

# Adjusting the Lens to Growing Older

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#### 'Adjusting the Lens'

#### Presentation

- population ageing snapshot
- myths vs truths
- international plans and their role
- meaningful voices

## Population Ageing Snapshot

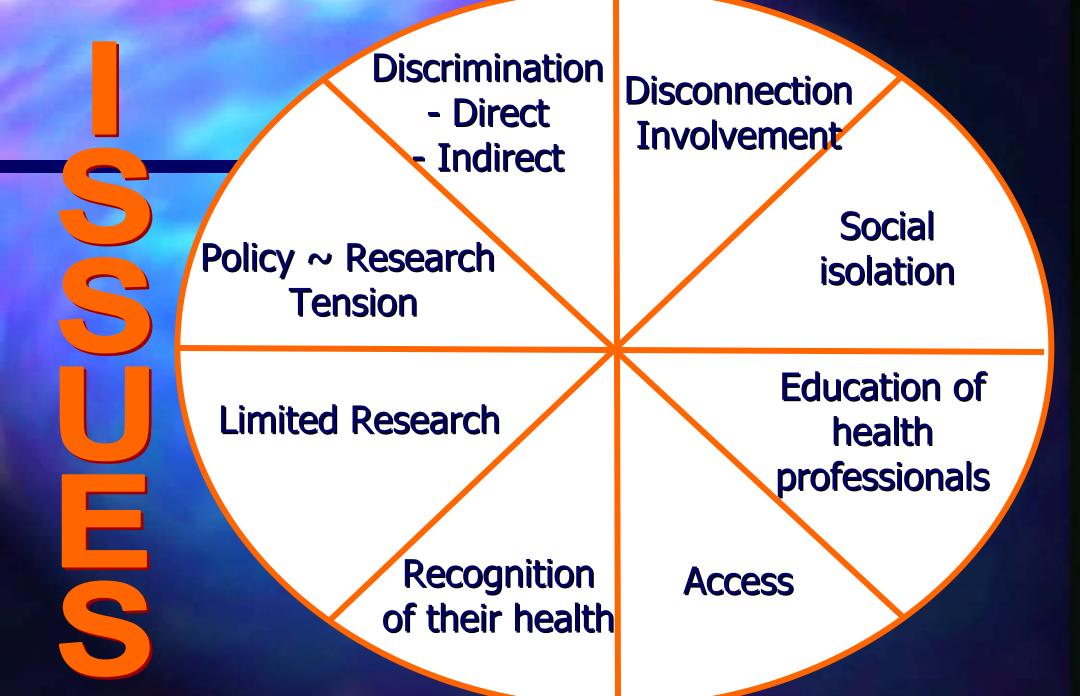
### World Population Ageing 2000 - 50

	Life Exp	60yrs +	Med. age	Support ratio
Australia	79 – 83y	1.7 ↑	35 – 42y	5.5 – 2.7
Brazil	68 – 77y	3.0 ↑	26 – 38y	12.9 – 3.5
Canada	79 – 83y	1.8 ↑	37 – 44y	5.4 – 2.4
Ethiopia	43 – 67y	1.4 ↑	18 – 24y	17.6 - 15
India	64 – 75y	2.7↑	20 – 38y	12.4 - 4.4
Nigeria	52 – 69y	2.1 ↑	17 – 30y	17.0 – 10.0

#### Some Key (Ageing) Issues

- Poverty / Financial Protection
- Discrimination and Ageism
- Abuse and Neglect
- > Health and Well Being
- Gender

## Double and Triple Jeopardy



#### LGBT - Beyond the statistics

#### A. Living Arrangements

up to 75% vs less than 33% (alone)

#### B. Children

- 90% vs 20% agreement (no children)

#### C. Ageing

- 80% vs less than 40% (as a single person)

## Language and the effect on Policy Development

- Seniors
- The Elderly
- Oldies
- Frail people
- Elders
- Retirees

- 'Bed blockers'
- Old (er) people
- Vulnerable people
- Older adults
- Mature adults
- 64 pluses

## Public Policy demonstrating changing attitudes

- Homeosexual Law Reform Act 1967
- Section 28 of the Local Govt Act 1988
- 1994 Age of consent
- Human Rights Act
   1998

- Parliament Act 2000
- European Framework Directive (2000)
- Towards equality and diversity (2001)
- Supporting inclusive communities (2001)
- Civil Partnerships Bill (2002)

#### 1774 MADHOUSE ACT

"shall upon any pretence whatsoever, conceal, harbour, entertain, or confine, in any house or place, kept for the reception of lunatics, more than one lunatic at any time", without a licence for that purpose (Chancery lunatics excepted) was, "for every such offence" to "forfeit and pay" £500.

