

# Population ageing in ASEAN countries: trends and perspectives

Sabine Henning, Ph.D.

Chief, Sustainable Demographic Transition Section  
Social Development Division

Expert Group Meeting on the  
Proposed Regional Action Plan to  
Implement The Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Ageing:  
Empowering Older Persons in ASEAN  
Bangkok, 29-30 April 2019

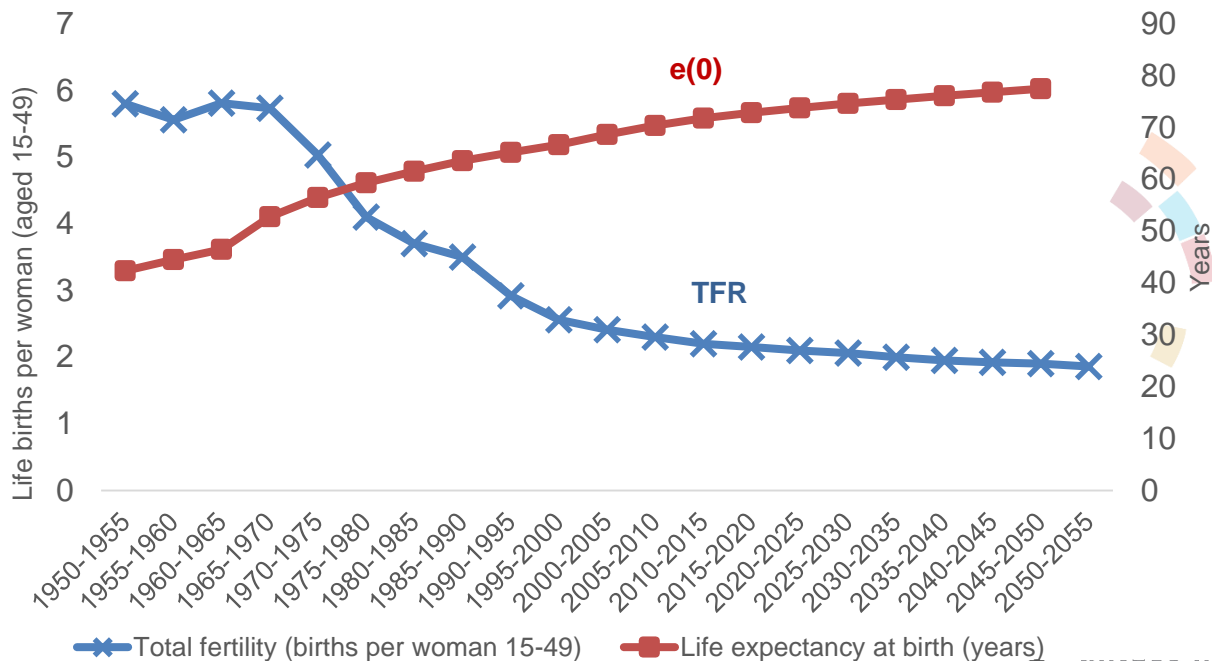


# Older persons: many faces of one of the major achievements of development



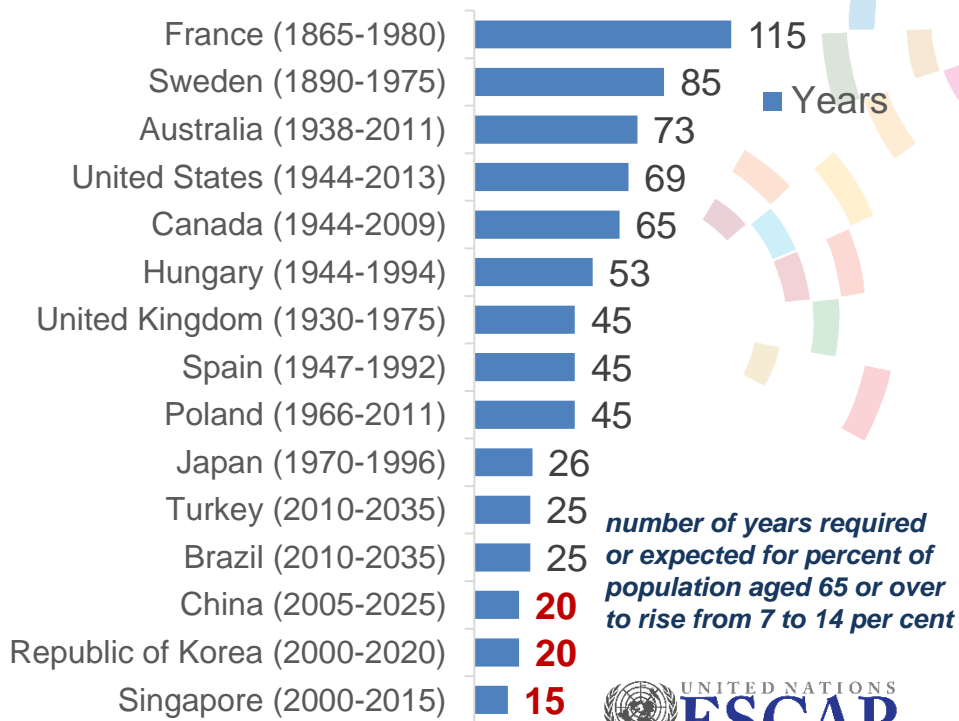
# Population ageing: a major achievement of development

