**Data on Population Ageing in Russia**

In the next decade, continuing increases in life expectancy will take place in Russia due to the gradual shift of the center of gravity from the reduction of mortality of young and working ages to its lowering in older ages. In millionaire cities, there are already signs of increasing survival in older age - at the age over 60 years. As a result of these changes, the population will age more rapidly, especially if the fertility decline of the past two years is resumed. The elderly population (60+) is already 25-30% of the total population in many regions of Russia, necessitating the monitoring of this socio-demographic group: both the dynamics of its size and structure and the level of health, standards of living, employment, access to education and social activity. The accelerating rate of ageing of the Russian population over the last decade requires close attention to the various aspects of the lives of the elderly population, determining the increased significance of the choice of ageing indicators for using current data about the every-day life of elder persons for future policymaking.

Consideration of the expenditures of elder people as investments (investment in ageing populations) [2] into life areas such as health systems, long-term care systems, lifelong learning, age-friendly environments, social protection, and also benefits of these investments manifested in health skills and knowledge of elder people, their mobility, social connectivity, provision of financial security for senior citizens, personal dignity, safety and security, which will eventually lead to return, such as the promotion of individual well-being, an increase in workforce participation, more appropriate to the needs and capabilities of older persons for consumption, as well as their participation in entrepreneurship and investment, innovation, social and cultural contribution and ultimately social cohesion requires the development of a system of indicators that allow monitoring of both costs and their impact. Characteristics of the dynamics of the size and structure of the elderly population, their state of health, employment, etc. should serve as a basis for decision-making in the formulation of policies aimed at the elderly population, serve as a point of reference for the allocation of risk groups and enabling monitoring.

The relevance of such monitoring was highlighted in the Social Bulletin of the Russian Government's Analytical Center "Elderly population of Russia: challenges and prospects "(March 2016). In particular, it highlights the following risks:

-Increase of the budget system's expenditure on social liabilities, including liabilities in pension, social and health insurance and social services for elder persons;

-changing of parameters of employment and unemployment as well as the characteristics of the labour force employed in the economy;

-changing consumer demand and its structure under the influence of population ageing;

-inadequate and insufficiently accurate integration of the concerns of the elderly population and their reflection in the Russian Federation's strategic and program documents.

By Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of 5 February 2016 No. 164-P the "Strategy for action in the interests of senior citizens in the Russian Federation to the year 2025" was adopted [1]. The main objective of the Strategy is to coordinate the activities of State and public institutions to address the problems of senior citizens. As a result of the strategy implementation, the "active ageing" of senior citizens to raise the level and quality of all aspects of the life of the elder population is identified. Implementation of the strategy requires a major overhaul of the social infrastructure (health, education, social services and other systems) in order to reorient it to meet the needs of the elderly population and to ensure equal access of this category of citizens to social services, which, eventually, should contribute to the development of Active Ageing.

Among the organizational and management mechanisms for implementing the Strategy "**organization of monitoring the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Strategy"** is named, which is not possible without a sound system of indicators covering both the cost of implementing the strategy and its results. The scientific and research mechanisms include "**improving the system of social and demographic statistics that characterizing the ageing of the population and its impact on the social and economic development of Russia**".

To monitor the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Strategy, the Federal Service for State Statistics aggregates data on various aspects of the life of elder persons in the "Elder Generation" section ([http://www.gks.ru/wps/wcm/connect/rosstat\_main/rosstat/ru/statistics/population/generation/#](http://www.gks.ru/wps/wcm/connect/rosstat_main/rosstat/ru/statistics/population/generation/)). The section includes the following headings and indicators:

1. **Demographic indicators** (population, life expectancy)

2. **Retirement pensions for senior citizens** (number of pensioners and average pensions by type of pension and pensioner categories, basic pension indices, number of retirees employed, the distribution of retirees by sex and place of residence, the number of recipients of non-state pensions, the dynamics of the average amount of pensions granted depending on the sex and place of residence of the pensioner, the amount of the subsistence minimum for the establishment of a social supplement to a pension by constituent entity of the Russian Federation, the number of pensioners who receive social retirement pension supplements in order to bring the pensioner's income to the level of the subsistence minimum of the pensioner, the level and structure of monetary income of households consisting of retirees etc)

3. **Measures of social support for senior citizens** (number of recipients of monthly cash payments by constituent entity of the Russian Federation, expenditures of consolidated budgets of constituent entities of the Russian Federation and municipalities for the implementation of social support measures for senior citizens, the number of families in need of accommodation, statistics for various types of social service institutions for elder persons, proportion of senior citizens and persons with disabilities who receive social services at home, the coverage of social services, the forms of their receipt and the reasons for their failure, the availability and the need to ensure the devices necessary in everyday life (technical means, in reception of home-based medical and hygienic procedures, etc.)

