

POPULATION AGEING AND ITS CONSEQUENCES IN AFRICA

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What is Population Ageing in the African Context?

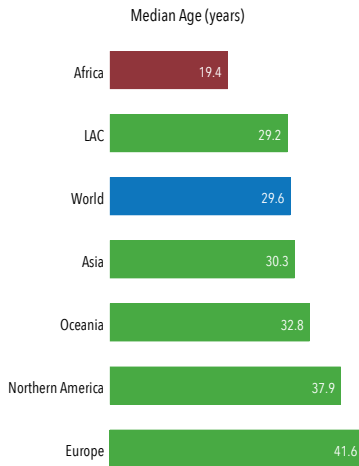
Some Key Consequences of Population Ageing in Africa

Conclusion

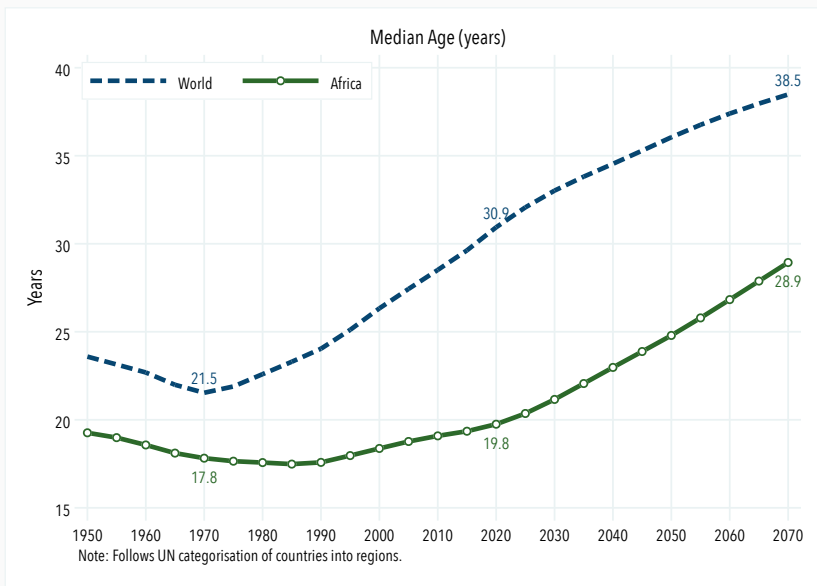
WHAT IS POPULATION AGEING IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT?

AFRICA'S POPULATION

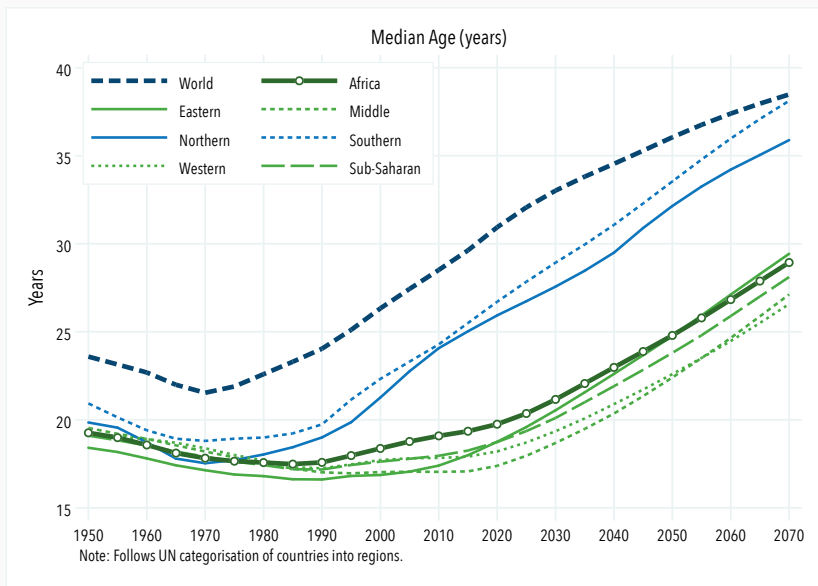
- Africa is home to almost 1.3 billion people, 17% of the global total
- It is also, by far, the world region with the youngest population
- In 2015, more than 50% of Africa's population was under the age of 20 years
- But Africa is a continent of more than 50 countries...



