Long Term Care for Older People: The Role of *Unpaid Care Work*
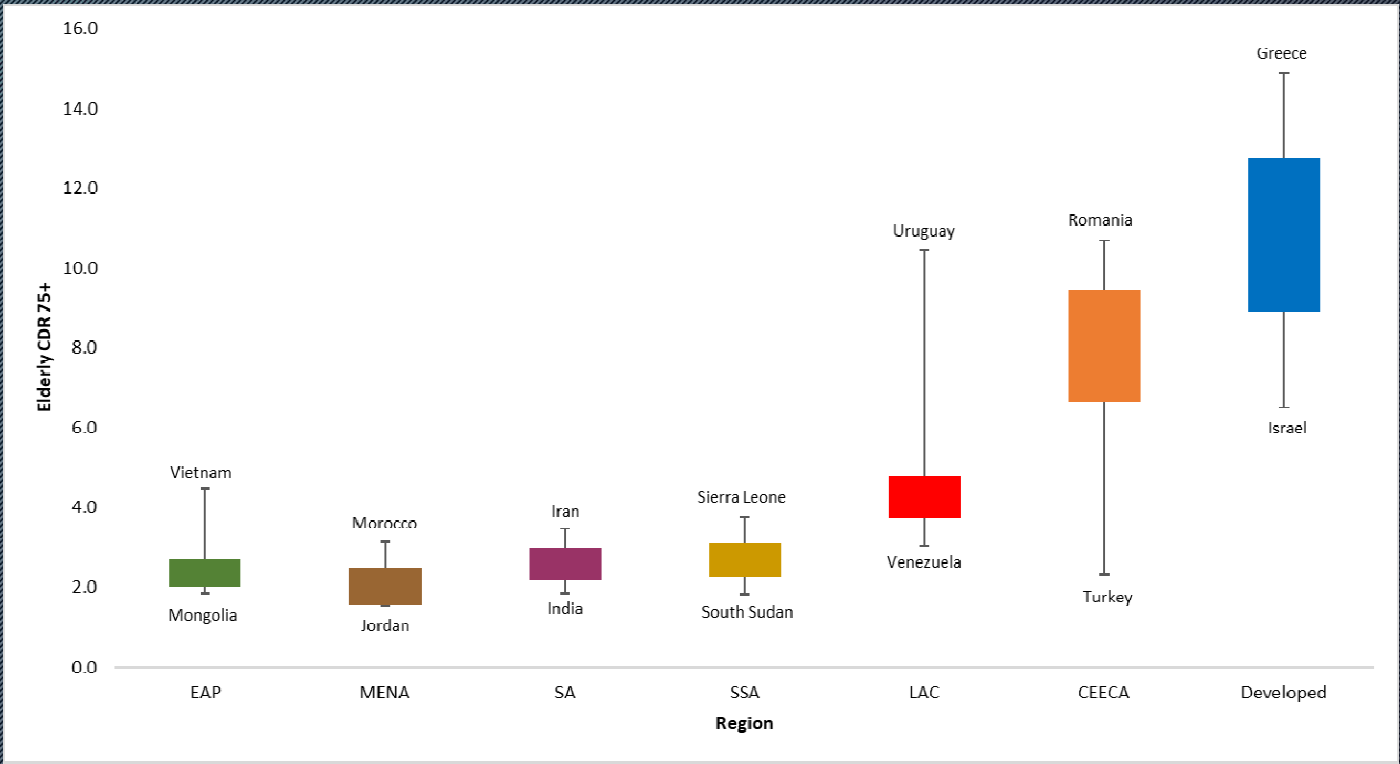
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Expert Group Meeting on Care and Older Persons:
Links to Decent Work, Migration and Gender
_____ December 2017