4. **Average wage and number of workers** by occupational group, age group and sex

5. **Employment and unemployment**

6. **Public use of information technology** and information and telecommunications networks (availability of Internet devices for persons above the working age, distribution of people who are active Internet users by type of settlement, by sex and age groups, the proportion of population using the Internet for ordering goods and/or services, percentage of population using the Internet to obtain state and municipal services, by type of settlement and sex and age groups, etc.

7. **Social activity of senior citizens**

8. **Conditions of residence of senior citizens** (characterization of the housing conditions of retired persons ' households, assessment by households of retirees of the status of their living quarters, the provision of residential accommodation for households in which retirees reside, water, hot water supply, gas, main heating sources)

Information describing the vitality of the elderly population and aggregated in "The elder generation" section is provided by the relevant ministries and departments.

Besides the above mentioned indicators, more detailed information on the population of an elder age can be obtained from the census: age composition by region of Russia, marital status, composition of households, level of education, sources of livelihood, etc.

The number and age/sex composition of the elderly population in the urban and rural regions of the Russian Federation is published annually on the Federal Statistical Agency's Web site on 1 January, in the "Population of the Russian Federation by sex and Age" bulletin (<http://www.gks.ru/wps/wcm/connect/rosstat_main/rosstat/ru/statistics/publications/catalog/doc_1140095700094>).

Vital Statistics enables obtaining information on the mortality rate of the elderly population by age group, sex, cause of death in the regions of the Russian Federation, as well as information on marriages and divorces.

The Ministry of Health collects information on the morbidity of the elderly population, as well as on the personnel of treatment institutions working directly with the elderly population; the Ministry of Labour gathers information on employment, pensions, social services, etc.

Besides information relating to the entire population of the country, the Federal Service of State statistics carries out a number of sampling surveys of households, including households with older members whose results also give an idea on the various aspects of the life of the older population:

1. **Сomprehensive monitoring of living conditions** (2011, 2014, 2014). (<http://www.gks.ru/free_doc/new_site/kouz/survey0/overview.html>). The objective of the monitoring is to obtain statistical data on the participation of the population in labour activity, its duration, professional, personal motivation and restrictions on participation; on the level of enforcement of social protection rights and the need for social services; on the quality of housing and living conditions and the intention to improve them; on the availability of information and communication tools to promote intellectual development; on the use of services and satisfaction with the work of social and transport institutions; on the safety of production and non-production areas; - on the reasons for the limitations in meeting vital needs.
2. **Statistical Survey of Income and Participation in Social Programs** (2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017). (<http://www.gks.ru/free_doc/new_site/vndn-2017/index.html>). The purpose of the observation is to obtain statistical information reflecting the role of wages, income from self-employment and property, pensions and social benefits in the material welfare of families, trends in changing income and poverty levels among different socio-economic strata of the population, the participation of families in social programs, pension and health insurance, the material and social welfare of poor families and Impact of social support measures on their welfare level)
3. **Sampling Federal statistical observation of population participation in continuing education** (2015) (<http://www.gks.ru/free_doc/new_site/population/trud/obraz/index.html>). The purpose of the observation is to obtain complete, reliable and official statistical information reflecting the integration of the population in the process of education: general, vocational education, supplementary education, in the form of self-education inclusively. In the course of observation persons under 72 years old were interviewed.
4. **Sampling Survey of quality and availability of services in education, health care and social service, assistance of employment of the population** (2015) (<http://www.gks.ru/free_doc/new_site/quality15/index.html>). The objective of the observation was to provide statistical data on the frequency and timeliness of educational, health and social services and employment promotion services in accordance with the standards of provision and individual needs, the volume of services received in paid and free-of-charge provision systems and the costs incurred, the use of the social services system and the costs of seeking assistance in connection with restrictions on health status.
5. **Sampling monitoring of the food ration of the population** (2013) (<http://www.gks.ru/free_doc/new_site/food1/survey0/index.html>). The objectives of the monitoring were to obtain statistical data on the performance characteristics of respondents, on health status, on the diet of the population, on public awareness of healthy eating, on the physical activity of the respondents, on the daily diet.
6. **Sampling observation of behavioural factors influencing the health of the population (**2013) (<http://www.gks.ru/free_doc/new_site/ZDOR/Sdp2013.Bfs.Publisher/index.html>).

