

Population and development trends in Asia and the Pacific – Preview of the 7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference (*selected highlights*)

Expert group meeting on assessing the status of implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda during the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

Session II: Regional perspectives on population and development

19-20 July 2023, New York and online

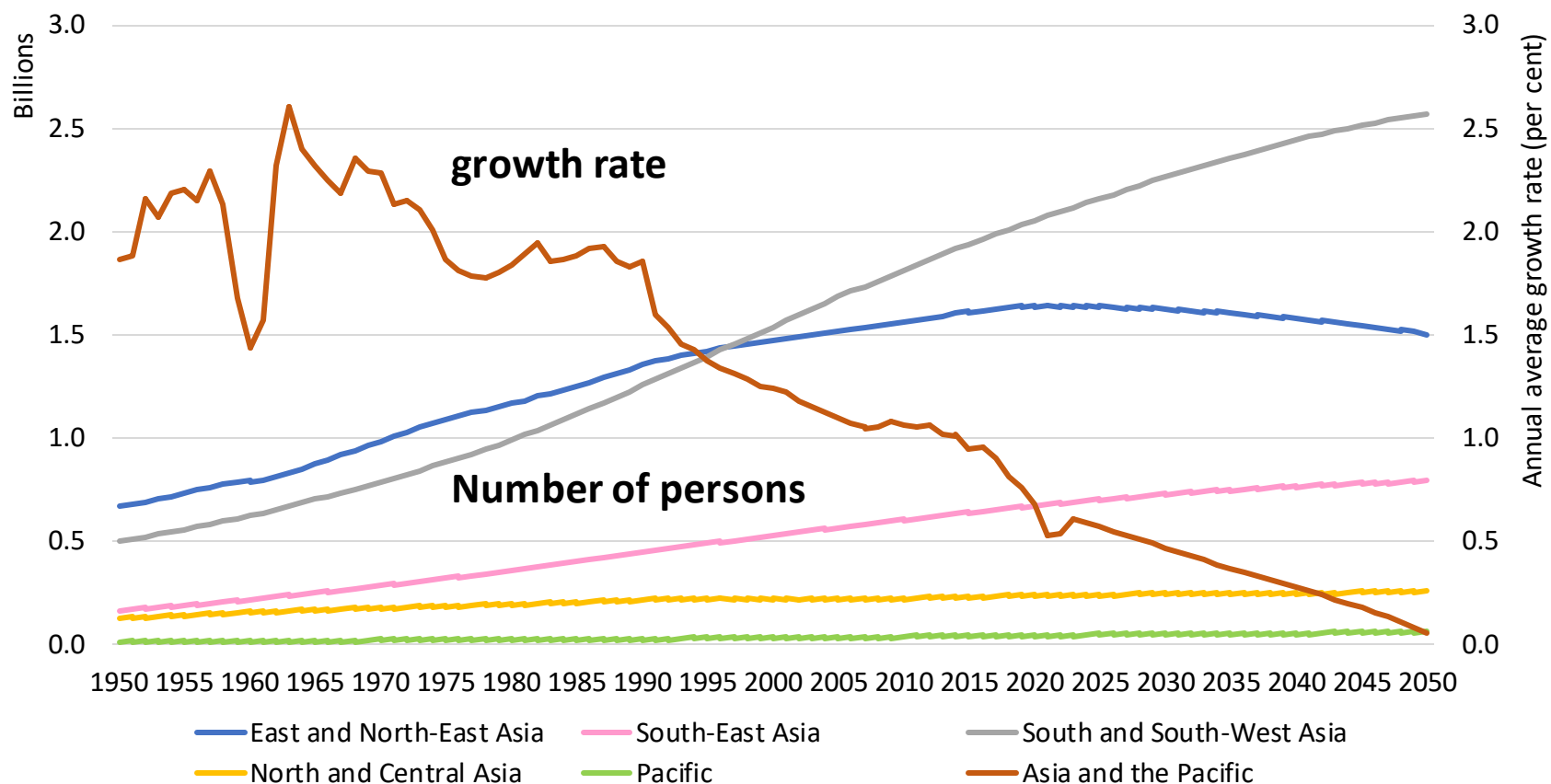
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Most populations in Asia and the Pacific are still growing, but at declining rates

Change in total population and annual average growth rate by Asia-Pacific subregion, 1950-2050



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). World Population Prospects 2022, Online Edition.

Priority actions of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development



**Adolescents and
young people**

**Poverty
eradication and
employment**

Education

**Gender equality
and women's
empowerment**

**International
migration**

**Population and
sustainable
development**

**Urbanization
and internal
migration**

**Data and
statistics**

Health

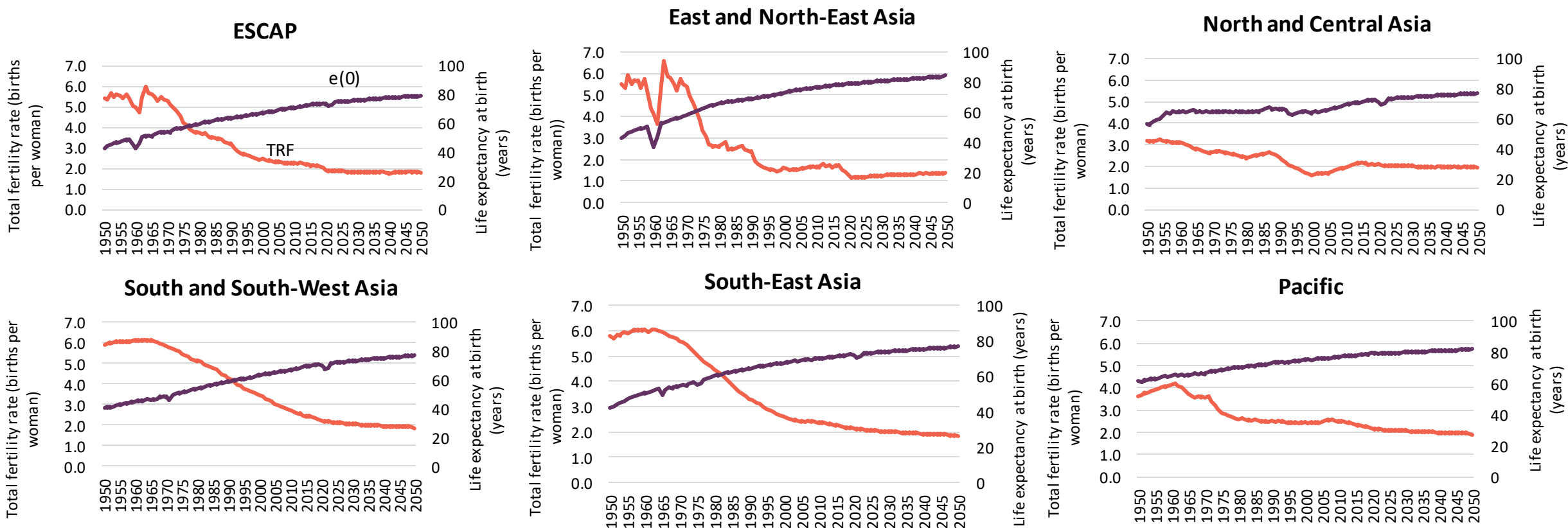
Ageing

**Sexual and
reproductive
health, services
and rights**

**Climate change
Food
COVID-19 +
Technology**

Asia and the Pacific has transitioned from “high” to “low” mortality and fertility and increased longevity

Change in TFR and e(0) by Asia-Pacific subregion, 1950-2050



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). World Population Prospects 2022, Online Edition.