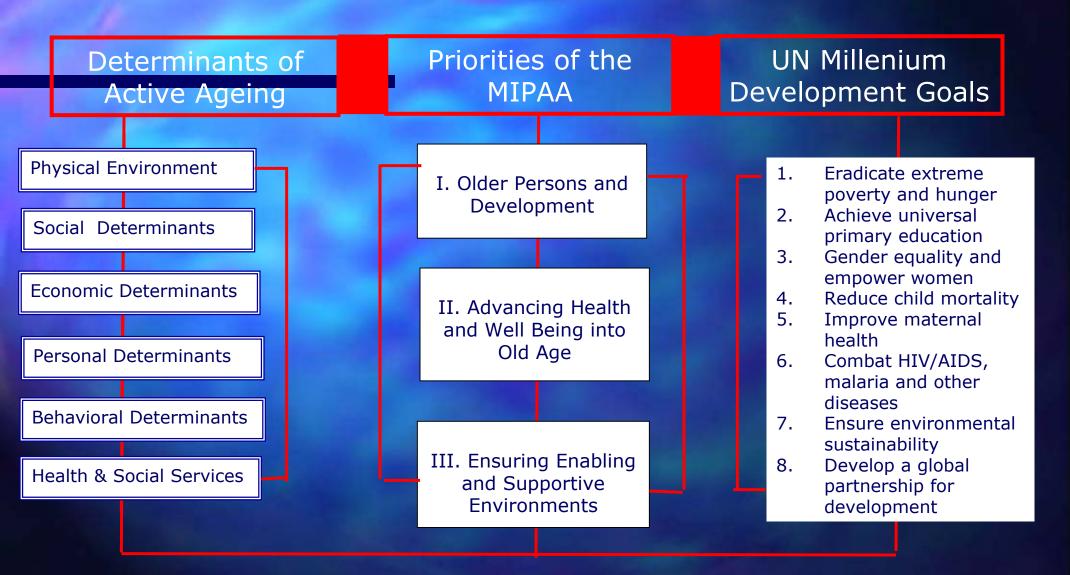
#### Good practice examples

- OUTHOUSE (Nottingham, 1999)
- LaGa (Waltham)
- GLC Network (Alzheimer's Society)
- Older lesbian and gay men forum

Carers of people with

#### International Context

#### International Frameworks





#### Madrid International Plan of Action on Mainstreaming

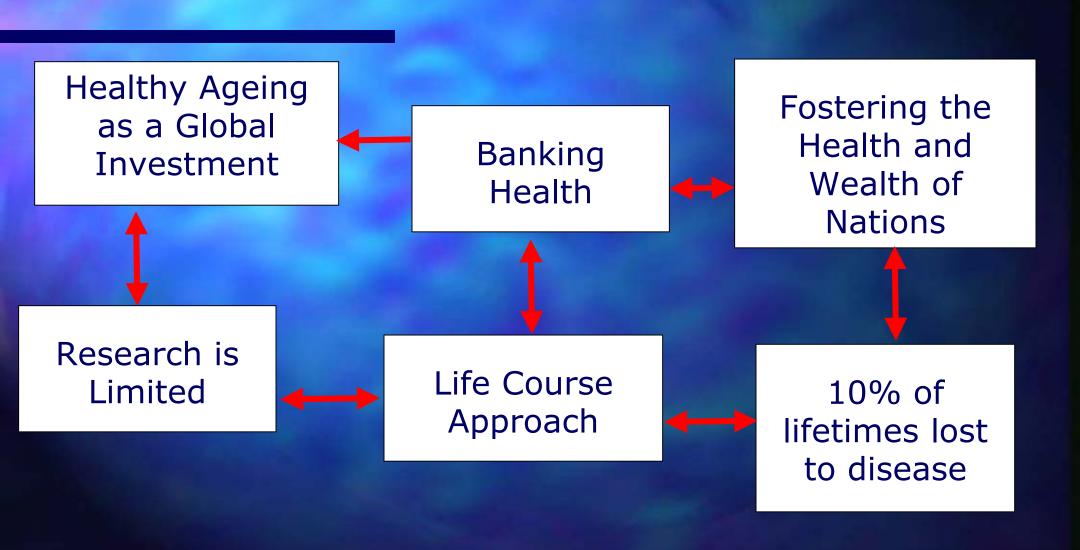
- Global agendas
- Equitable approach to policy integration
- Linking ageing to other frameworks for social and economic development and human rights
- Recognition of ability of older persons to contribute to society

#### Mainstreaming Practices

#### New Zealand:

'Positive Ageing Strategy' (2001) focuses on ..... the opportunity 'to age in place', non-discrimination of rural communities, elimination of ageism in employment, attitude change, and opportunities for participation concerning older persons.

#### "Healthy Ageing is an Individual and Public Health Matter" (Butler, 2001)



#### Special Issues

#### 1.3 Billion People in Poverty

- 800m people dying of starvation,
   500m are chronically
   malnourished
- 100m people are below the poverty line in the industrialised world
- Of the world's 23m people with HIV/Aids ~ 93% live in developing countries

#### Awakening Fears

- Survivors from the holocaust and genocides pose uncharted challenges
- Older people in situations of armed conflict – 2/3 elderly population
- Tsunami and other environmental disasters

#### Forgotten People

- 16 million children under 15 yrs have lost one or both parents to HIVAIDS
- In South Africa, Uganda 40% of children live with grandparents, in Zimbabwe is it over 50%
- In sub-Saharan Africa women comprise 57% of infected adults

### International Federation on Ageing (IFA)

- One of the premier INGOs dedicated to improving the lives of older people
- We have consultative status at the United Nations and its agencies
- We represent ~45 million older persons across the world through our members

#### What does the IFA do?

We work with, for and on behalf of individuals, NGOs, government, corporate sector at different levels and in different ways.

- Direct project work
- Vehicle for the collection, aggregation and dissemination of information
- Building bridges, linking and strengthening stakeholders towards greater dialogue