⊕UN WOMEN⪮

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

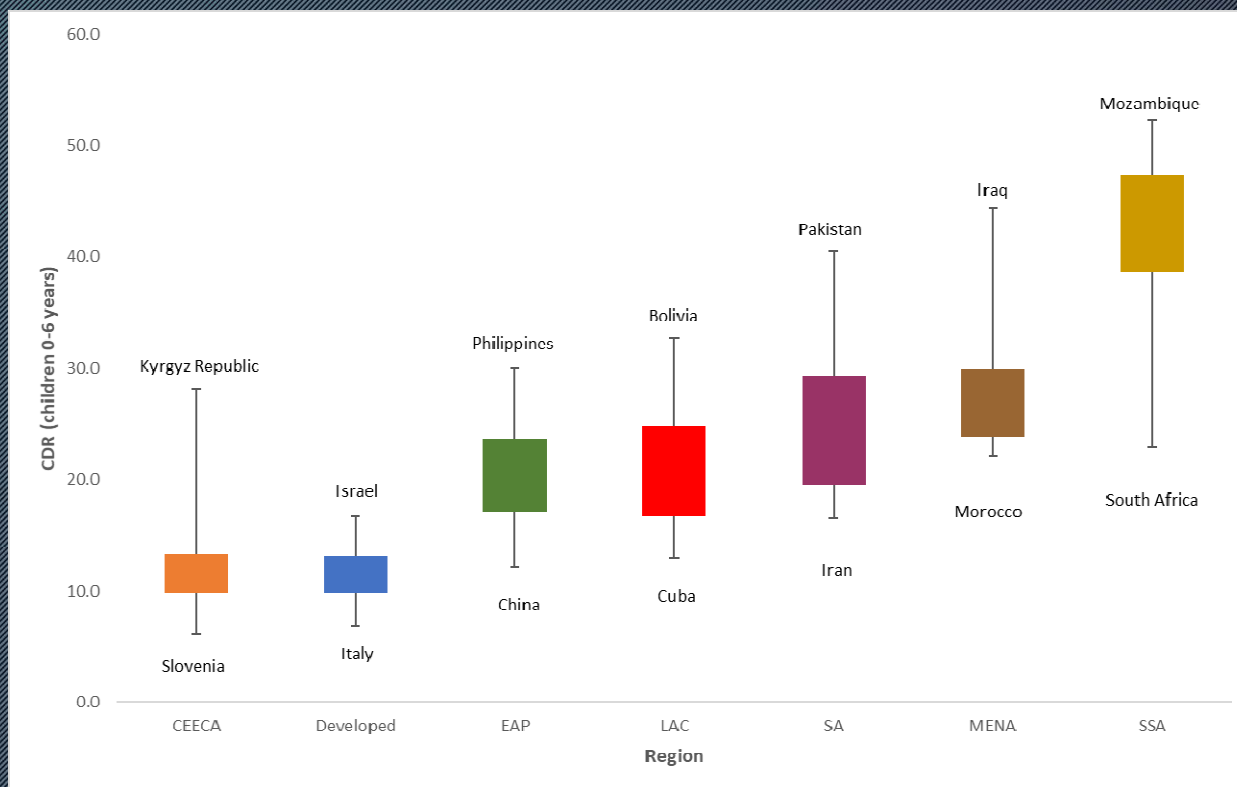# Care dependency ratios (75+ years)* by region, latest IPUMS data available

FIGURE 1

Source: UN Women computations using data from IPUMS International (accessed on 29 November 2017).
Note: * - Care dependency ratio (elderly 75+ years) = (population aged 75+ years/population aged 15-64 years)*100

Care dependency ratios (0-6 years)* by region, latest IPUMS data available
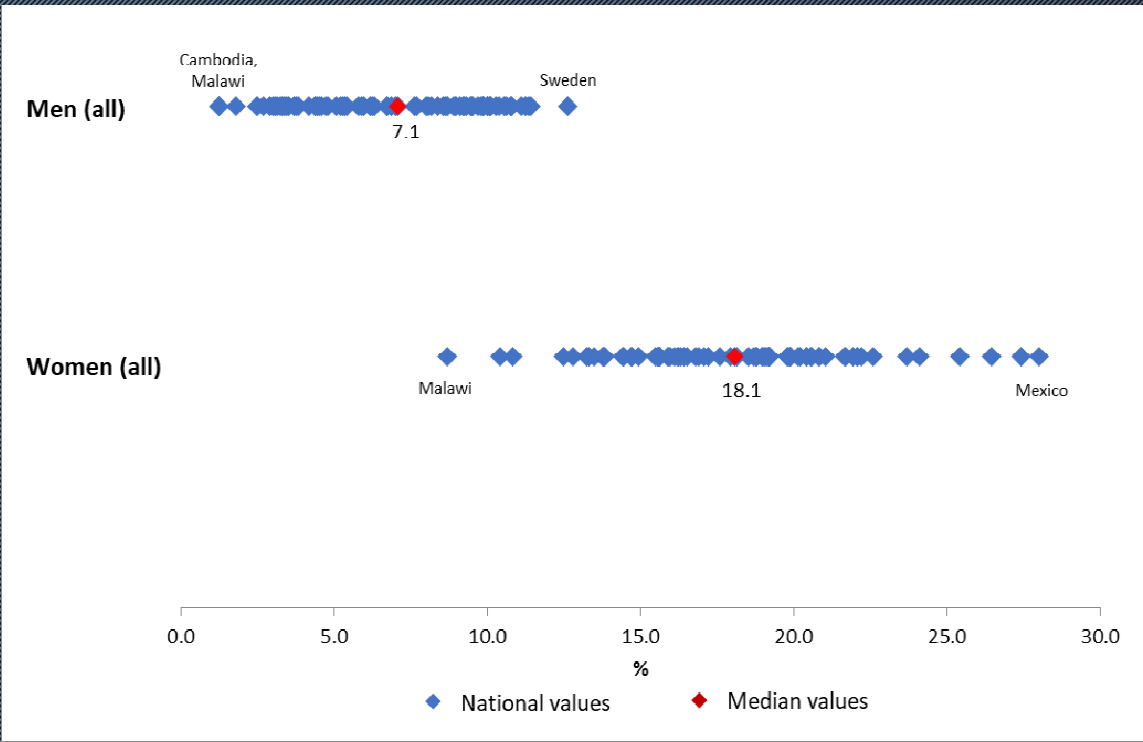
FIGURE 2