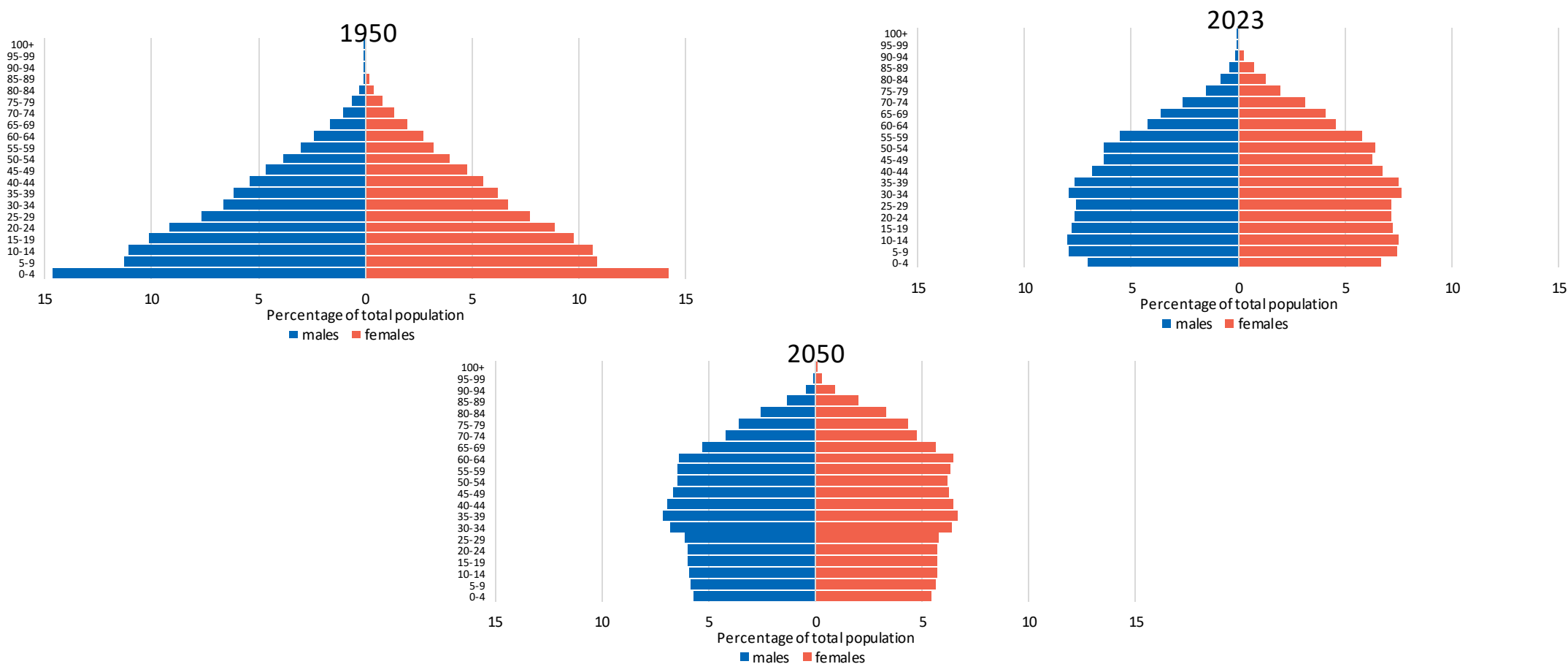
Sexual and reproductive health, services and rights

Examples



- There have been significant improvements in the expansion of the provision of sexual and reproductive health information and services, maternal health, and others over recent decades
- However, wide variations across the region and within countries (urban/rural; socio-economic status etc.) remain
- Many women face challenges in countries with restrictive laws which may, in turn, result in unplanned or unintended pregnancies
- For example, GBV, unsafe abortions, unmet need for family planning, gender identity and others remain a challenge
- Access to treatment for sexually transmitted infections can be challenging and often stigmatising
- The demand for Assisted Reproductive Technology is growing; however, these services are often out of reach for many

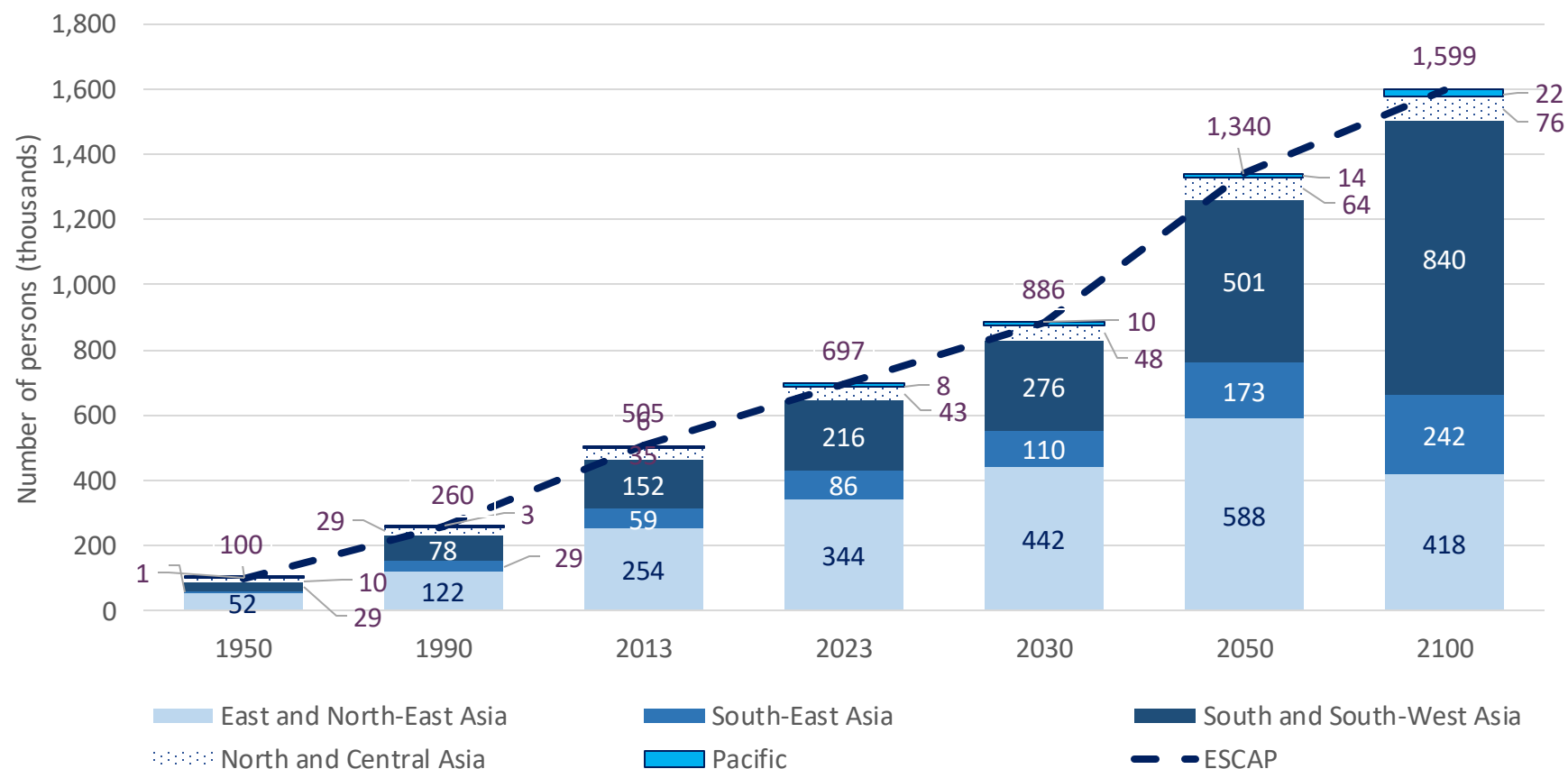
Population age structures have changed from pyramid to rectangular in Asia and the Pacific, 1950, 2023, 2050



