

REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE EXPERT GROUP ON THE ACTIVE AGEING INDEX

I. Organisation and attendance

The fourth meeting of the Expert Group on the Active Ageing Index (AAI) took place on 13–14 November 2014 in Brussels. It was jointly organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. The meeting was hosted by the Liaison Office of the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia (FVG).

The meeting was attended by 14 members of the Expert Group and invited guests, representing policymakers, researchers and civil society organisations.¹

II. Objective

The meeting aimed at launching and discussing the new AAI results for 28 European Union countries (data for 2012), discussing preliminary results for a number of non-EU countries, obtaining experts’ opinion on subnational application of AAI and advice on how to deal with the challenges encountered, and at discussing the further work to be implemented under the second phase of the AAI project.²

In particular the experts were asked to provide their feedback and opinion on:

- Methodological changes in two AAI indicators
- New AAI results for 28 EU countries (data for 2012)
- Trends in AAI results over the period 2010–2012
- Preliminary AAI results for Canada, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, and Turkey
- Cases of subnational application of AAI: Poland, Italy, Biscay province (Spain), the Municipality of Udine (Italy)
- Further work under the AAI project

III. Brief summary and overview of decisions³

AAI has gained more recognition as an evidence-based tool not only among researchers but also among policymakers at different levels — national, regional and local. The major challenge for non-EU countries and for subnational application is the lack of data to calculate AAI comparable with EU-level AAI. It is however important to see AAI as a framework which should be used in a “faithful but flexible” way, meaning that, comparison across countries left aside, AAI can be adjusted for a particular country, region or municipality, as long as the original concepts are adhered to. Adjusting does not imply drastic changes to methodology but possible replacement of some variables with close ones for which data are available. As long as such adjustments are consistent through the time (and through the regions in case of regional-level analysis) and allow analysing results and trends in AAI for a given country.

The question of interpretation of AAI and its results requires more consideration. The methodology, including weights and contribution of indicators and domains to AAI, should be even more clear and transparent. Reminders on what AAI actually measures (i.e.: “untapped potential of the contribution of older people”) seem also necessary to avoid confusion with well-being measuring indicators/indices (such as Global AgeWatch Index). Presentation of trends in AAI needs to be

¹ See Annex 1 for the list of participants.

² See Annex 2 for the meeting agenda.

³ See Annex 3 for the minutes of the Fourth meeting.

supported by the indicator-by-indicator analysis of the changes. Depending on the case, some contextual information might be needed while presenting AAI results (e.g. employment domain results accompanied by the information on the overall employment level in the country/region). The question of target setting requires further work.

It is important to continue raising visibility of AAI and promoting its use at different levels, particularly based on the actual examples of AAI application. A national seminar will be organised in 2015 in Lithuania, and possibly in a number of other countries. The International Seminar bringing together researchers (including lead authors of the invited papers), policymakers and civil society will take place on 16–17 April 2015 in Brussels and will contribute to raising visibility of AAI but also to enrich the project with new ideas.

Lastly, the use of the AAI in the context of the review of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) is encouraged. Its third cycle of review will finish in 2017. Using AAI as a common monitoring tool reflecting all the MIPAA goals would be very useful.

Taking into account the issues mentioned above, the following decisions were made:

Research

- finalise AAI calculation for 2008
- finalise computing AAI for Canada, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, and Turkey, to the extent possible
- continue working towards the goal of rendering AAI “faithful and flexible”, that is to ensure that AAI is a framework applicable at different levels and in different countries
- choose carefully the period for trend analysis; it is suggested to cover the period 2008–2012
- analytical paper on the AAI trends 2008–2012 to be shared with the Expert group for consultation mid-February 2015 and to be presented at the International Seminar (16–17 April 2015, Brussels)
- implement indicator-by-indicator analysis while analysing what is behind the changes in AAI results over time
- investigate a feasibility for AAI breakdown other than by gender, e.g. by education, occupation, urban/rural, at least for some selected indicators and within some of the AAI domains
- study options of using clusters for presenting AAI results (i.e. income levels, age structure, etc.).