Source: UN Women computations using data from IPUMS International (accessed in September 2017).
Note: * - Care dependency ratio (0-6 years) = (population aged 0-6 years/population aged 15-64 years)*100

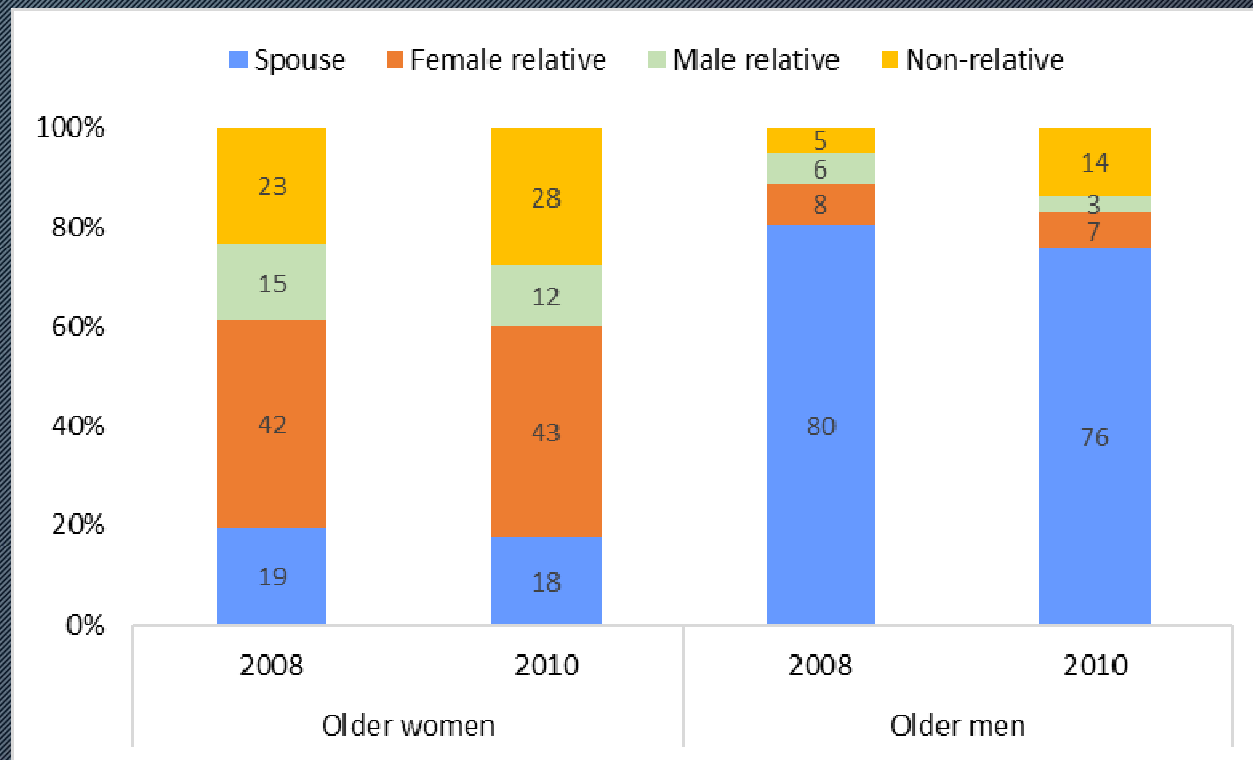# Proportion of time spent on domestic chores and caregiving by sex, 2005-2015 (percentage of time spent per day)