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2022). World Population Prospects 2022, Online Edition.

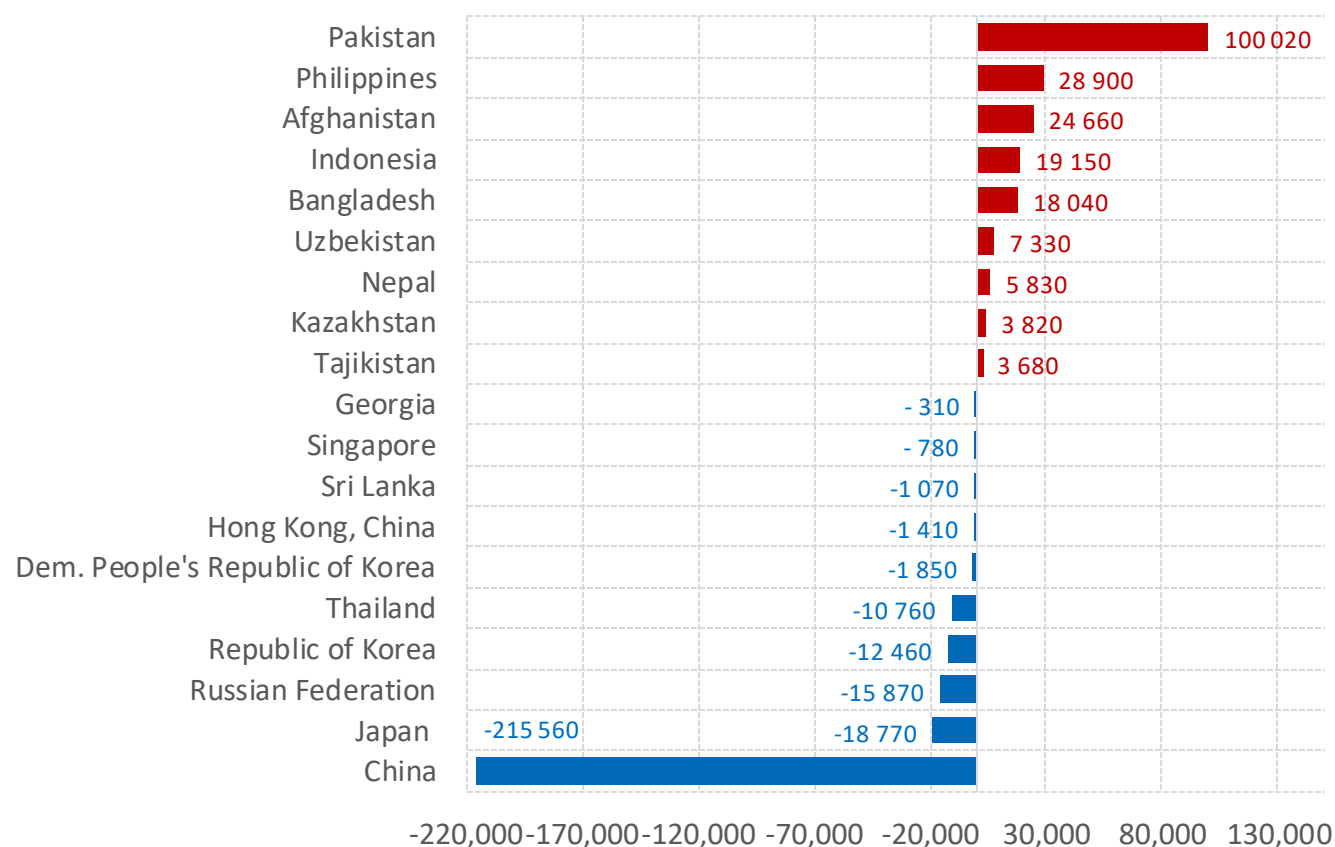
The number of older persons in Asia and the Pacific has increased six-fold since 1950, will double by 2050