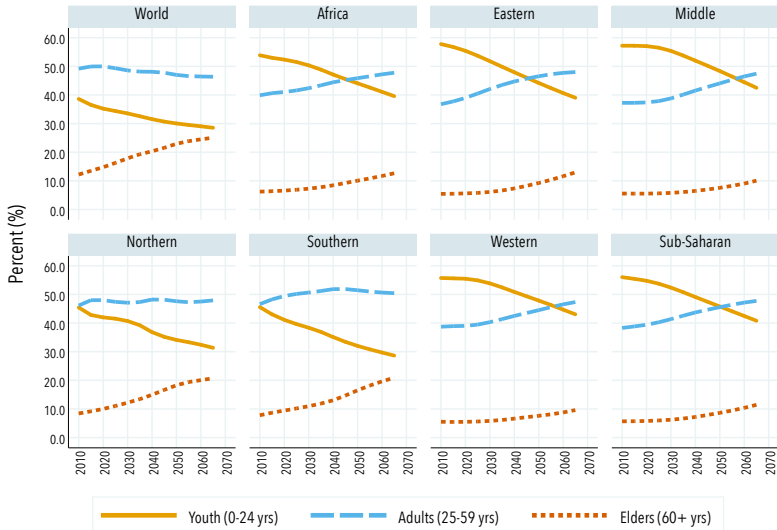
TRENDS AND EXPECTED TRENDS IN MEDIAN AGE



TRENDS AND EXPECTED TRENDS IN MEDIAN AGE



EXPECTED TRENDS IN POPULATION AGE STRUCTURE



POPULATION AGEING IN AFRICA

2015-2065	Absolute change (millions)			Growth rate (% p.a.)		
	Youth	Adults	Elders	Youth	Adults	Elders
Africa	603.2	962.6	299.0	113.0	235.2	464.7
Northern	33.2	85.1	59.6	39.3	90.0	330.0
Eastern	206.9	362.1	113.4	108.9	286.6	616.4
Middle	120.1	167.5	38.5	166.5	356.5	551.7
Southern	0.0	15.6	12.9	-0.1	56.9	261.8
Western	242.9	332.3	74.5	149.2	291.6	466.8
Sub-Saharan	569.9	877.4	239.3	126.8	278.9	517.3

- Between 2013 and 2063, Africa's share of the global population will double from 15.7% to 29.9%
- Its share of the working-age population will rise from 13.2% to 30.8%

In the African context, then, “population ageing” typically means something different to a usual understanding of the term

- In some countries—mainly in north and southern Africa—population ageing over the next century *will* be about a **growing elderly population**
- In most countries—mainly in east, west and central Africa—population ageing is about a **rapidly growing working age population**

In reality, all African countries will need to deal with both sets of issues to varying degrees

SOME KEY CONSEQUENCES OF POPULATION AGEING IN AFRICA

THREE KEY CONSEQUENCES

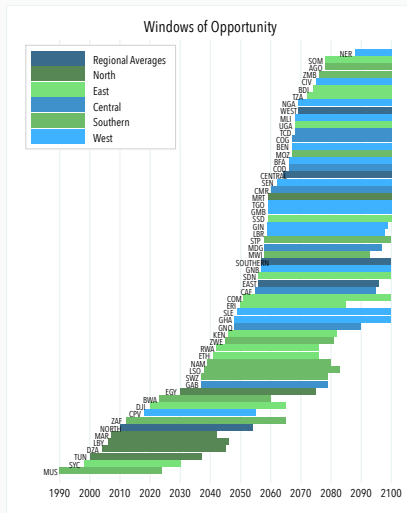
1. In the majority of countries, **potential for a demographic dividend** (but sooner than conventional approaches would suggest)
2. A **jobs challenge** of unprecedented scale (at least in the African experience)
3. Increased demands for robust and sustainable **social protection** systems, particularly for the elderly