FIGURE 3

Distribution of unpaid care for older women and men by type of caregivers in Republic of Korea, 2008 and 2010

FIGURE 4

Care arrangements for older people in China, Mexico, Nigeria and Peru

TABLE 1

	Peru		Mexico		China		Nigeria
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Total
Caregiving context for dependent older people (sample size)	135	26	114	82	183	54	228
Principal caregiver characteristics							
Spouse	18.5%	26.9%	16.7%	15.9%	38.8%	38.9%	13.7%
Child or child-in-law	40%	50%	73.7%	65.8%	43.2%	59.3%	68%
Non-relative	25.2%	3.8%	3.6%	0.0%	16.4%	1.9%	1.4%
Female	85.9%	88.5%	83.3%	81.7%	67.2%	50%	63.2%
Care arrangements							
Principal caregiver has cut back on work to care	16.3%	23.1%	25.4%	36.6%	3.8%	48.1%	39.2%
Additional informal caregiver(s)	45.9%	57.7%	55.3%	58.5%	7.1%	22.2%	66.5%
Paid caregiver	33.3%	7.7%	3.5%	1.2%	45.4%	1.9%	2.1%

Source: Mayston, R., M. Guerra, Y. Huang, A. L. Sosa et al. 2014. "Exploring the Economic and Social Effects of Care Dependence in Later Life: Protocol for the 10/66 Research Group INDEP Study." SpringPlus 3, p. 379.

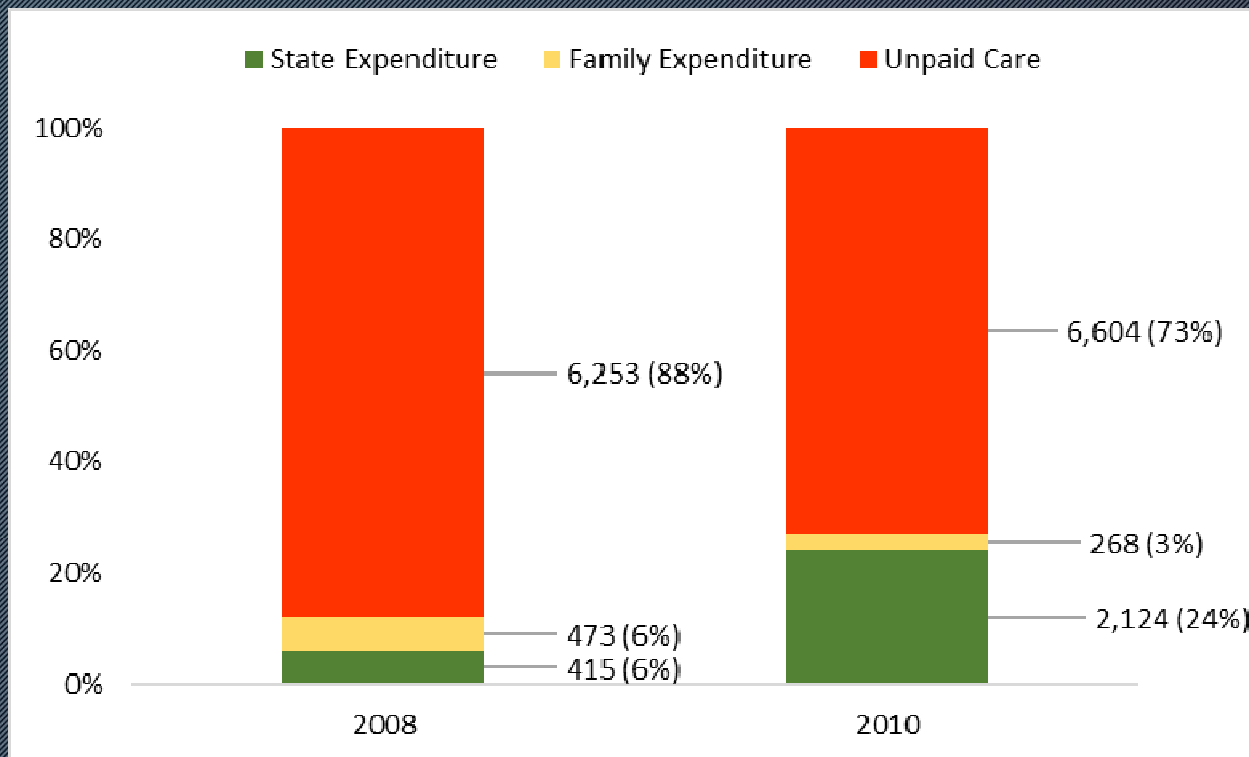# Living arrangements of population aged 80+ years, latest IPUMS data