Growth in the population 60+ by Asia-Pacific subregion, 1950-2100



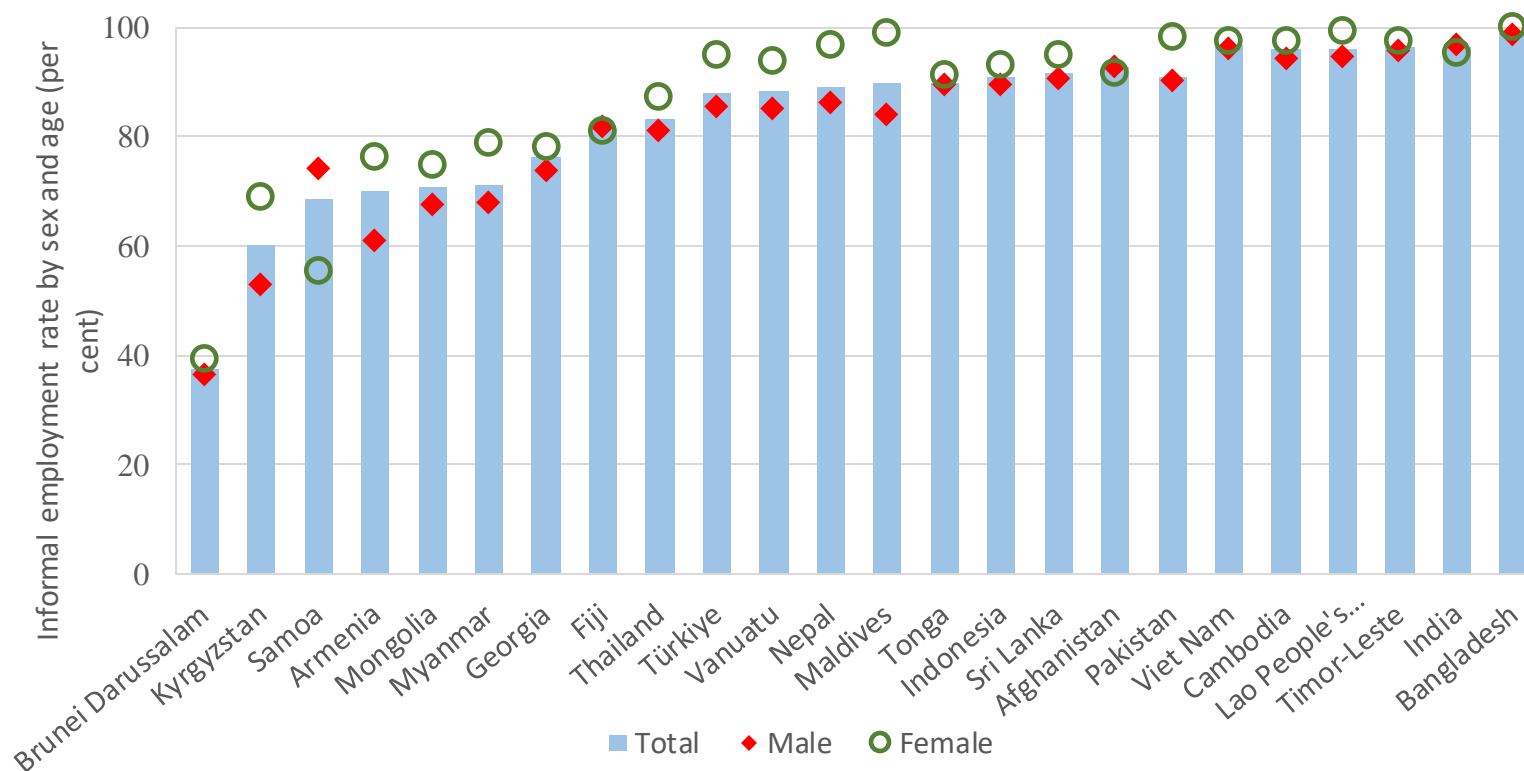
The size of the “working-age” population projected to decline in some countries in Asia and the Pacific

Change in the population 15-64 between 2023 and 2050 for selected Asia-Pacific countries



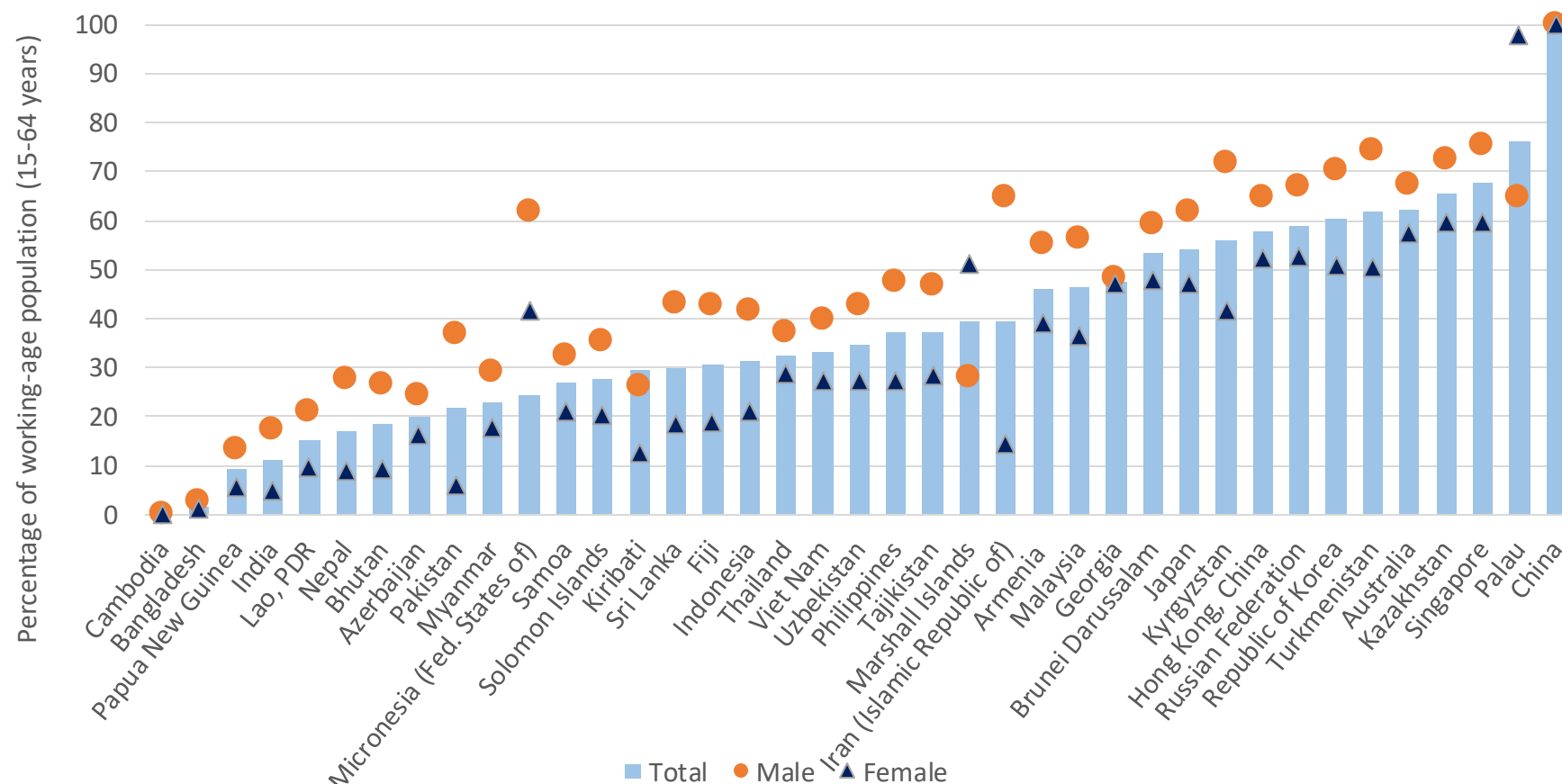
In Asia and the Pacific, many older persons continue to work in the informal sector

Employment of persons 60 years or over in the informal sector of the economy as a percentage of total non-agricultural employment, selected Asia-Pacific countries, by sex, latest available year



Pension coverage is low in most countries in Asia and the Pacific – especially for women