Methodology

- methodology changes to the indicators 3.1 and 3.7 were approved
- there is a need for clearer explanation of the choice behind the weights
- make AAI methodology more transparent and clear
- follow up with Eurostat to ensure continuation of collection of variables used in AAI
- follow up with Switzerland and Norway about their participation in the next wave of EQLS

Interpretation

- more efforts are needed to ensure correct interpretation of the AAI results, including
 - stressing its main aim which is measuring the potential of older people and not their well-being as such
 - providing contextual information while presenting the results, e.g. employment rate for a given country
- continue discussion on possible targets and goalposts
- not to include in the European ranking Canada and the United States and to develop country profiles for the latter

Promoting use of AAI

- International seminar 16–17 April 2015, Brussels
 - a concept paper including programme of the seminar and invitees to be shared with the Expert group by 20 December 2014
- promote use of AAI for monitoring implementation of MIPAA under the third cycle of its implementation at least by the EU countries
- expert group members to be approached regarding possible input to national seminars

Expert Group

- the advice and expertise of the group are essential to the project; the cooperation is to be continued throughout the AAI project
- it was suggested to have a half-day Expert group meeting back to back to the International Seminar on 17 April 2015 and the next meeting in October 2015.

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ANNEX 2. AGENDA OF THE FOURTH EXPERT GROUP MEETING

DAY 1: 13 NOVEMBER 2014

Chair: Ralf Jacob, European Commission

14:00 – 14:30 **Welcome and project update**

Luisa Poelen, Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia

Ralf Jacob, European Commission

Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, UNECE

14:30 – 16:30 **Presentation of the research results**

- Update of the index for EU-28
- Presentation of the trends analysis

Asghar Zaidi, University of Southampton

16:30 – 16:45 Coffee break

16:45 – 18:00 **Geographical extension of the index**

- Canada, Norway and Switzerland

Asghar Zaidi, University of Southampton

- Serbia and Turkey

Olga Kharitonova, UNECE

18:00 – 18:30 **Feedback on the call for papers and the international seminar**

Kasia Jurczak, European Commission

18:30 Close of day one

DAY 2: 14 NOVEMBER 2014

Chair: Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, UNECE

09:00 – 09:15 **Welcome and recap of day 1**

Renata Bagatin, Member of the Regional Assembly of Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region

Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, UNECE

09:15 – 12:15 **Further adaptations of the index**

- Poland: feedback from the Peer Review and future plans for the index

Jolanta Perek-Białas, Warsaw School of Economics and Jagiellonian University and Pearl Dykstra, Erasmus University Rotterdam

- Biscay province: adaptation at the regional level

Amaia Bacigalupe, University of the Basque Country; Department of Sociology 2

- City of Udine: adaptation at the local level

Furio Honsell, Mayor of Udine City

12:15 – 12:45 **Linking MOPACT and AAI projects**

Asghar Zaidi, University of Southampton

12:45 – 13:00 **Summary and next steps**

Ralf Jacob, European Commission

Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, UNECE

ANNEX 3. MINUTES FROM THE EXPERT GROUP DISCUSSION

13 NOVEMBER (14:00–18:30)

Chair — Mr. Ralf Jacob (European Commission)

The Chair welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. The coordinator of the Brussels Liaison office of the Autonomous Region of Friuli Venezia Giulia (FVG), Ms. Luisa Poclen, welcomed the participant on behalf of Ms. Debora Serracchiani, President of the Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia, Ms. Maria Sandra Telesca, the regional Minister for health and social integration, and Mr. Carlo Fortuna, Head of the Unit for International relations and strategic infrastructures. Ms. Poclen presented information on the FVG Region, which is a part to such networks and projects as ERRIN (European Regions for Research and Innovation), CORAL (Regional policies for active and healthy ageing), and Project Mattone Internazionale; she explained the main activities of the liaison office, in particular: information, representation, lobbying, networking, training, technical support to civil servants and to political representatives coming from the region. Ms. Poclen mentioned the potential of AAI in supporting the implementation of a law on active ageing that has been recently approved by the Regional Assembly of FVG.

The Chair thanked Ms. Poclen and the FVG region for hosting the meeting. He thanked the experts for their continuous commitment to the project and valuable input. Mr. Jacob pointed out that it is the first time that there is a possibility to look at the changes in AAI results.

