

# CARE AND OLDER PERSONS: ACCESS TO FORMAL AND INFORMAL CARE

### **INSIGHTS FROM RECENT ILO PUBLICATIONS**

**Dr Xenia Scheil-Adlung** 

Senior Health Policy Coordinator
International Labour Organization
Geneva





No rights – no coverage

Financial burden: Frequency and severity of OOP for older persons

Exclusion from access due to workforce gaps

Policies towards achieving the SDGs and UHC



## Definition of long-term care

A range of services and cash benefits addressing reduced functional physical and/or cognitive capacities of older persons

## Key principles for coverage

Rights-based (legislation) Universality

Equity

Solidarity in financing

## Key criteria for services

Affordability

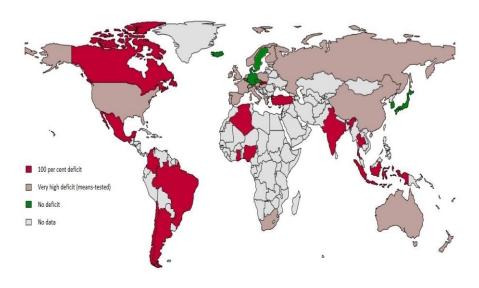
**Availability** 

Quality

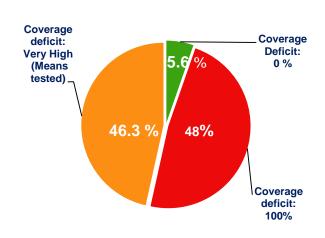
Financial protection



## Global deficits in LTC coverage for older persons aged 65+ in % of total population, 2015



## Percentage of global population 65+ by LTC coverage deficits

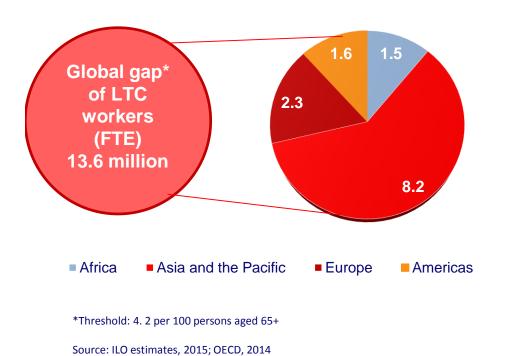


Source: ILO estimates 2015, World Bank, 2015 (population data in 2013)

- 48% ( 300 million people) of the global older population lives in countries without any right to LTC (red)
- 46.3 % of the global population lives in countries with means tests forcing people to become poor before becoming eligible for LTC (orange)
- 5.6% of the global older persons live in countries with rights-based universal LTC coverage (green)



#### **Global LTC workforce shortages**



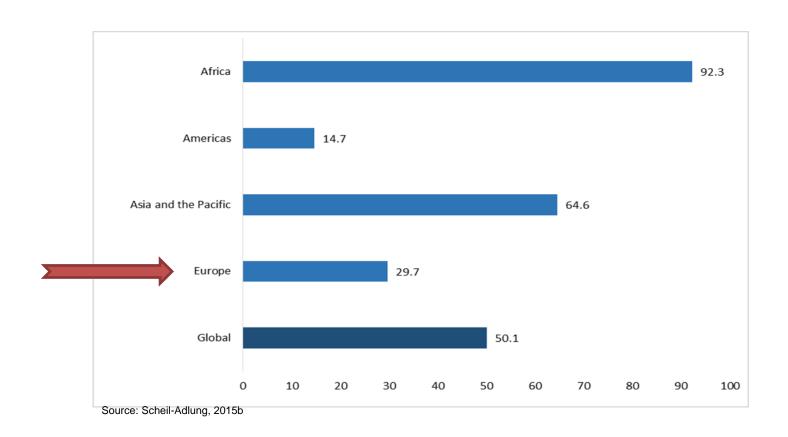
Number of informal and formal LTC workers available per 100 persons aged 65+ **Europe** Informal\* Formal\*\* Poland: 23.9 3.0 Russia: 0.7 Finland: 6.5 Norway 87.2 17.1 Slovakia 8.6 1.1 Sweden 12.8 9.6 World Chile 0 China 1.1 South Africa -0.4 **USA** 123 6.4 **Minimum** 4.2 (estimated)

\*\*Full-time equivalent

\*head count

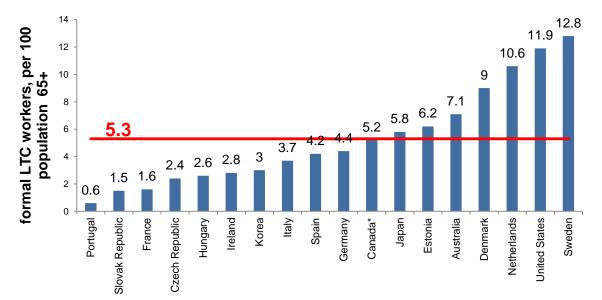


## Population 65+ excluded from long-term care due to workforce shortages (by region, 2015 in %)





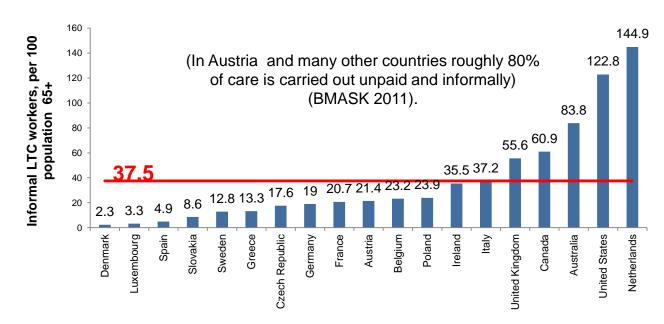
## Significant LTC workforce gaps filled by unpaid "voluntary" workers