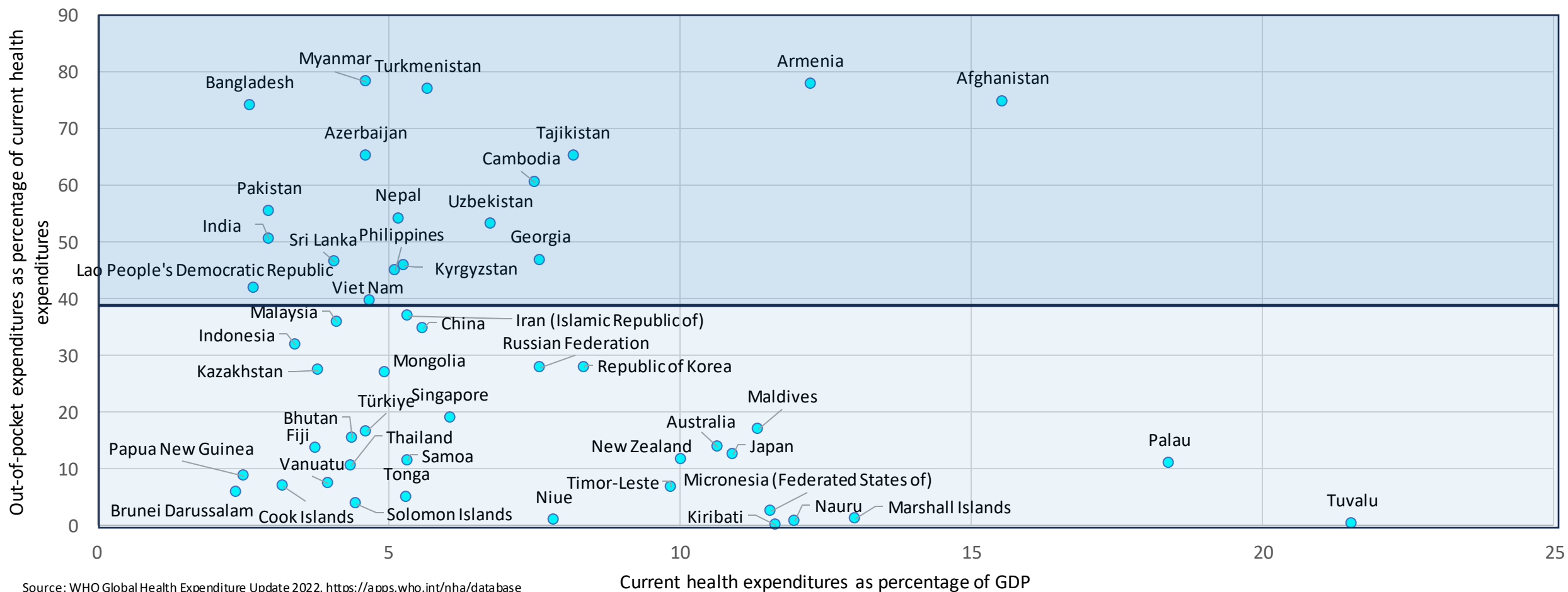
Legal coverage of contributory pensions, percentage of the working-age population (15-64 years), selected countries in Asia and the Pacific, 2020 or latest available year



Source: International Labour Organization. World Social Protection Database; accessed 14 July 2022

In many countries in Asia and the Pacific, low public health-care expenditures lead to high out-of-pocket expenditures

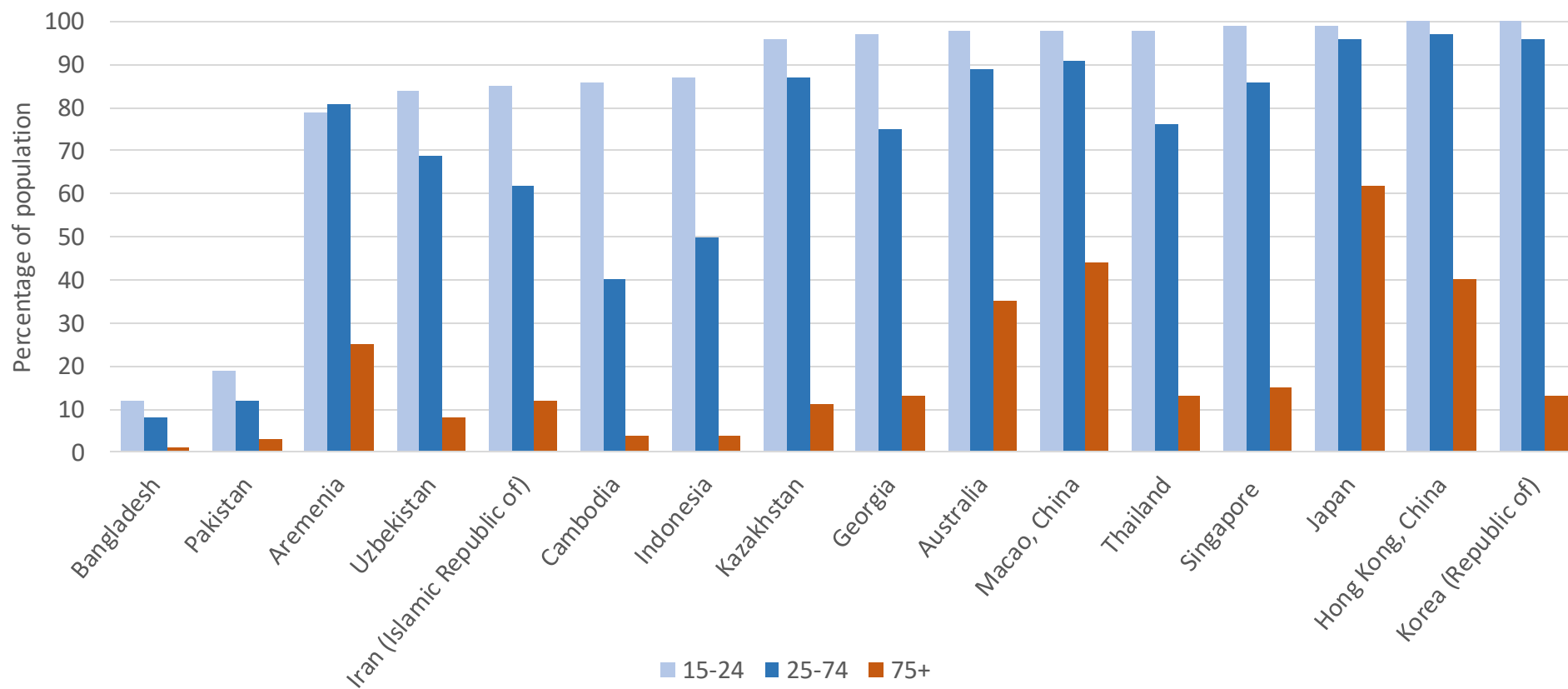
Out-of-pocket and public health expenditures, 2020



Source: WHO Global Health Expenditure Update 2022, <https://a.pps.who.int/nha/database>