I. POTENTIAL FOR A DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND

- The **demographic window of opportunity** is said to be open (i) when the proportion of children and youth under 15 years falls below 30 percent of the total population, and (ii) while the proportion of people aged 65 years and older remains below 15 percent of the population

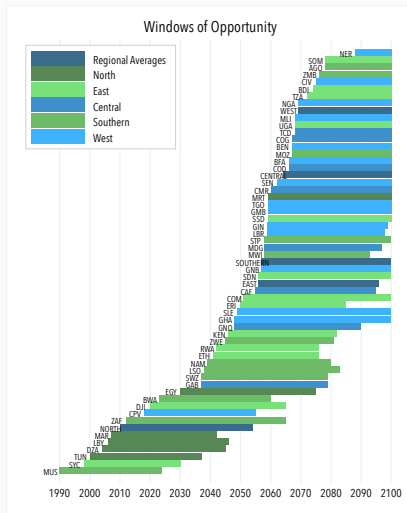
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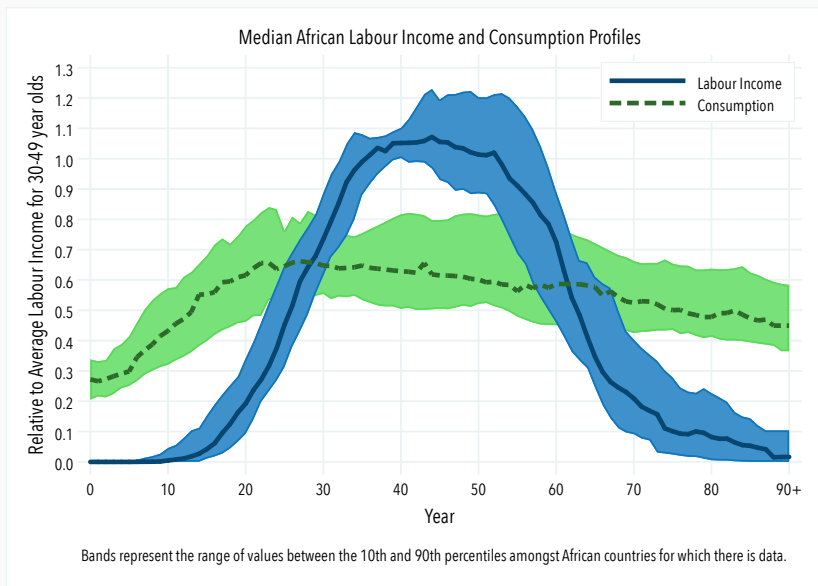


I. POTENTIAL FOR A DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND

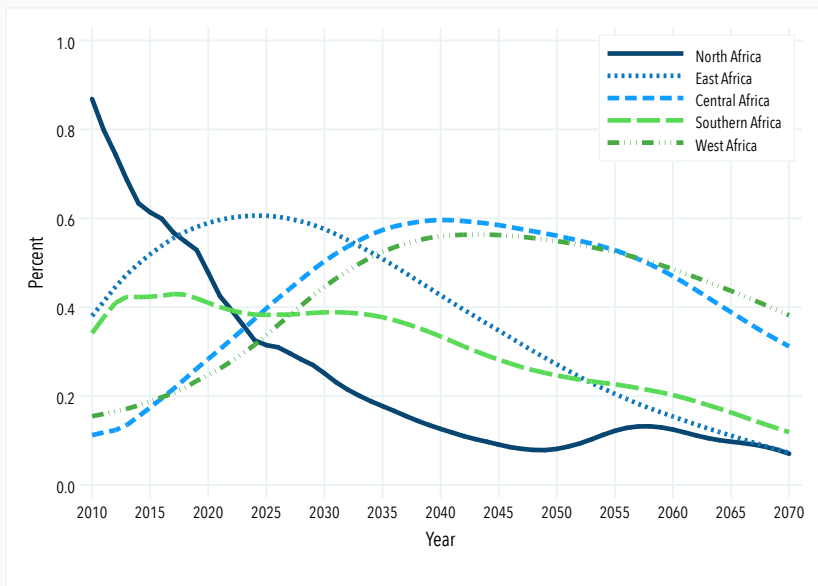
- The **demographic window of opportunity** is said to be open (i) when the proportion of children and youth under 15 years falls below 30 percent of the total population, and (ii) while the proportion of people aged 65 years and older remains below 15 percent of the population
- NTA estimates suggest much earlier demographic dividends...