The main problem with the data collected both in continuous statistical observation and sample observations is that they do not provide a holistic picture of ageing and the situation of the elderly in the Russian Federation.

A survey aimed at studying all aspects of the life of the elderly population is not yet available at the country level. Such a comparable program should be conducted in the regions of the country to ensure comparability of results and representativeness, not only for the country as a whole but also for the individual regions, so as to take into account the diversity of the elderly population. On the basis of such a survey, it would be possible to capture the multidimensional aspects of ageing, which is now being implemented in various indices.

The Active Ageing Index (<https://statswiki.unece.org/display/AAI/Active+Ageing+Index+Home>) is calculated starting from 2012 for European Union states by 22 indicators combined into four sub-indices with different weights:

* Employment − 35%
* Participation in society − 35%
* Independent, healthy and secure living -10%
* Capacity and enabling environment for active ageing - 20%.

The Active Ageing Index for Russia is calculated by the Social Policy Institute of NRU HSE on the basis of a Russian-adapted methodology. In the absence of a full-scale survey that reflects all aspects of life of the Russian elderly population, the calculation of the index uses information from various sources: the Russian population census (2010), Sampling Surveys on "Parents and children, men and women in the family and society", "Comprehensive monitoring of living conditions" of the Federal Service of State Statistics, the European Social Survey, the Russian Monitoring of the Economic Situation and Health of the population of NRU HSE [4, 5, 6].

The GlobalAgeWatch index was developed and first calculated in 2013. In 2015 Russia was 65th among the 96 countries participating in the calculation of the index, as well as 30th for Income Security, 86th for Health Status, 25th for Capability, 82nd for Enabling environment (<http://www.ageinternational.org.uk/Documents/Global_AgeWatch_Index_2015_HelpAge.pdf>).

Early signs of life expectancy growth at elder ages highlight monitoring health, morbidity and disability status of the elderly population. Improving the health of elder persons is the basis for the implementation of the Active Ageing concept. Targeted collection of data on the health of the elder population is performed at a country level only under the aegis of the WHO within SAGE (Study on global AGEing and adult health (WHO), in which BRICS countries (China, Ghana, India, and South Africa) also participate, but the latest wave was held in 2010, there is no section on biomarkers in the survey, and the survey is not representative of the regions of the country.

The 2015 WHO report [2] identified two ways of collecting data on the health of the elderly population: the first is to "collect data are more disaggregated and nuanced to help identify older people's needs and gaps in services." The second is to collect "person-centred data".

At the first stage it is necessary to focus on the collection of macrodata on the health of the elderly population, including co-morbidity, the activities of health organizations aimed at elder persons, the social assistance system for the elderly, including long care services in the country's regions:

* Vital statistics: life expectancy at older ages, healthy life expectancy, burden of disease in older ages
* Health statistics: chronic conditions, morbidity in older ages, prevalence of multimorbidity among people aged 50 years and older, prevalence of disability
* Social care statistics: focus on long-term care
* Data from population surveys: biomarkers, limitation in one or more of five basic activities of daily living (ADL), etc.

At the second stage – to collect and analyze microdata data, for example, on the basis of depersonalized medical histories, which will allow for the allocation of risk groups.

Possible areas of BRICS cooperation in collection of data on population ageing along with continued participation in GlobalAgeWatch.

1. to consider the creation of a special survey like Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), Health and Retirement Study, English Longitudinal Study of Ageing, which would take into account the specificity of ageing in BRICS countries
2. to focus special efforts on gathering data on *Healthy Ageing* as the basis of Active *Ageing*
3. to work on data quality, especially in mortality and morbidity, related to old ages
4. to create an aggregator of data on ageing at the national level and for BRICS countries

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