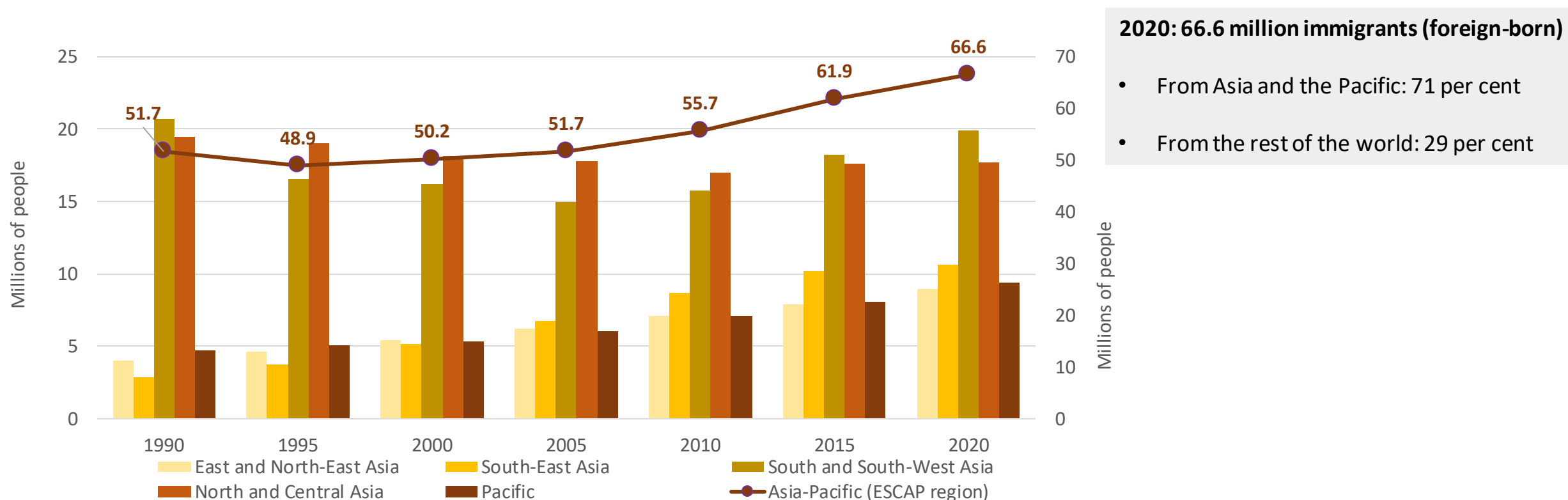
In Asia and the Pacific, digitalization has benefitted older persons, but the “grey digital divide” persists

Access to the Internet by age group, selected countries in Asia and the Pacific, 2020 or latest available year



The number of foreign-born from Asia and the Pacific residing in other countries has increased since the 1990s

Number of foreign-born from countries in Asia and the Pacific residing outside their countries of birth, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020

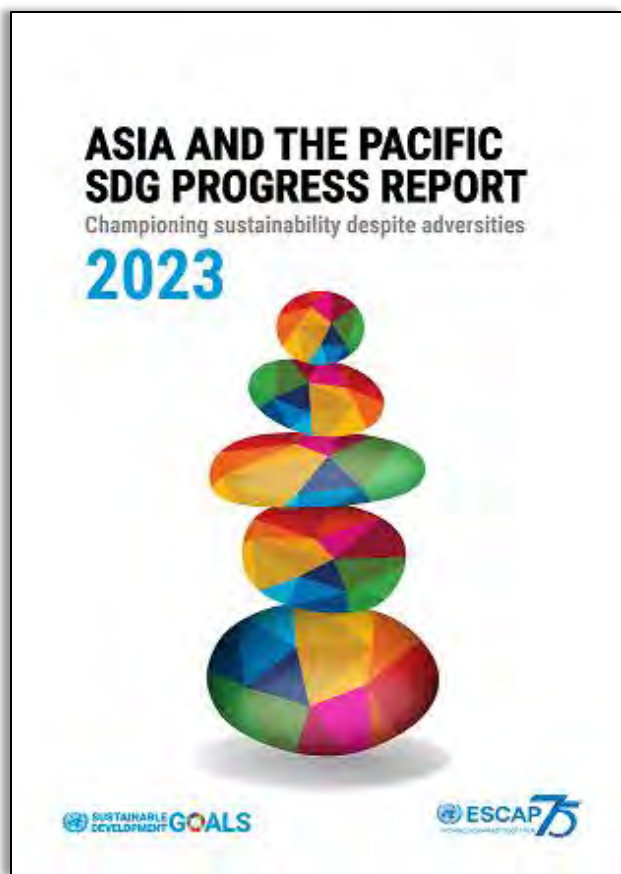


Asia and the Pacific is highly affected by natural/man-made disasters, including those related to climate change

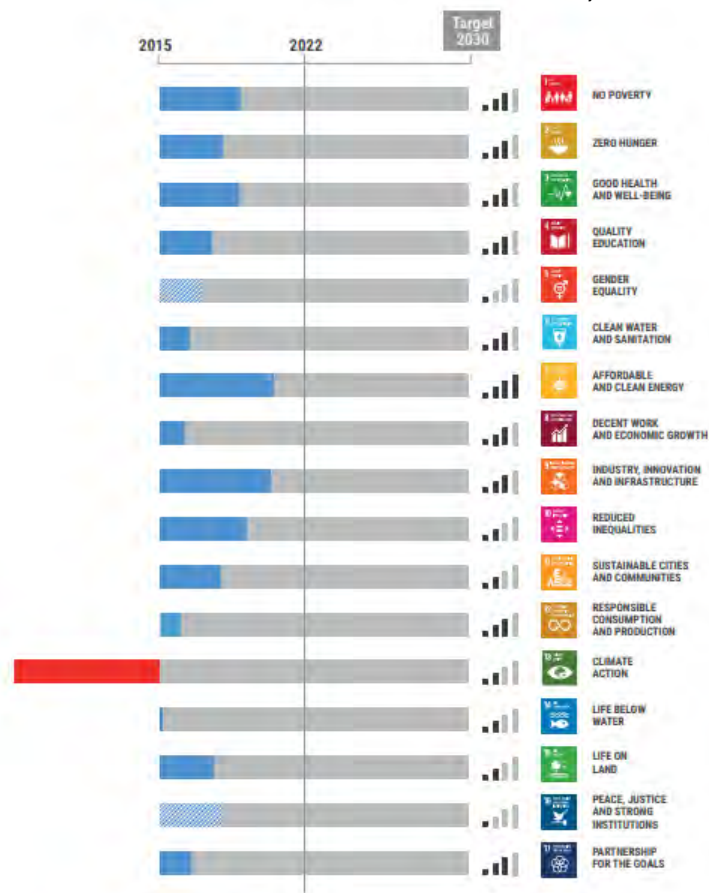


- The region faces numerous environmental threats, including slow-onset disasters such as sea-level rise and drought and sudden-onset disasters, such as typhoons, hurricanes and floods.
- Climate change not only directly affects people's lives, health and well-being, but it also intensifies socioeconomic disparities, contributes to population displacement and exacerbates conflicts.
- People are highly dependent on natural resources and agriculture, and they live in densely populated coastal areas.
- Many countries have weak institutions, lack social protection, and poverty remains prevalent among a considerable proportion of the population.
- The effects of climate change are not shared equally across the region.

