

AgeAction

For all older people



Ageing & Development Programme

Age Action Ireland's Ageing & Development Programme

The Ageing & Development programme works to increase awareness in Ireland of the needs of older people in developing countries. This programme is carried out in collaboration with our international partners HelpAge International (NGO) and is funded by Irish Aid, the Irish Government's overseas development programme. The Ageing & Development programme focuses specifically on Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania.

Our role is to increase public understanding of and engagement with issues related to global ageing. We aim to raise awareness of the role of Ireland's overseas development assistance in addressing these challenges and to build public solidarity with older people in developing countries by sharing their stories across Ireland.

Issues for older people in developing countries

- Income insecurity, lack of pensions and social protection support
- Lack of access to age-appropriate health services
- Age discrimination
- Lack of consideration of older people in policies.

Why work on this?

- The world's population is ageing and this is happening more quickly in developing countries. By 2050, nearly one in five people in developing countries will be over 60.
- Population ageing transforms economies and societies, and developing countries have less time to adjust to the consequences.
- Ireland's overseas development assistance is helping partner countries prepare for the impact of this demographic change.
- The Sustainable Development Goals recognise the vital importance of including older women and men for achieving sustainable development.

How do we work?

- Building on Age Action's strong track-record of public engagement and advocacy
- Increasing the Irish public's understanding of global ageing and development issues through campaigns, outreach, traditional and new media
- Giving a voice to older men and women from developing countries by sharing their stories
- Building solidarity between older people in Ireland and in developing countries
- Raising awareness of the role of Ireland's overseas development assistance and the vital work being done
- Receiving input and support from an Advisory Group on ageing and development.

Ageing and the Sustainable Development Goals

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are part of the ambitious global 'Agenda 2030' adopted by world leaders in 2015 at an historic UN summit. They build upon the successes of the Millennium Development Goals which expired in 2015.

Agenda 2030 contains a bold pledge that 'no one will be left behind' and recognises the importance of including older women and men for sustainable development. In particular:

- Goal 3 is to 'Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages'.
- Goal 5 to 'Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls' is more gender and age-inclusive than previous development goals on maternal mortality.
- The Goals contain a commitment to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data, which should be 'disaggregated by age' as well as characteristics such as gender and disability. This is essential for ensuring effective policies and interventions.



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