Ms. Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich (UNECE) expressed her appreciation of the commitment of the Expert Group (EG) members to AAI project. She brought to attention of the participants that in 2017 comes to an end the third cycle of implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the UNECE Region. The countries will provide their reports under the framework of the third review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS implementation for which the use of AAI should be promoted in the spirit for the Index to be used at least by the European Union (EU) members.

Mr. Asghar Zaidi (University of Southampton) also thanked the Expert group for bringing their knowledge and expertise essential to AAI development.

METHODOLOGICAL CHANGES TO AAI

Mr. Zaidi explained the changes that have been made to the indicators 3.1 (Physical exercise) and 3.7 (Physical safety). Regarding indicator 3.1, the source has been changed from Eurobarometer (2010) to EQLS since the latter allows regular monitoring of the indicator and the data coverage is much larger than Eurobarometer. The results for indicator 3.1 based on EQLS are much closer to the Eurobarometer data than those based on a similar question from ESS. The selection of the source for the indicator 3.1 was made in consultation with Mr. Robert Anderson (Eurofound).

The ESS question previously used for the indicator 3.7 is no longer present in the survey, therefore the ESS question “How safe do you — or would you — feel walking alone in this area [Respondent’s local area or neighbourhood] after dark?”, which had been discussed as a possible option for this indicator at early stages of AAI design, replaces the question “How often, if at all, do you worry about becoming a victim of violent crime?”. For both indicators no change occurred to the age group (55+). The results for 2010 were also revised taking into account these changes. The changes were approved by the Expert group.

AAI FOR 28 EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES AND 2010–2012 COMPARISON

Mr. Zaidi proceeded to presentation of the latest results (data for 2012) of AAI for 28 EU member States and the trends in AAI 2010–2012. The North European countries (Sweden, Denmark, Finland), the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are at the top of the ranking. Whereas Greece and the

majority of the Central and Eastern European countries (with exceptions for the Czech Republic and Estonia) are in the bottom part of the ranking. The leading countries overall AAI ranking is around 40 point mark. This means that more of the potential of older people can still be used. This is even truer for the lower-ranked countries. The overall AAI results for men are higher than for women for 19 countries (only in Estonia and Latvia results for women are higher than for men, whereas in Finland the differences are minor). The disparity of the same character is present in the first and third domains (mainly due to the financial security indicators), whereas the second and fourth domains gender gap is more diverse. As for the trends, there is stability observed in the relative position of EU countries. There is a small rise in absolute terms for the majority of the countries (above 1 point for Latvia, Estonia, France and Germany), except for Cyprus, Greece, Portugal and Slovenia. The changes in relative position of Cyprus, Greece, Estonia and France are observed particularly in the employment domain.

Discussion

Interpretation and presentation of the results

It was pointed out that AAI does not take into account the number of working hours. Example of the Netherlands shows that there are a lot of part-time working older people especially among women, and the number of hours will be higher for men than for women.

Mr. Andres Vikat (UNECE) made a point on the situations in Latvia and Estonia saying that men do badly in terms of employment, and that the higher overall AAI results for women than for men are due to this and not because these countries are so equal gender-wise.

Mr. Zaidi suggested providing the information on the employment rate while presenting results to avoid misinterpretation.

It was pointed out that health is not sufficiently represented in the third domain, while the domain is called “Independent, healthy and secure living”. A call for suggestions for a better title of third domain was launched. However, no suggestions were made by the end of the meeting.

Benchmarking and possible goalposts

Ms. Anne-Sophie Parent (AGE Platform Europe) said that within EU full employment is considered 70 per cent, and that 70 per cent of retiring people, according to the Eurobarometer, said that they would like to stay active, and suggested as a possible option using 70 per cent as a goalpost for the first and second domains.

Mr. Jean-Marie Robine (French National Institute of Health and Medical Research) suggested countries establishing their targets themselves.

Another issue raised was the trade-offs between not only domains, but within domains as well. Mr. Kenneth Howse (Oxford University) gave an example of the second domain: care to children/grandchildren can affect participation in voluntary activities.

The Chair stressed that despite the trade-offs between the first and second domains the index does not deny social participation among those who are employed, as it is constructed in such a way that the number of hours of work is not specified. He also pointed out that even if there is no target fixed, any increase in AAI value means increase in activity.