(total fertility and life expectancy at birth, Asia, 1950-2050)

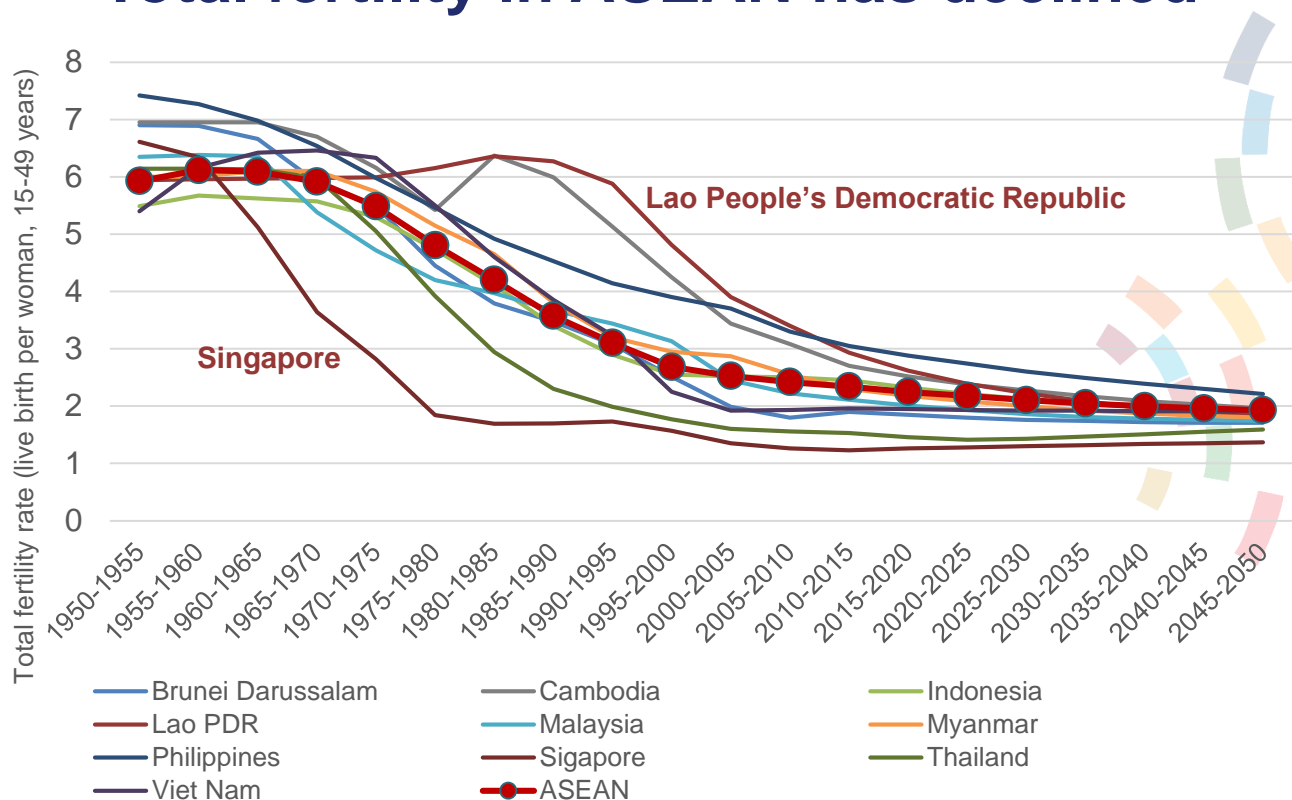


Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).  
*World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations,  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).