FIGURE 5
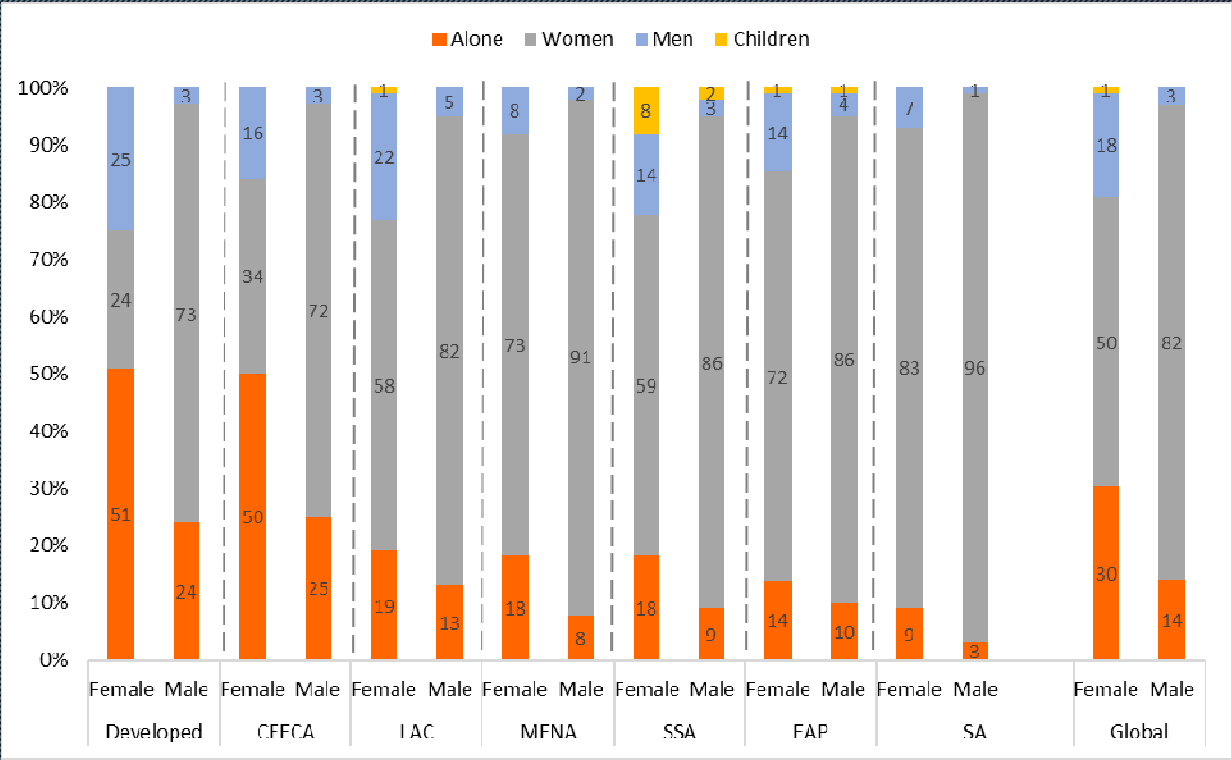
Source: UN Women-commissioned data work to Esteve, A and Garcia, J. June 2017 and Budlender, D. 2017.

Relative shares of family/unpaid care, markets and states in elderly care in the Republic of Korea, 2008 and 2010

FIGURE 6

Legend: ■ State Expenditure ■ Family Expenditure ■ Unpaid Care

2008:
- 6,253 (88%)
- 473 (6%)
- 415 (6%)

2010:
- 6,604 (73%)
- 268 (3%)
- 2,124 (24%)

Investments in affordable, accessible and quality LTC systems can contribute to gender-equitable sustainable development by:

- Enabling the well-being and autonomy of older persons, among whom women are overrepresented (Target 3.4)

- Providing respite for unpaid caregivers, also predominantly women, by shifting some of the responsibility to care workers (Target 5.4)

- Giving unpaid caregivers the capacity to maintain their connection to the labour market (Target 8.5)

- Creating decent jobs (Target 8.3) in the social care sector by promoting adequate wages, working conditions and training opportunities for a predominantly female workforce that is often also disadvantaged in terms of ethnic, racial and migration status.

THANK YOU!