On average in high-income countries only 5.3 formal LTC workers (FTE) care for 100 persons aged 65+
selected countries, 2009-2013

....supported by more than 37 informal workers - often unpaid older family members

Source: OECD

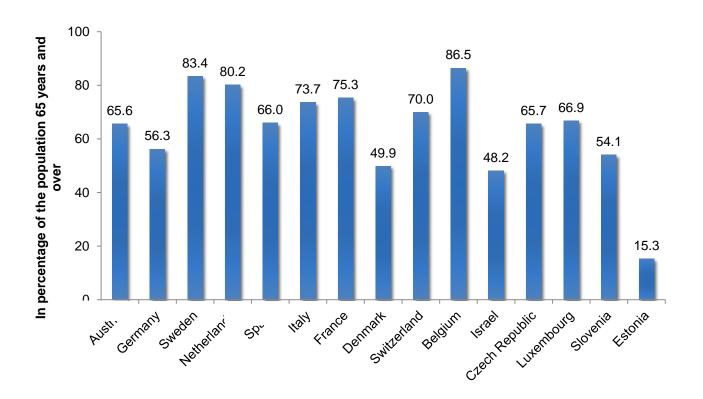


Care and older persons: Links to Decent work, Migration and Gender, UNDESA, New York, USA 5-7 December 2017



### Share of population 65+ experiencing OOP for LTC

(selected European countries, 2015)



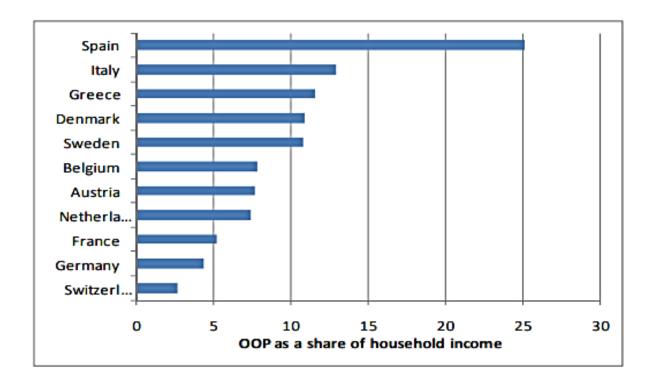
Source: ILO estimates 2015; SHARE, 2015

Rights deficits and inadequate LTC benefits result in high frequency of OOP for older persons



## Severity of OOP for health and LTC in households with persons aged 50+

Household OOP expenditure on LTC (nursing home care, day care and home care) as of household gross income, selected European countries, 2004

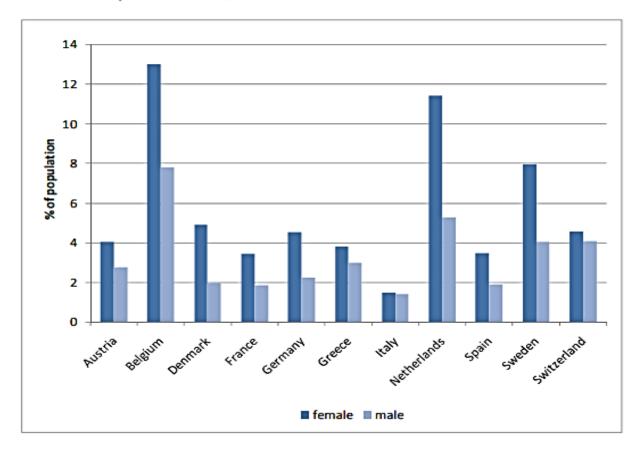


Source: ILO 2015

Severity of older persons' OOP on LTC varies significantly across countries due to differences in scheme/benefit design and preferences in utilizing informal and formal care



## Share of individuals aged 50+ experiencing positive OOP expenditure in LTC, by gender selected European countries, 2004



Source: ILO 2012

Women are more likely than men to incur OOP for LTC



## Providing universal LTC protection within national social protection floors

### Ensuring rights and dignity of older persons

• Providing universal LTC coverage based on legislation and addressing age discrimination

### Ensuring availability of quality LTC services

- Adequate public funding through broad risk sharing based on taxes or social insurance contributions
- Addressing workforce shortages
- **Developing the infrastructure** including enabling environments at home, in communities and institutional care facilities

### Ensuring affordability of LTC

Minimizing OOP

### Establishing support measures for informal LTC workers

Proving cash benefits, social protection and care leave for informal care workers

#### Coordination between health and other social protection schemes

 Ensuring integrated service delivery and income protection through at least essential social protection floor benefits in kind and in cash

### Creating economic returns of investments

Realizing job opportunities for missing LTC workers



# Thank you!

scheil@ilo.org