Ms. Gaucaite Wittich reminded that AAI aims at measuring the potential of older people, and not their well-being as such.

Trends 2010–2012:

The Chair pointed out that no major changes in AAI had been expected over such a short period. Ms. Gaucaite Wittich reminded that the data for the second domain are the same as for 2010 as they come

from EQLS 2011-12. Mr. Robert Anderson mentioned that the next wave of EQLS will be in 2016. The comparison over the period 2008–2012 would be more informative. The Chair stressed that it is important to see what indicators drive the changes, as if the changes is driven by one indicator it might be unreliable.

Ms. Hilde Olsen (OECD) stressed that in this short period lots of changes can be assigned to the crisis effects, especially when the comparison is between 2008 and 2012. The Chair agreed that it is important to establish if the changes are occurring naturally or policy-driven. If the change in AAI is driven by the employment domain only it does not have a lot of added value. He stressed that it is important to carry out indicator-by-indicator analysis and to see the contribution of each indicator to the index.

Mr. Robine mentioned that Eurostat is working on modernisation of social statistics, including changes to the EU-SILC legal basis. The changes currently discussed, include regular collection of Global Activity Limitations (GALI) variable and its inclusion as a core variable in all EU social surveys (this variable is used for calculation of Healthy Life years). Moreover, an additional EU-SILC health module is proposed to be carried out every three years. It will be useful for the AAI project to signal their data needs to Eurostat.

Mr. Jacob announced that an analytical paper on the AAI trends 2008–2012 would be presented at the International Seminar (16–17 April 2015, Brussels). The paper will be shared with the Expert group for consultation mid-February 2015.

AAI FOR NON-EU COUNTRIES

Canada, Norway and Switzerland

Mr. Zaidi presented the preliminary results of AAI for Canada, Norway and Switzerland. The two latter countries are not part of EQLS. Particular difficulty for Switzerland is the mental well-being indicator. The research team is trying to get the microdata from the Swiss Health Survey, from which lots of similar variables are available. Ms. Dykstra recommended consulting the Swiss household survey. Mr. Zaidi informed the group that there are similar challenges with data for Norway: 1–2 indicators are missing in the third and fourth domains, which can still be calculated, but mental well-being indicator is also not available. Regarding Canada missing indicators are 3.7, 3.8 and 4.3.

Pilot study: Serbia and Turkey

Ms. Olga Kharitonova (UNECE) presented the preliminary results of the pilot study for Serbia and Turkey. Comparable data for both countries are available for 14 indicators (including first and second domains and the indicators 3.1, 3.8, 4.1, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.6). Data for different years or Proxies are used for the rest of the indicators, except the indicator 4.2 which has not been calculated for both countries. The cooperation with national focal point on ageing and statistical offices is continuing and all the indicators should be possible to calculate.

Discussion

Ms. Olsen asked if it is possible to include Norway and Switzerland in the EQLS survey. Mr. Anderson informed that Norway did not volunteer for the third wave, and that he will approach Norway and Switzerland regarding their participation in the fourth wave.

Mr. Robine pointed out that putting Canada and the United States on top of the European ranking might seem unreliable and might be difficult to justify. Ms. Parent suggested having separate ranking for non-EU countries. Ms. Gaucaite Wittich stated that Iceland, Norway and Switzerland should be included in the same ranking that EU countries, but not Canada and the United States. Mr. Jacob suggested developing country profiles for these countries.

Mr. Robine offered to help with methodology for calculation of the indicator 4.2. The Chair raised the question of how to keep reliability of AAI while using the AAI variables in other surveys. It was agreed not to reject Eurobarometer.

OUTREACH TO STAKEHOLDERS ACTIVITIES

Ms. Kasia Jurczak (European Commission) informed the Expert group about the International Seminar to be held in Brussels on 16–17 April 2015 and the call for papers launched in June 2014. A large number of abstracts were received. An independent Evaluation board assessed the abstracts. The authors will submit the full papers by 19 January 2015. The authors will be invited to present their papers in the format of oral presentation or poster. Ms. Jurczak will share a concept paper including programme of the seminar and invitees with the Expert group by 20 December 2014.