# The speed of population ageing is rapid in Asia-Pacific

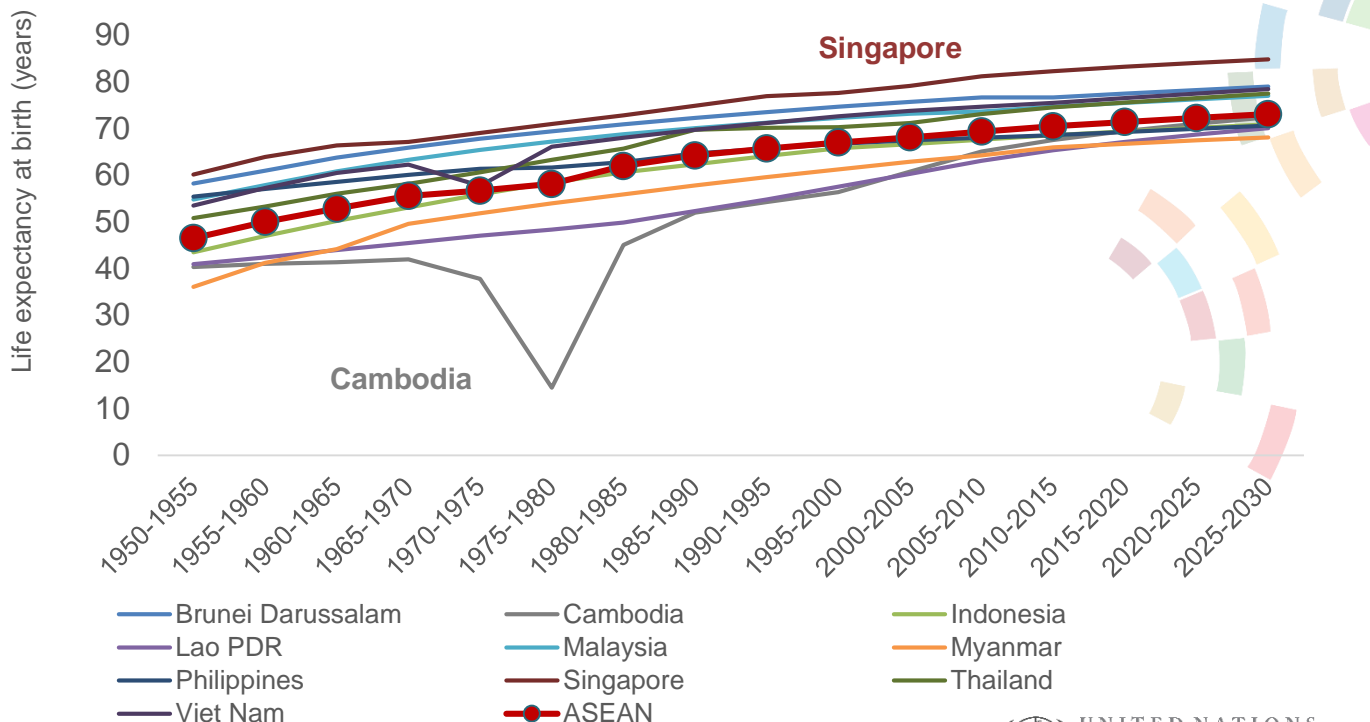


# Total fertility in ASEAN has declined



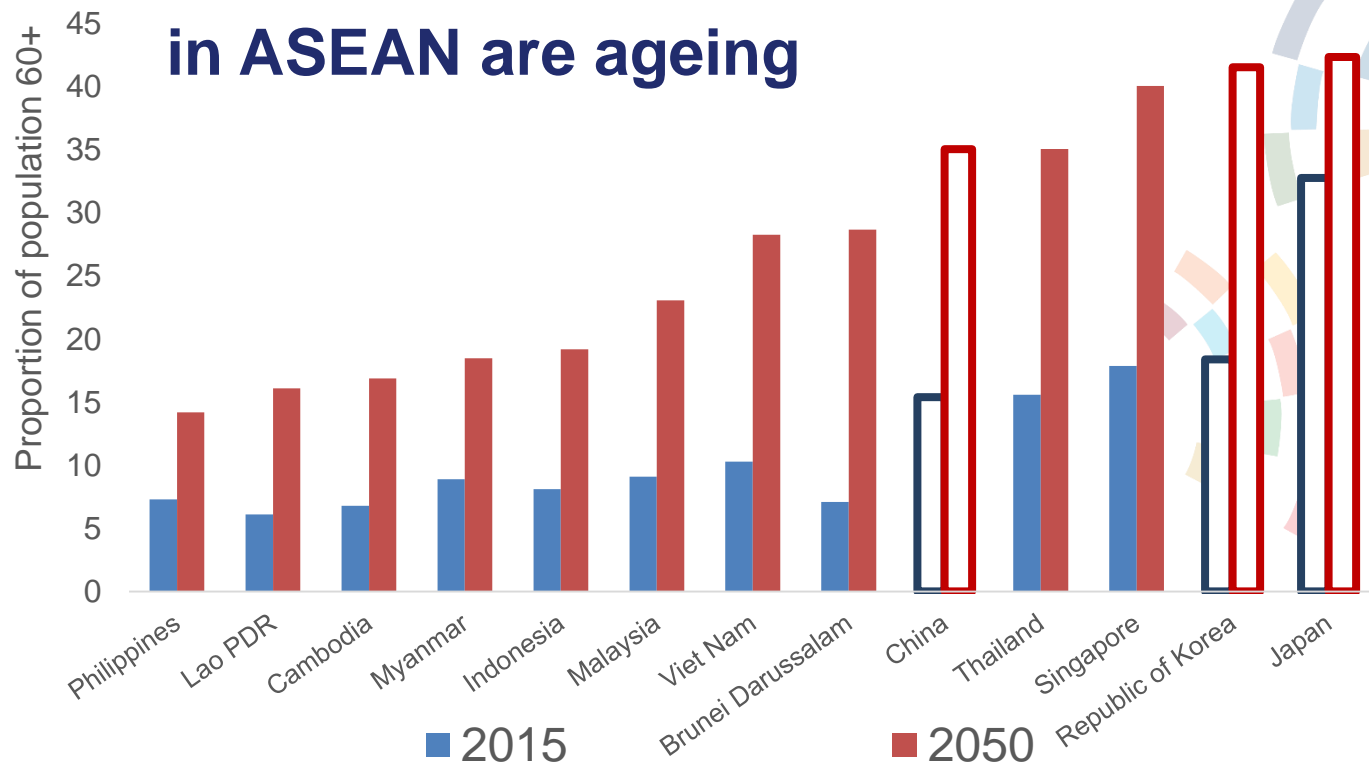
Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).  
 World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition; United Nations,  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).

