A rotating chair may help ease burden on any one individual / group. The Terms of Reference for the steering group will be vital in determining the level of commitment required.**Communication** – Challenge of members spread throughout the world, in different time zones. Use a web portal to facilitate communication, sharing of material, and collaborative working for the Titchfield Group. We would need to explore website options for wider external communications. We should keep the #TCGAgeing.**Collaboration with other City Groups** – Important, especially where there are shared areas of relevance (e.g. Washington Group). Should extend beyond City Groups e.g. to working groups on household surveys, which have overlapping technical issues. Collaboration needs to be strategic and focused.**Reporting process** – Several methods of reporting, including a UNSC annual report, a substantive report (aimed at NSOs and other stakeholders and which should be accessible), and also producing materials for a broader audience. |
| **Proposed tasks and activities of the Ageing City Group** | *Feedback and interactive discussion*Key priorities and tasks identified during the discussion:Priorities1. **Empowerment**. These policies should empower the population and empower the whole life cycle approach
2. **Multi-dimensionality** – emphasizing different domains, quality of life, pensions, jobs, health, education, social, economic, environment. **Ageing in different contexts** – cultural, manmade, migration, prisons, gender
3. **Poverty and Inequality** – leave no one behind – not just about well being but we try and reach those left furthest behind first. Participation: including older persons in social and economic participation
4. **Raising awareness** – sensitizing the public and decision makers over the issues facing ageing populations
5. **Potential** – recognizing the contributions that older people make to society, both monetized and non-monetized
6. **Link work to SDGs**

Tasks1. Develop and strengthen an analytical framework
2. Capacity building for NSOs, developing standards for collecting age related data, and developing ownership
3. Synthesizing pre-existing data and identifying new data sources (innovation)
4. Advocacy and effective dissemination of good practice with age related data collection to NSOs and policy makers to enable resource mobilisation.
5. Highlight good practice across the world of what older people contribute towards society – providing norms of what unpaid practices contribute toward society.
6. Conceptual ‘think piece’ on ageing
7. Platform for sharing and collation of case studies to inform good practice
8. Promoting understanding of the effects of the 2nd demographic dividend.
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13 November 2017