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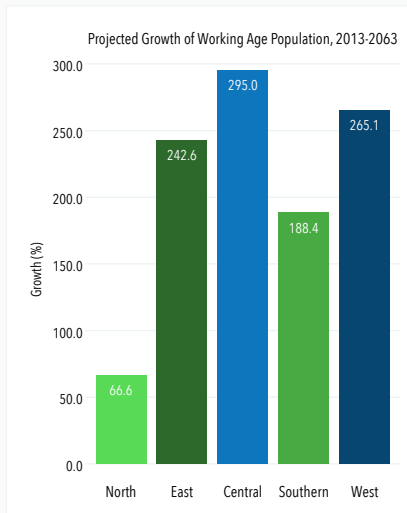


I. POTENTIAL FOR A DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND



II. AN UNPRECEDENTED JOBS CHALLENGE

- The next half-century will require sustained job creation on an unprecedented scale
- 81% of the global expansion of the working-age population (2013-2063) will occur in Africa
- Need for policies to promote better quality jobs, productivity, remuneration, and to address barriers preventing women from accessing these jobs or that make it hard for them to find and keep these jobs

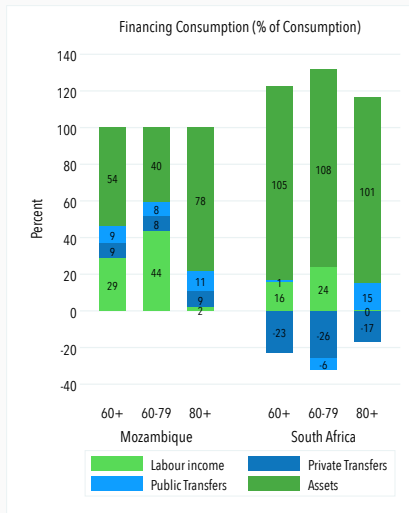


II. AN UNPRECEDENTED JOBS CHALLENGE

2016-2063, holding LFPR, unemployment rate constant	Labour Force growth		Employment change	Jobs needed per month
	<i>Millions</i>	<i>% of 2016</i>	<i>% p.a</i>	<i>'000s</i>
Africa	1 015.3	217.6	2.5	1 681
North Africa	54.9	85.4	1.3	85
East Africa	325.6	232.4	2.6	547
Central Africa	172.1	270.6	2.8	293
Southern Africa	141.0	206.2	2.4	218
West Africa	321.6	240.8	2.6	538
Sub-Saharan Africa	960.4	237.2	2.6	1 596

III. EXPANSION OF SOCIAL PROTECTION & OTHER SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT

- Social protection systems typically weak
- Out of 36 SSA countries, median coverage of social security schemes around 5% (World Bank, 2012)
- Amongst the elderly in SSA, only 1 in 5 receive an old-age pension (ILO, 2014)
- Challenges of informality, small tax bases, low productivity/pay



CONCLUSION

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- Africa's population is very young, but individual country situations vary significantly
- Population ageing in Africa is predominantly about the growth of the working age population
- NTA estimates suggest earlier demographic dividends than dependency ratio approaches, require greater policy urgency
- The scale of the jobs challenge is huge, and will require rapid and sustained economic growth over decades, as well as complementary policies in areas such as education, health, infrastructure development, urban planning, etc.
- In Southern and North Africa, ageing populations will necessitate interventions aimed at supporting consumption amongst the elderly, either through social protection or own savings

THANK YOU