It was agreed to hold a half a day meeting of the Expert group after the International Seminar to discuss, among other matters, results of the seminar and discuss the future of the AAI project.

14 NOVEMBER (9:00–13:00)

Chair — Ms. Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich (UNECE)

The Chair briefly summarised the main outcomes of the discussion of 13 November and presented the programme of the second day of the meeting, which focuses on the topic of subnational application of AAI. She stated that the strong interest that countries demonstrate towards the use of AAI at regional and local levels is due to the fact that a large part of ageing-related policies are formed and applied at a subnational level.

The Chair introduced Ms. Renata Bagatin, member of the Regional Legislative Assembly of Friuli Venezia Giulia, Vice President of the III Committee dealing with healthcare, social services, nutrition, immigration and complementary and supplementary welfare, and member of the II Commission dealing with industry, agriculture and enterprise.

Ms. Bagatin spoke about the initiatives undertaken in the FVG region to tackle the ageing-related challenges. She particularly mentioned the EY2012 for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations that gave an impetus to reflections on the demographic changes in the region. The new head of the region places more importance on issues of health and human well-being. Ms. Bagatin mentioned that Italy has a high level of life expectancy, but the quality of ageing is relatively low. The ageing in the region was recognised, as was the need for an active ageing law. The law on active ageing (for 65+) approved on the week of 3 November 2014 aims at reorganising the society to meet ageing challenges. Ms. Bagatin stressed that the law is not just for older people but for all the generations, and it deals inter alia with family policy, civic culture, transport, housing and health.

SUBNATIONAL APPLICATION OF AAI

Peer review “Active Ageing Index and its extension to the regional level”

Ms. Jolanta Perek-Bialas (Jagiellonian University) and Ms. Dykstra presented the summary of outcomes of the Peer review “Active Ageing Index and its extension to the regional level” held in Krakow on 14–15 October 2014. Ms. Perek-Bialas particularly emphasized the importance of getting the feedback from countries that are already using AAI at national and subnational levels. The main challenge for the countries willing to apply AAI at subnational level is the lack of data. It is essential to involve policymakers to tackle this problem, which requires better presentation of AAI in terms of its added value — how it helps policymakers to monitor the active ageing outcomes at different levels. The efficiency of the bottom-up approach was highlighted, as was the importance of involvement of older people in shaping ageing-related policies and their possible contribution into

acquiring necessary data. The importance of focusing on AAI values and not ranking as such especially for subnational policymaking was stressed. A question of making AAI mandatory at the EU level had also been discussed at the Peer review. Ms. Dykstra pointed out that AAI is more embraced among the Central and Eastern European EU Member states, as it is now that these countries are developing their ageing policies.

Ms. Dykstra also provided an overview of the work by Ms. Kasia Karpinska (Erasmus University Rotterdam) and herself, particularly she presented an analytical tool/framework for policymaking (see Annex 4) based on three policy dimensions: 1) level: regional — national; 2) duration: short-term — long-term; 3) nature: direct — indirect. The size of the bubbles on the graph represents a contribution of the respective indicator to AAI.

Discussion

Several experts recognised the usefulness of the tool, particularly Mr. Sergio Murillo Corzo (Biscay Provincial Government) made a point on the tool being very helpful to raise awareness about active ageing-related matters among regional and local authorities. Ms. Parent expressed concern about presenting this tool to the media as it might be misinterpreted and might make policymakers to focus only on the short-term policies and especially on employment. To avoid this, proper communication ensuring that the correct message reaches various stakeholders is essential.

AAI for the province of Biscay

Mr. Corzo and Ms. Amaia Bacigalupe (University of the Basque Country) presented the results of AAI calculation for the Biscay province (Spain) for the years 2012–2013. Mr. Corzo mentioned that in 2013, while building a framework for a comprehensive strategy on ageing a need in a tool to measure its implementation arose, and AAI is a tool that allows such monitoring. Ms. Bacigalupe presented to the Expert group the methodology of AAI calculation for Biscay, the computation results and challenges encountered. Due to lack of the regional-level data some adjustments were necessary, e.g. for the indicators 2.2 and 4.3 the adjusted national-level data were used; or for the indicator 3.2 dental care needs are included into the general medical needs, etc. Overall, a remarkable 86 per cent level of comparability with AAI was achieved. As for the results, overall AAI for the province of Biscay is slightly higher than the mean for 27 EU Countries (data for 2010), and almost two points higher than the overall AAI value for Spain. The breakdown by gender was not possible to implement. However, to incorporate perspective of social inequality (analysis by subgroups defined by gender, socioeconomic position etc.) the University of the Basque Country is currently carrying out a telephone survey (via telephone centres) based on the questions of the original AAI methodology to obtain the necessary data. Ms. Bacigalupe reiterated to the issue of the lack of data at a subnational level whereas ageing-related policies are implemented at this very level.