# Life expectancy at birth in ASEAN has increased

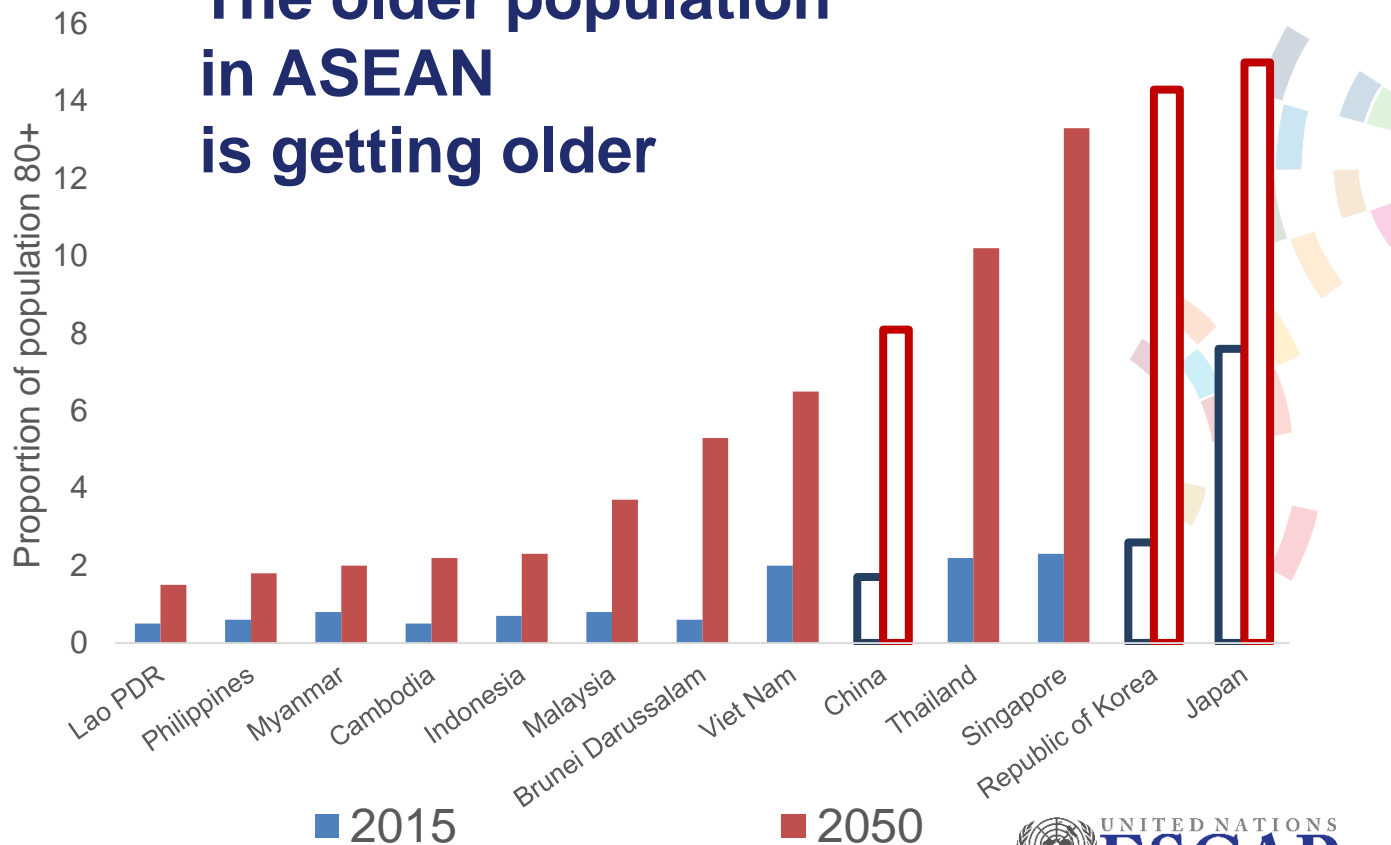


Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).  
 World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition; United Nations,  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).

