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How to Enable “Productive Ageing”? Policy Options

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Ageing is a natural phenomenon of the life course. Societies have various ways in dealing with their respective senior members. However, human societies have seen an unprecedented age bonus with an extended life expectancy into the 80's. Number of people who are older than 60 years of age reached 901 million in year 2015, constitute 12,3% of the total worldwide population. By 2050, it was forecasted that this number will reach 2,09 billion worldwide. This has changed the demographic distribution of populations and the demand patterns for public services.

Distribution of the senior population is pretty uneven correlating with the wealth of individual countries. Presently, most of the advanced economies have 20-29% of the population older than 60 years of age. By 2050 African countries are the only ones enjoy a youth bonus while the rest of the world are greying fast (UNDESA, 2015). Rapid depletion of the workforce of the 25-group is a major cause of rethinking, especially in the area of age, productivity, and human rights nexus.

In the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the SDGs clearly identify older people as an integral part of social development in Goal 3 – “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”. This is particularly poignant for the senior citizens of the lower socioeconomic strata. Therefore, the SDG 3 serves

as a policy reminder not to leave behind the older population in any shape or forms. An integrated approach to policy making will range from rethinking physical environment, infrastructure to public financing, institutional design and explicitly social contract and solidarity such as welfare and insurance schemes.

How to provide for senior citizens sustainable living, care, and access to opportunities of continued participation in different spheres of life has become a major policy challenge in all countries. What could be the right policy mix to address the needs of the senior citizens so that they can sustain an active and productive lifestyle? How to adopt an integrated approach in tackling the ageing issue in the context of workforce development? The panel welcomes international and interdisciplinary proposals, especially addressing the following issues:

1. How to enable productive ageing and create meaning in life?
2. How to foster intergenerational connectivity and partnerships (e.g. Silver Business Angel)?
3. How could ageing be a driver of technological and social innovations, e.g., use of technology to support ageing persons abilities?
4. How to reframe life cycle beyond traditionally held conceptions?
5. How to redesign labour market and employment policy options for inclusive and participatory ageing society, e.g., mandatory retirement age
6. How to reinvent spatial arrangements, e.g., housing, public spaces, urban planning, e.g., mobility?
7. How to promote a total government approach to productive ageing?

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CALENDAR – CALENDRIER

28 February 2018	Abstract submission deadline	Date limite pour l’envoi des résumés	28 février 2018
7 March 2018	Authors’ notification	Notification aux auteurs	7 mars 2018
13 May 2018	Papers deadline	Date limite pour la soumission des contributions	13 mai 2018