

An overview: Population and Sustainable Development, in particular, Sustained and Inclusive Economic Growth

Population Division

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A quick overview...

1. Sustainable development and inclusion: a generational perspective.
2. Interlinkages of population and other megatrends.
3. Integrating population into development planning.

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Two important principles present from the beginning of the global discussion on “sustainable development”:

- A longrun, generational perspective.
- Inter- and intra-generational equity linked to sustainability.

Sustainable development is based on a long run, generational perspective familiar to demographers

Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of **future generations** to meet their own needs.

-- UN General Assembly, 1987, Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, the

Sustainability requires inclusive development : inter- and intragenerational equity

But physical sustainability cannot be secured unless development policies pay attention to such considerations as changes in access to resources and in the distribution of costs and benefits. Even the narrow notion of **physical sustainability** implies a concern for **social equity between generations**, a concern that must logically be extended to equity within each generation.

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Interlinkages of population and other megatrends

Demographic shifts,
particularly pop ageing

Urbanization

Climate change

Digital technologies

Inequality

Examples:

Demographic shifts and climate change

- Both sudden

Examples:

Demographic shifts and digital technologies

- Population ageing is inducing technological innovations that enhance physical and cognitive capacities, allowing older people to work longer and enjoy better quality of life.
- For countries experiencing a “youth bulge”, digital technologies can support youth in acquiring necessary education and training for participating in the labour market (massive open online courses).

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Leaving no one behind: Measuring economic activity of populations groups at the national scale

- Population Division

(1) BY AGE:

(2) BY GENDER:

(3) BY SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS:

National Transfer Accounts (2013) National Time Transfer Accounts (2021) National Inclusion Accounts (202x)

- Other relevant DESA publications and projects

- System of Environmental and Economic Accounting Ecosystem Accounting

- System of Population and Social Conditions Statistics

- The Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE)

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