# All countries in ASEAN are ageing



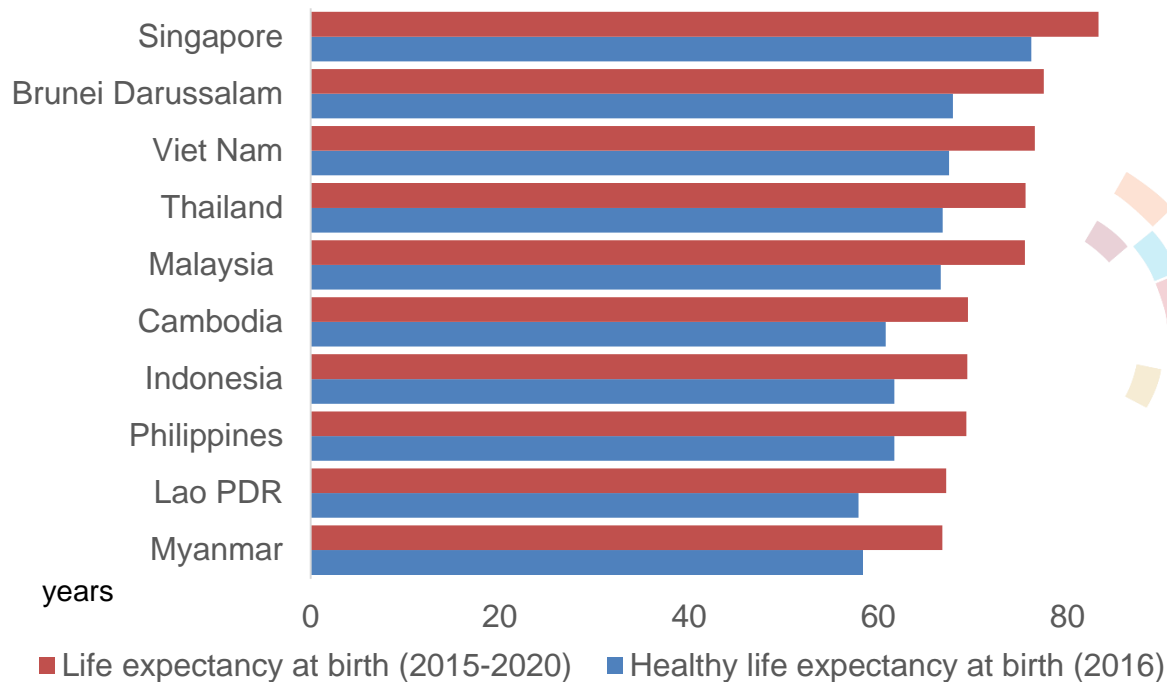
# The older population in ASEAN is getting older



Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). *World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017). China, Japan and the Republic of Korea were added to show a comparison..



# In ASEAN, older persons spend up to 10 years with impairments



# From “ageing” to “aged” in ASEAN

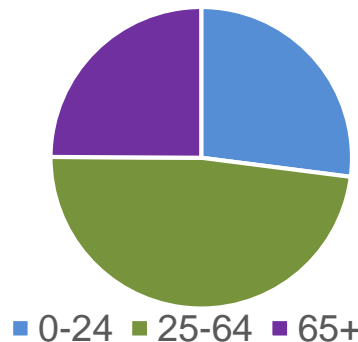
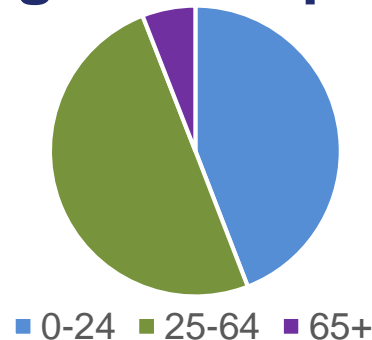
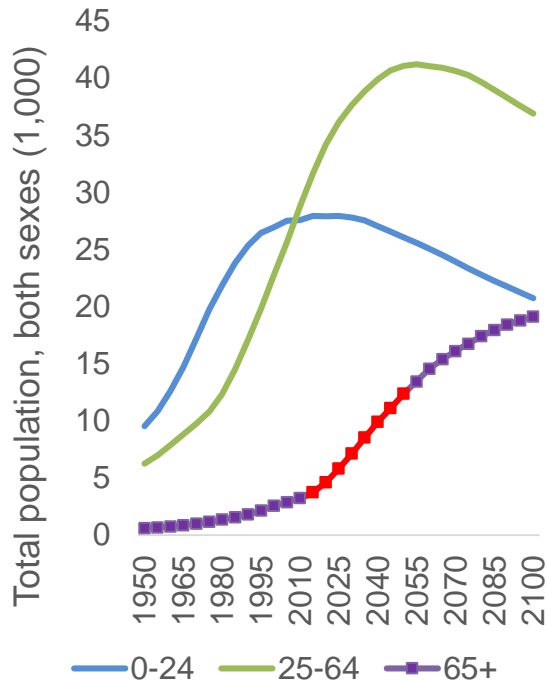
“ageing” - 7-14 per cent of the population 60+; “aged” - 14+ per cent of the population 60+

## Percent of population 60 years or over by year

	Ageing		Aged			
Brunei Darussalam	2019	9.0	2028	14.4	2050	28.7
Cambodia		7.4	2044	14.6		16.9
Indonesia		9.2	2033	14.0		19.2
Lao PDR		6.6	2046	14.0		16.1
Malaysia		10.4	2031	14.1		23.1
Myanmar		10.0	2033	14.0		18.5
Philippines		8.0	2050	14.2		14.2
Singapore		21.3				40.1
Thailand		18.4				35.1
Viet Nam		12.0	2023	14.0		28.3

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).  
*World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations,  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).

