

Second international seminar on the Active Ageing Index

27–28 September 2018
Bilbao, Spain

CALL FOR PAPERS

Active ageing is a multidimensional concept referring to a situation where people participate in the formal labour market, engage in unpaid productive activities (such as care provision to family members and volunteering), and live healthy, independent and secure lives as they age. Active ageing policies thus need to address a variety of dimensions: enable possibilities for longer working life, ensure social involvement, encourage healthy lifestyles, and provide opportunities for independent living for both men and women. Monitoring such policies and their implementation requires a comprehensive tool that encompasses the multitude of aspects of active ageing.

The [Active Ageing Index \(AAI\)](#), first developed during the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations in 2012, offers a multi-faceted and flexible framework that provides evidence for informed decision-making, development, and monitoring of policies and strategies on ageing at national and subnational levels. It measures how much of older men and women's potential to contribute to the economy and society is realized and to what extent their working and living environment enables them.

The index is constructed from 22 individual indicators that are disaggregated by sex and grouped into four domains. Detailed information on AAI can be found [here](#).

In 2015, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL), and the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing ran a science-meet-policy international seminar. At the seminar, researchers from across the globe who had answered a 2014 call for papers presented and debated their work ([here](#)). Some of the best research efforts were also published in the [Journal of Population Ageing](#), while others have been disseminated widely via other channels, including a book to be issued in 2017.¹

On the basis of the 2015 successful experience, **UNECE, the European Commission's DG EMPL, the University of the Basque Country, the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, with the support of the Government of Biscay (Spain)**, are organising a Second International Seminar on the Active Ageing Index in Bilbao in September 2018.

¹ For more information on the 2015 Seminar, please visit <https://statswiki.unece.org/display/AAI/International+Seminar>

The seminar aims to bring together researchers, civil society representatives, policymakers and other stakeholders. It will provide a multidisciplinary forum for those interested in the use of AAI to enhance the knowledge about ageing and older people and lead to the development of better policies. The seminar will be dedicated to the studies focusing on the use of AAI to identify ways to improve active ageing outcomes through appropriate policy measures at different levels.

To feed the seminar debate, the organisations above are launching this call for papers.

The topics of interest include the following:

- Comparing AAI results in two or more countries or subnational regions / local territorial entities and identifying explanatory factors within the context of policy differences
- Analysing AAI results for different population groups according to determinants such as education level, income, residence area (urban/rural) etc., or their combination, identifying reasons behind existing inequalities and making recommendations for better outcomes
- Evaluating AAI as an evidence-based monitoring and advisory tool for policymaking at national and subnational levels, using actual examples of AAI application
- Applying AAI in combination with other measurements to analyse broader ageing-related phenomena
- Contextual analysis and clustering of countries/regions to identify factors underlying active ageing outcomes and capacities for active ageing
- Identifying life-course determinants of diverse active ageing outcomes observed in the AAI calculations

The list of topics is not exhaustive, however, AAI should be the focus of submitted abstracts and papers for them to be considered.

Prospective authors are invited to submit an abstract (max 800 words) by **17 November 2017 18:00 GMT**. The abstracts and papers should be submitted in English. The research material included in the paper must not be already published or submitted for publication. Submission should be made by the author who will attend the Seminar. Authors can submit no more than two abstracts where they are named as the primary author; however there is no limit on the number of abstracts a person can appear on as a co-author.

Please send the abstracts using the Abstract Submission Form (available [here](#)) to aai@unece.org clearly indicating “**Call for papers – Second International Seminar on AAI**” in the subject of your email. The authors will be notified about acceptance of their submission by **31 December 2017**. Once the abstract is accepted the full paper should be completed and sent by **27 April 2018**.

The authors of the accepted papers will be invited to present their work at the Seminar in the form of either a presentation or a poster. Travel and accommodation costs will be covered for the lead authors of accepted papers.

Three to five best papers entered by early career researchers will be awarded. To be eligible for the award a lead author should demonstrate enrolment in a PhD or post-doctoral programme. Some of the selected papers might be considered for publication in a journal or in an edited book.

Abstracts and papers will be evaluated by an independent evaluation board on the basis of the following criteria:

- Originality and innovative approach applied
- Methodological quality
- Policy relevance
- Contribution to further development of the AAI methodology

Participation in the Seminar is free of charge and open for all interested in active ageing and AAI.

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