Experience of the Municipality of Udine

Mr. Furio Honsell (Mayor of the Municipality of Udine) presented major activities implemented to promote active and healthy ageing in the municipality, including a number of good practices undertaken under the WHO Healthy Cities and Age-Friendly Cities projects; as well as how the AAI indicators are used to build a framework for monitoring active ageing policies. Mr. Honsell stressed a high role of cities in policymaking and policy implementation in EU. He also provided some critical comments on AAI, e.g. the fact that all the indicators are positive, and that the assigned weights might seem arbitrary.

Discussion

Mr. Zaidi pointed out that the decision towards making available the data files of AAI can be seen as contributing to use and extension of the index as a basis for policymaking, but it comes at the risk of misunderstanding of the AAI goal and misinterpretation of the results. The latter can be avoided by

putting more efforts to making the methodology and index presentation more transparent and clear. He also noted that though the aim of AAI is to measure to what extent the potential of older people is used, the practice shows that the index gives impetus to look also into the matters of well-being of older people.

The Chair reiterated to the question of setting the targets to facilitate the interpretation of the AAI results. Ms. Parent stressed that it is important that all the government levels have the same vision on the matters where they share competencies, e.g. employment.

Ms. Luciana Quattrociocchi (ISTAT) shared with the Expert group the Italian experience of using AAI at subnational level. Ms. Quattrociocchi stated that AAI is a valuable tool that helps to adopt decisions and norms. Italian regions are diverse so are the ageing patterns across regions. These differences are reflected in the AAI results calculated for the regions. One of the surprising results is a lower level of employment among people +55 in the Northern regions in comparison to the South of Italy. Ms. Quattrociocchi explained that close variables were used to build the indicator, though the lack of data at regional level is a challenge. Nevertheless, the results can be used for analysis of the active ageing outcomes in the regions.

LINK OF AAI TO THE MOPACT PROJECT

Mr. Zaidi presented the MOPACT (Mobilizing Potential of Active Ageing in Europe) project coordinated by Professor Alan Walker of Sheffield University and taking place between 2013 and 2016. The project involves 29 partners in 13 EU countries. It includes 11 trans-discipline work packages. The ideas of empowerment of older people and focusing on interventions through the life course form the basis of the project. Older people are seen as a resource, and longevity as an asset to the society. Each challenge is converted into a positive paradigm. AAI contributes in particular to Work Package 1 (Realising Active Ageing), whose WP leader is Mr Zaidi himself. Its task 2 — reviewing empirical evidence, and task 4 — mapping scenarios of active ageing — are particularly linked to the AAI project. The MOPACT project team is keen to work with AAI and extend it further through research in nine different WPs.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Chair made an overview of the further activities to be implemented under the project including:

- International Seminar (16–17 April 2015, Brussels)
- Analytical paper on trends to be shared with the Expert group for comments by mid- February and to be launched at the International Seminar
- Third round of cooperation between UNECE and EC on the next edition of the AAI project
- Promoting use of AAI based on the experience of the use of the Index for monitoring of the third cycle of MIPAA implementation
- Holding half-day Expert group meeting back to back with the International Seminar (17 April 2015)
- Holding the next Expert group meeting in October 2015 (tbc)
- Approach the Expert group members for inputs for the national seminars
- Set a title for the third domain

Mr. Jacob thanked the hosts of the meeting, the experts for their commitment and valuable input, and the project team.