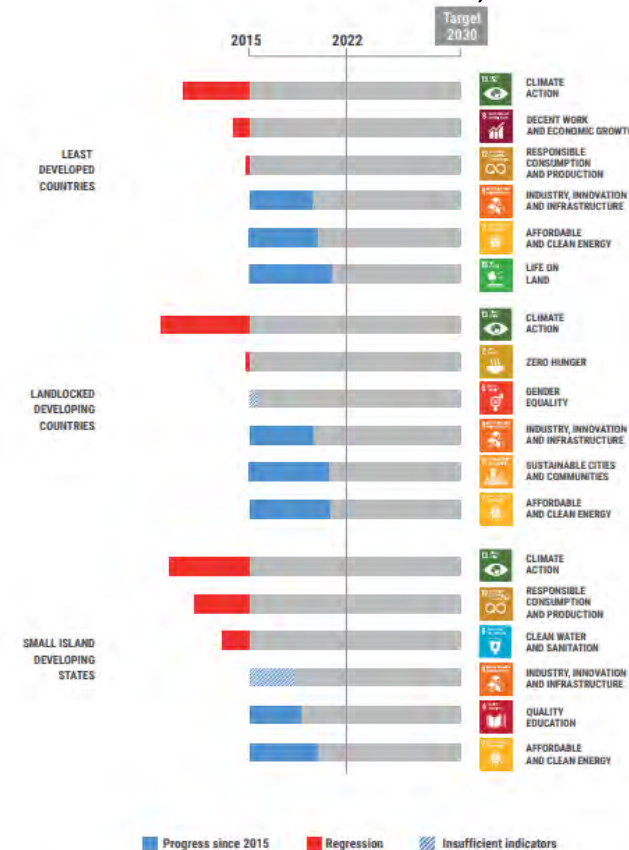
Asia and Pacific countries have made progress on SDGs, but none are on track for 2030



SDG status in Asia and the Pacific, 2022



Top three regressing and progressing goals in countries in special situation in Asia and the Pacific, 2022



Source: [Asia and the Pacific SDG progress report 2023: championing sustainability despite adversities](https://www.unescap.org/publications/asia-and-the-pacific-sdg-progress-report-2023) | ESCAP (unescap.org)

Note: The methodology is available at <https://data.unescap.org/resource-guides/progress-assessment-methodology>.

Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Bangkok, 15-17 November 2023

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\(unescap.org\)](https://unescap.org)



7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference

15-17 Nov. 2023, Bangkok + online

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60-year review since the first APPC



30-year review of the PoA of the ICPD



10-year review since the adoption of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development



Mid-term review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Asian / Asian-Pacific Population Conference, 1963-2023



- Asian Population Conference, New Delhi, 10-20 December 1963
- **Second** Asian Population Conference, Tokyo, Japan, 1972
- **Third** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 20-29 September 1982
- **Fourth** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bali, Indonesia, 19-27 August 1992
- **Fifth** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 16-17 December 2002
- **Sixth** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 16-20 September 2013
- **Seventh** Asian and Pacific Population Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 15-17 November 2023

Priority actions of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development



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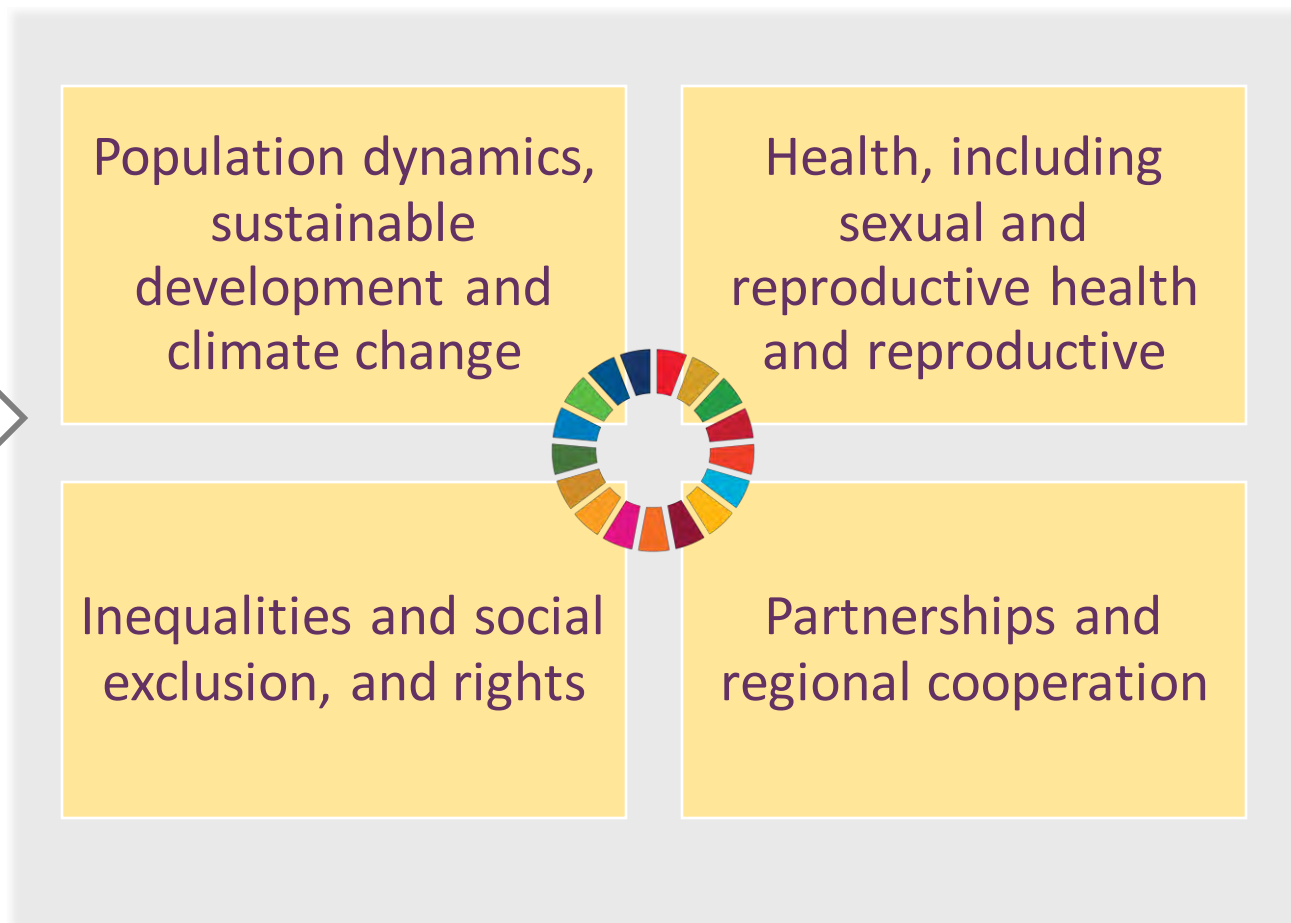
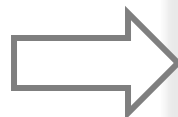
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7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference - Themes