# In ASEAN by 2100, the number of young = older persons



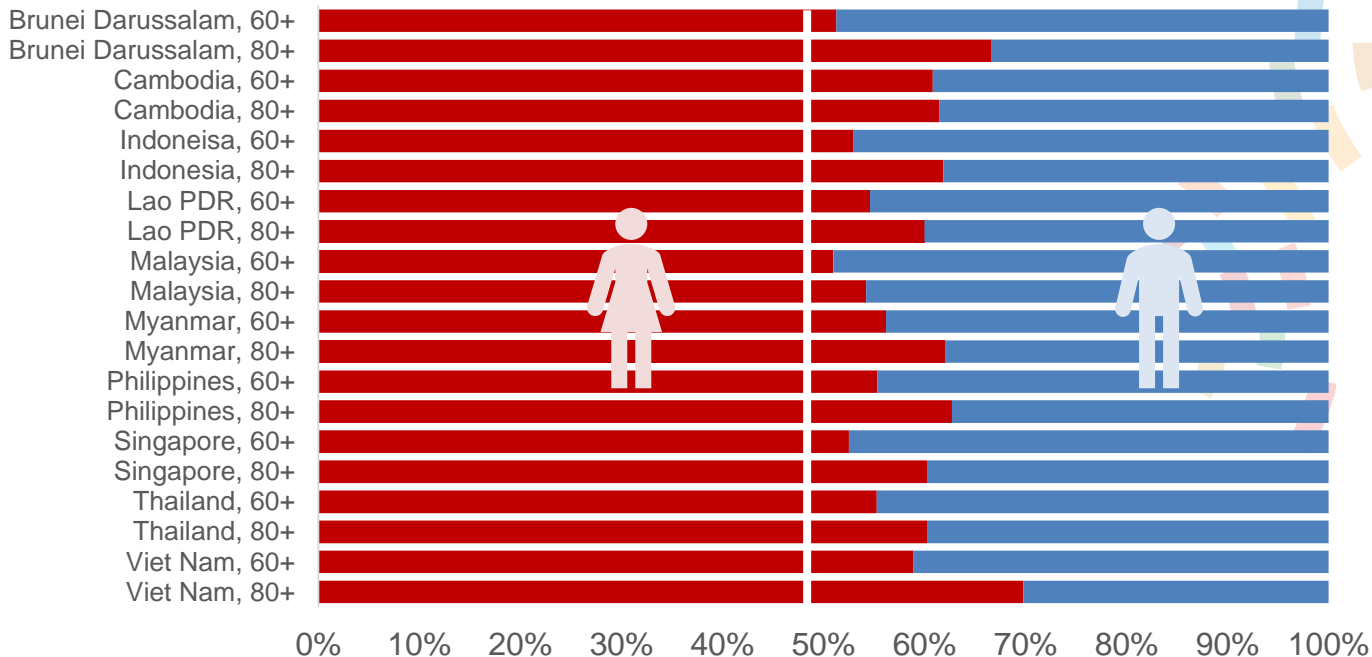
Per cent of  
total population

2015

2100

# Women comprise the majority of older persons in ASEAN, 2019

(percentage of older men and women in the total population by age group)



