LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND ENGAGEMENT OF AGEING POPULATIONS

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Presentation

- Introduction
- Ageing Africa?
- Predictors of Active Ageing
- Lifelong Learning Opportunities
- Benefits of Lifelong learning
- Barriers to lifelong learning
- Strategies for promoting lifelong learning
- Maintaining standard of living
- Guiding Principles
Introduction

- The Right to lifelong learning is a human right
- Right is about living & not just surviving
- All-inclusive society is about all generations
- Older persons face age-based discrimination
- Barriers in accessing lifelong learning
- Article 16 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa
In 2017, Africa had 69 million people (60 years+), (7.1%) globally

- 6.2 million people (80 years+)

In 2050, it will reach 226 million (60+), 10.9% globally

- 23 million people (80 years+), 10% of population of older persons in Africa

- Effects on health, lifelong learning & wellbeing

- Impact on intergenerational relations & social support

- Strong filial piety, harmonious relationships, cultural rebirth, intergenerational solidarity & reciprocity
Definition of concepts

- **Lifelong learning:**
  - Continuous development
  - Sustained improvement of information, knowledge & skills throughout the life course
  - for personal fulfillment, actualization and social participation at all levels

- **Active Ageing (Engagement):**
  - WHO (2014) defines active ageing as optimizing
  - opportunities for health,
  - participation and
  - security in order to ...
  - enhance the quality of life as people age
Predictors of Active Engagement

- Self-rated living standard
- Socio-economic status (Education, Income)
- Socio-demographic factors (Gender, Age)
- Health status
- Social networks/ Social capital
- Family care responsibility
- Residence status/Living arrangement
- Availability of community facilities
Lifelong Learning in Nigeria

- Functionalism
- Social responsibility
- Participation
- Resilience
- Holistic approach
- Diverse learning strategies
- Informal and vocational training
- Imitation
Lifelong Learning Opportunities

- Nonformal/Informal education
- Formal education (University)
- Community or Adult education
- Skills acquisition
- Vocational training and retraining
- Entrepreneurship education
- Volunteering/Community Development
- Religious engagement/Activities
- Recreation/Leisure activities
- Social engagement - Elder Forum
- Digital education – ICT
- Business/Agriculture
- Political participation
- Pressure Group activities
Benefits of Lifelong learning

**Personal development:**

Improved skills and knowledge for individual development

**Social Inclusion:**

Opportunity to promote an all-inclusive society

**The economic effects:**

Increased earning potentials & resilience

**Citizenship rights and obligations**

Well-informed older persons will discharge civic responsibilities creditably
Lifelong learning & Healthy Longevity

- Lifelong learning has positive impact on well-being
- It enhances economic resources, psychosocial resources & healthy lifestyles
- It empowers with skills that promote healthy longevity
- Positive outcomes (health status, life expectancy & life satisfaction)
- It improves employability (income and livelihood)
- It improves access to basic needs that promote happiness
- It encourages informed perspectives with positive impact on wellbeing
Barriers to lifelong learning

- Ageism - “too old”
- Lack of interest / information
- Poverty & poor socio-economic status
- Social constraints in meeting expectation
- Accessibility challenge - personal or social
- Constraints (Location & Time)
- Lack of age specific & supportive systems
- Lack of all-inclusive educational system
Promoting Lifelong Learning in the life course

- Right to continuing education
- Use of life course perspective
- Legislations
- Restructuring
- Public awareness
- Change of orientation
- Deliberate inclusive policies (age, gender)
- Active engagement of all ages
- Opportunity for Training & Retraining
- Use of Technology/ICT
- Flexible work schedules
- Socio-economic supports (incentives)
Maintaining Standard of living

Age is a predictor of standard of living of older persons

- Active engagement in volunteering and community development
- Participation in social/educational/religious activities
- Healthy lifestyles: Exercise, Nutrition, positive attitude etc.
- Prompt and regular payment of retirement benefits
- Secondary /supplementary source of income
- Informal Support / Informal care giving
- Relocation / Co-residence
Indicators of Disruptive Actions

- Protection against age-based discrimination
- Improved standard of living: social security and social support
- Intergenerational education for social inclusion and solidarity
- Collaborative research on determinants of healthy longevity & effective interventions
- Innovative technologies: Use of AI and robotics as enablers of functioning & protection
- Implementation of age-friendly policies and programmes
- Familism – mutually caring & supportive relationships (parent-child)
- Enhanced intergenerational solidarity: Filial responsibility
Guiding Principles

Non-discrimination and Equality:

Equal access to all forms of education at different levels without age discrimination.

Accessibility

Affordable, accessible, age-specific education & lifelong learning.

Availability

Elder-centered & specific lifelong learning in line with needs and identities.

Acceptability

Acceptance & expressed confidence in educational outlets and formats.

Accountability, feedback and remedies

Complaints & Feedback promote protection of right.
Lifelong Learning Empowers

- Lifelong learning gave her a voice
- Opportunity to learn and get better
- Improved life chances
- Positive life outcomes in life

@HelpAge International
Appreciation:

Thank you for your attention