7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference – Timeline



APPC Member State Survey
November 2022 – May 2023

EGM on Asia-Pacific Pop & Dev Report
2023 + additional papers
BKK (hybrid), 13-14 June 2023

CSO briefings, consultations &
CSO + Youth Forums
BKK (hybrid)
June – November 2023

Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference
BKK (hybrid), 15-17 November 2023

80th ESCAP session
BKK, 22-26 April 2024

57th session of the Commission on Population and Development
New York, 29 April - 03 May 2024

7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference – Date, venue, partners, documentation, programme

Date	15-17 November 2023
Venue	UNCC, ESCAP (hybrid)
Partners	ESCAP, UNFPA, Asia-Pacific Regional Office + other UN entities CSOs: APPC CSO Steering Committee (4 consultations & CSO Forum & Youth Forum)
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) representatives of ESCAP member and associated members b) intergovernmental organizations; United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and funds c) non-governmental organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders – APPC CSO Steering Committee
Documentation	<p>Asia-Pacific Population and Development Report 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Follow-up to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development (2013 APMD Monitoring Framework) b) Impact of climate change on population and development c) Summary of voluntary Member State APPC surveys (<i>Information paper</i>) d) Summary of stakeholder consultations (<i>Information paper</i>) e) Separate papers on: UHC; SRHR; Data (<i>Information papers</i>)
Programme	Opening + High-level panel + country statements + panel discussion + Closing

7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Number of country survey responses

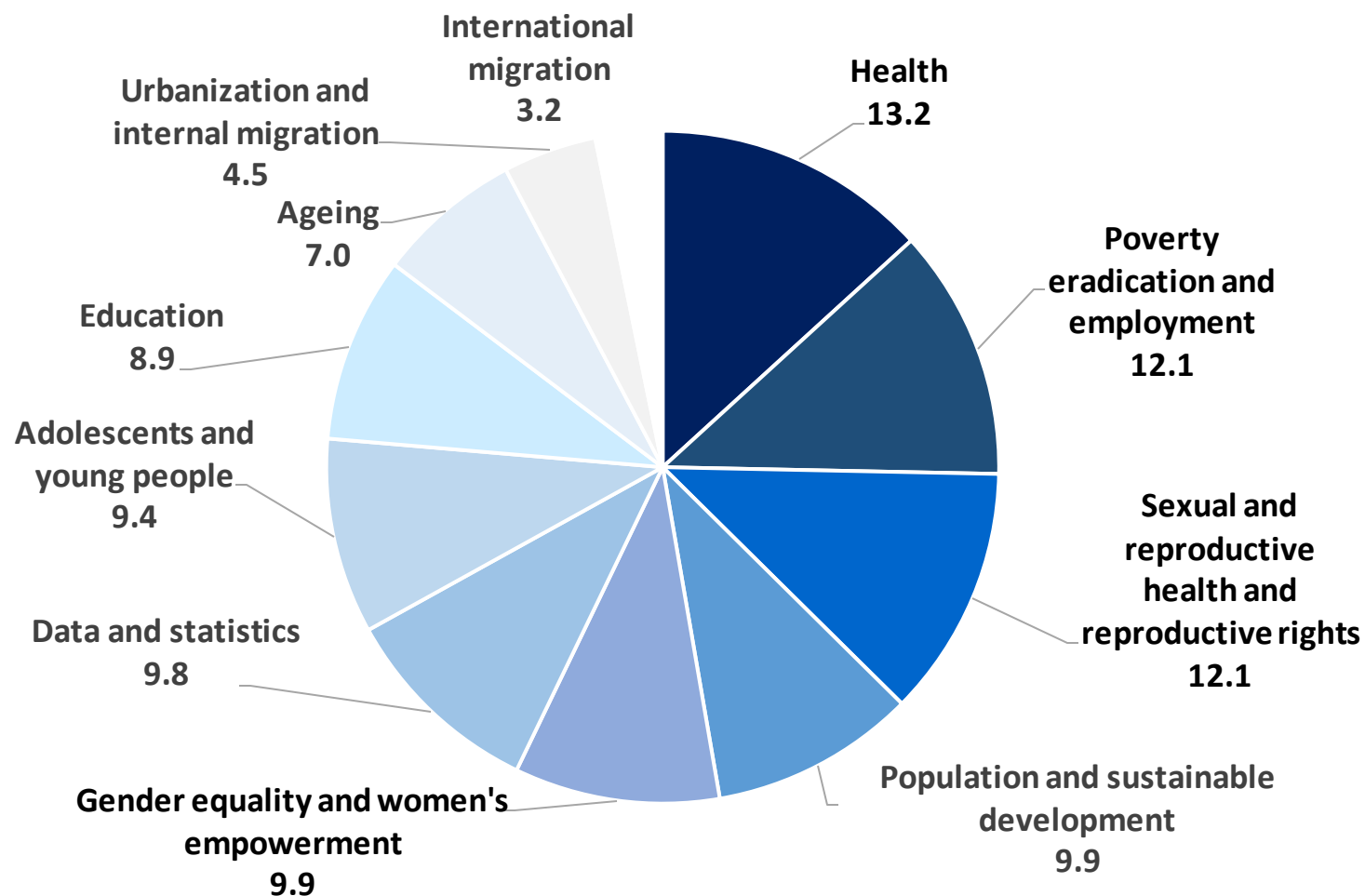
Preliminary results

Subregion	Number of country responses
Asia and the Pacific	31
East and North-East Asia	4
North and Central Asia	3
Pacific	12
South-East Asia	7
South and South-West Asia	5

7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Ranking of priority action areas (in percentage), according to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development (from 23 country survey responses)

Preliminary results



7th Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Achievements and challenges over the last 60, 30, 10 and 7 years (from country survey responses)

Achievements		Challenges	
Fertility decline & pop. stagnation + decline	6	Lack of capacity to implement pop. policies	4
Population policies, pop & dev. Action plans	6	Poverty rates in rural areas/urban areas	3
Reduction in poverty	6	Lack of financial support to population programmes	3
Improved public health, including maternal mortality	5	Climate change, including financing	3
Improvements in education	4	Disparities between subregions and urban and rural areas (health, education, poverty)	3
Social protection	2	Emigration & brain drain	2
Decriminalization of homosexuality	1	Unemployment	2
		Levels of education among women	1
		Affects of wars and natural disasters	1
		Productive employment for youth	1
		Resilience of health system	1
		Localization of SDGs	1
		Timely and relevant data and statistics	1
		Implementation of pop. & dev. policies and plans	1
		Lack of political will, champions	1
		Low population growth	1
		Population ageing	1

Preliminary results

Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference

Bangkok, 15-17 November 2023

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