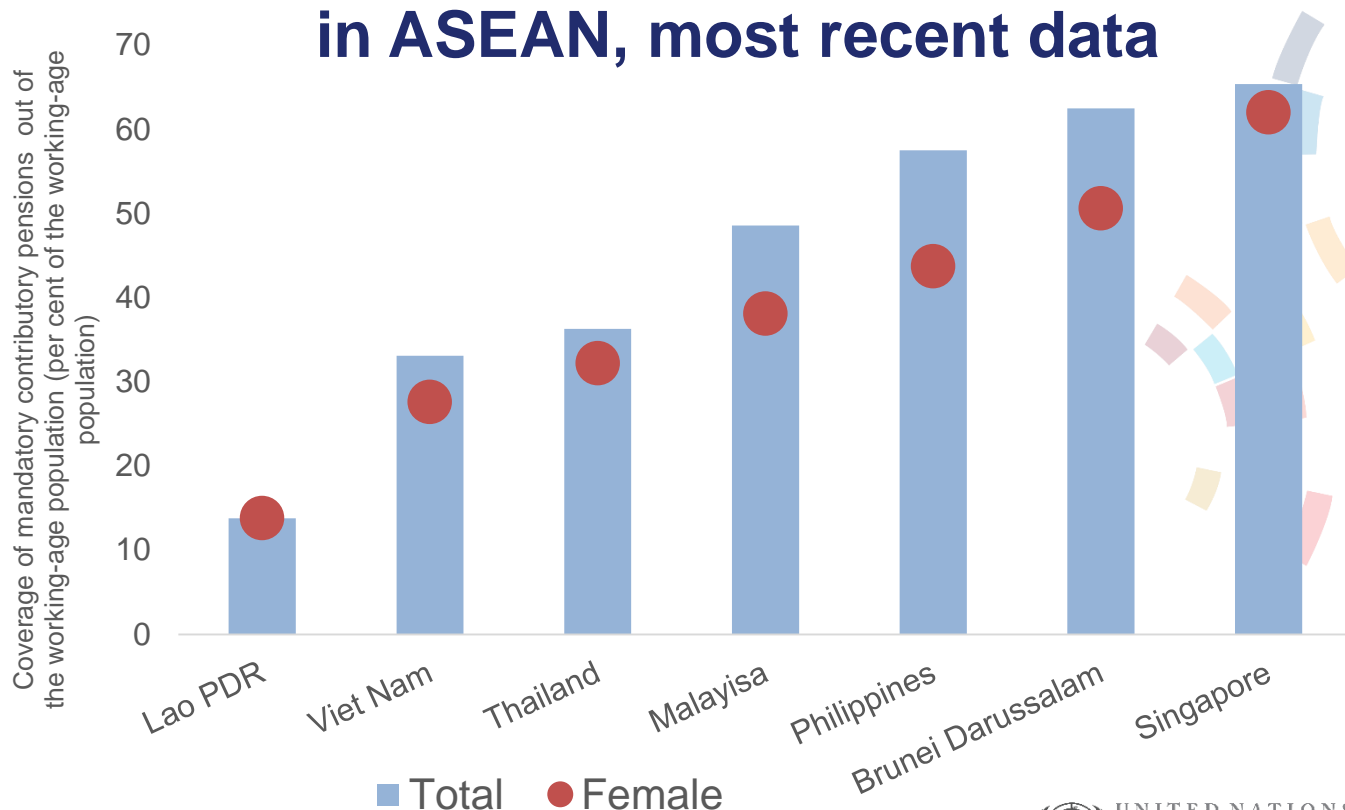
Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).  
*World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision - Special Aggregates, DVD Edition*; United Nations,  
 Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2017).

# Older women are ....



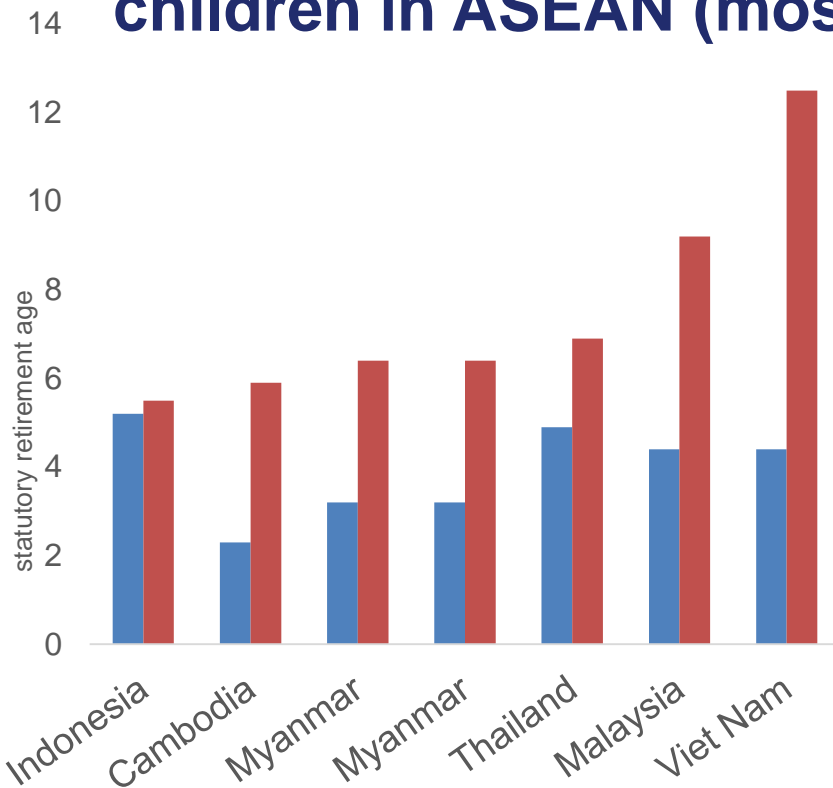
- more likely to live alone
- less likely to have an income, own property, have a pension => higher rates of poverty
- face problems accessing services (health, education, housing etc.) and decent work
- more likely to be subject to neglect, abuse and discrimination

# Pension coverage remains low in ASEAN, most recent data



Source: United Nations Statistics Division, SDG indicators global database. Data are from Social Security Inquiry, International Labour Organisation (ILO) (accessed 26 April 2019); only countries with available data are shown.