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

ANNEX 4

An extract from the discussion paper prepared for the Peer Review “The Active Ageing Index and its extension to the regional level” (Cracow, 15-16 October 2014) by Kasia Karpinska and Pearl Dykstra (Erasmus University Rotterdam):

“Figures 1 and 2 present the AAI index disaggregated into 22 indicators for both European Union (figure 1) and for Poland (figure 2). Both figures show how policy responsibilities are distributed between different levels of government (national, regional or both) for all indicators that contribute towards the overall AAI. For the EU (Figure 1) the indicators were assigned to one of the governance levels based on where the policy responsibilities for each indicator are typically located. For Poland (figure 2) we attempted to assign those indicators based on the actual distribution as observed in Poland. Each indicator was scored on two additional dimensions, namely time (policy changes arise in short versus long run) and influence of policy changes on each indicator (direct versus indirect influence). The latter is based on the assumption that there are specific policy measures that can be applied in the scores for those two dimensions ranged between 0 and 16. The size of the bubble corresponds with the relative influence of each indicator on the respective domain (and consequently, on the overall value of the index). Those values represent the implicit weights that are assigned to each indicator in the AAI (a multiplication of the explicit weight and the indicator value, Zaidi et al., 2013)⁷. Values for the EU were calculated based on the average values for each indicator for all 27 countries of the European Union; for Poland the specific values as presented in the AAI were taken.”

Figure 1. The AAI indicators for EU

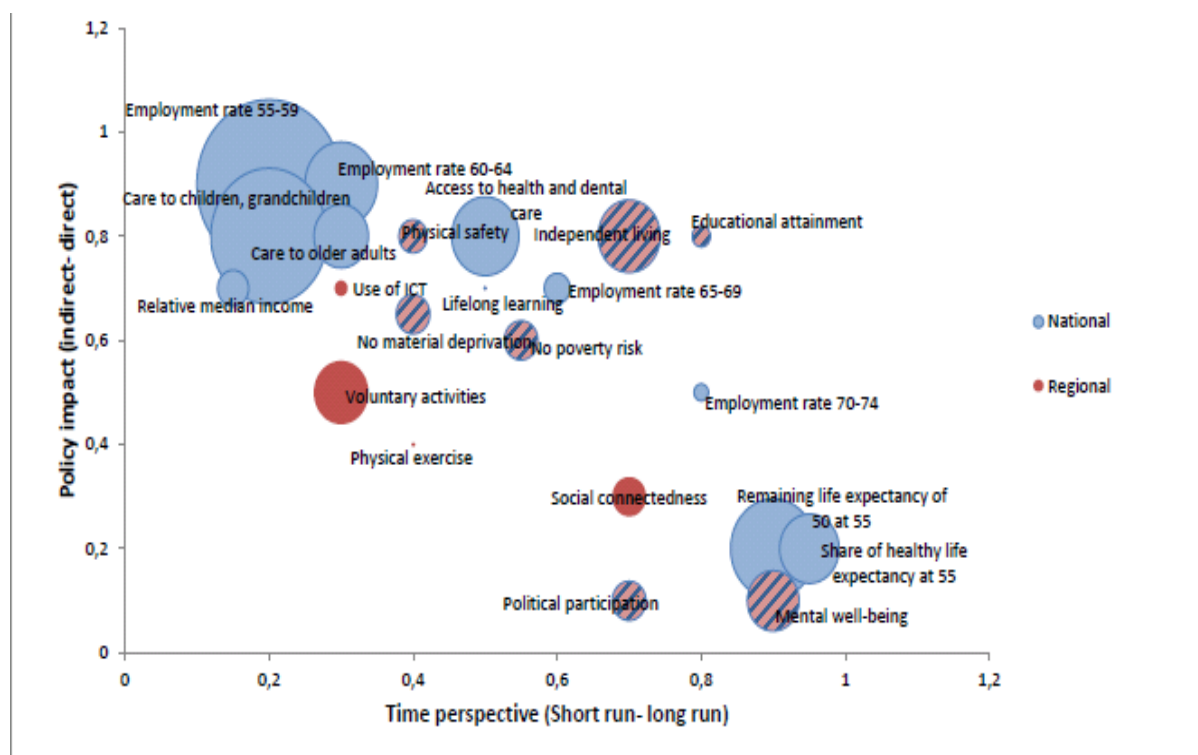


Figure 2. The AAI indicators for Poland