# Most older persons live with their children in ASEAN (most recent data)



**... but women are more likely to live alone than men**

Source: United Nations Statistics Division, SDG indicators global database. Data are from Social Security Inquiry, International Labour Organisation (ILO) (accessed 26 April 2019); only countries with available data are shown.

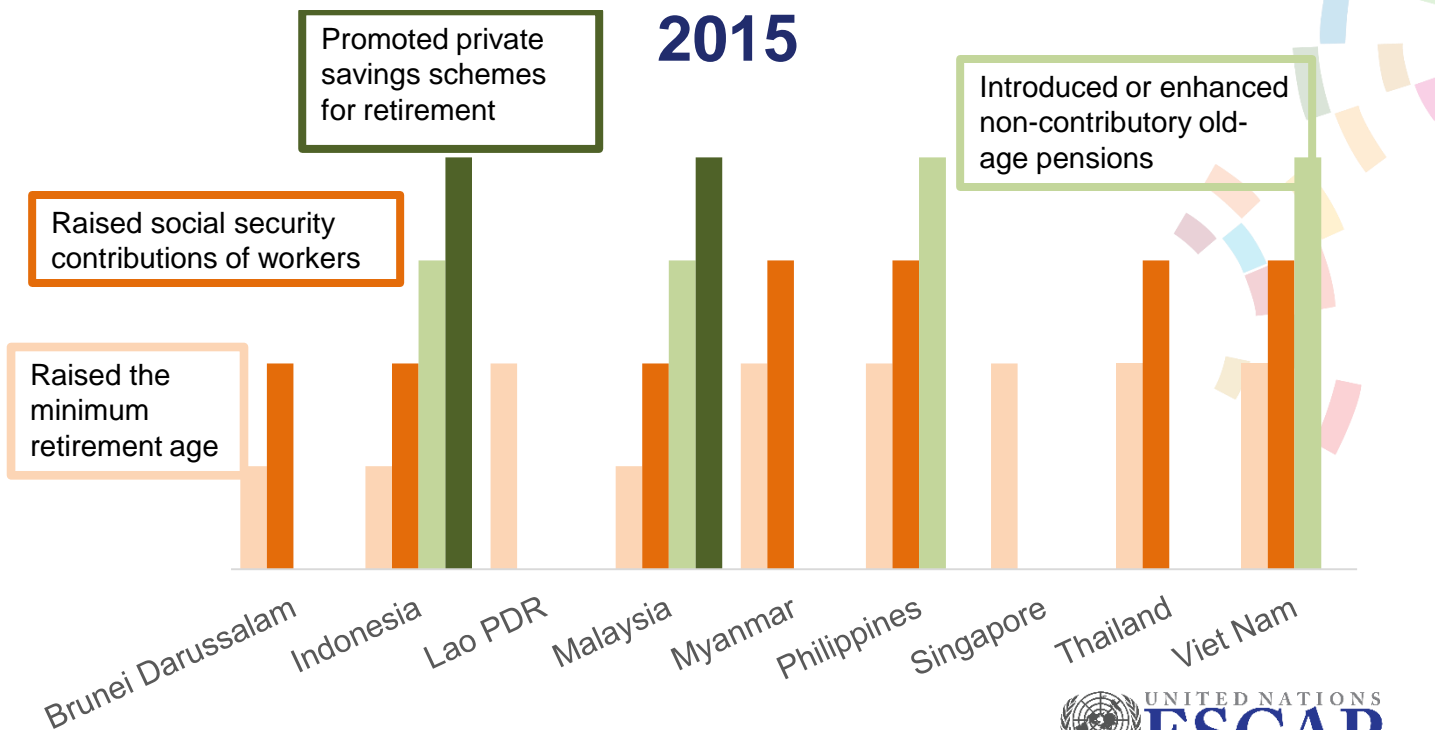
# Governments in ASEAN are concerned about the level of population ageing



	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015
<b>Brunei Darussalam</b>	NA	NA	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Cambodia</b>	NA	NA	Minor	Major	Major	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Indonesia</b>	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Major
<b>Lao PDR</b>	NA	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Myanmar</b>	NA	NA	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor
<b>Philippines</b>	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor	Major
<b>Singapore</b>	Minor	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major
<b>Thailand</b>	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major
<b>Viet Nam</b>	NA	Minor	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major	Major



# Governments in ASEAN have adopted some measures to address population ageing, 2015



Source: Source: United Nations, World Population Policies Database.

[http://esa.un.org/poppolicy/about\\_database.aspx](http://esa.un.org/poppolicy/about_database.aspx) (accessed 27 April 2019), only countries with available data are shown.

# What ESCAP is doing ...



- Supporting MIPAA review
- Population ageing and ICTs
- Capacity-building on measuring population ageing
- Active ageing index
- Capacity-building on pensions
- Research and analysis on levels and trends in population ageing

# Population ageing agenda is an agenda for all generations



# THANK YOU!

**hennings@un.org**

**WWW.UNESCAP.ORG**



UNESCAP



UNESCAP



UNESCAP



UNITEDNATIONSESCAP



UNITEDNATIONSESCAP

