Population ageing is primarily the consequence of fertility decline.

The population of virtually every country is ageing.

Developed countries are more advanced in the path to population ageing.
International migrants are concentrated in high-income countries

- **Worldwide:** 191 million migrants in 2005

  Of which
  - **In high-income developed:** 91 million
  - **In high-income developing:** 21 million

Consequently:

59 per cent are in high-income countries
Increase of number of migrants by income group

Millions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Group</th>
<th>1990</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High income developed developed</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High income developing</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper-middle income</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower-middle income</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low income</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Migrants are almost equally distributed among three types.

- **North**: 53 million
- **South**: 61 million
- **North**: 14 million

**North**: 62 million

**South**: 14 million

MIGRANTS CONSTITUTE HIGH PROPORTIONS OF THE POPULATION IN FEW COUNTRIES
(MIGRANTS AS PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION, 2005)
Governments are relaxing somewhat policies on the admission of international migrants....
Immigration policies, 2005
Developed countries need migrants …..
Labour force projection for developed countries with and without migration

Projected population aged 15-64
(medium variant)

With migration

Without migration

104 million

Migrants get red carpet treatment....
Two migration scenarios to reduce the impact of population ageing

Net number of migrants (thousands)

- Japan
- Germany
- Italy
- United States
- United Kingdom

Legend:
- Constant 15-64
- Support ratio > 3

Sustained levels of positive net international migration result in slower population ageing .....
United States: Two projection scenarios

Percentage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Zero migration, 2050</th>
<th>Medium, 2050</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-64</td>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-14</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Western Europe: Two projection scenarios

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zero migration, 2050 | Medium, 2050 | 2005

DILEMMA:

Developed countries may need migrants but not an unlimited number.

Developing countries have too many “excess” workers.
Number of persons aged 15 to 39 (millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Developed</th>
<th>Least Developed</th>
<th>Developing</th>
<th>Least Developed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Empirical question:

Are migrant populations younger than natives?
Percentage aged 65 or over

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Migrants</th>
<th>Native</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are older migrants a high proportion of all older persons?
Percentage of migrants by age group

United States of America 2000
France 1999
United Kingdom 1991

Percentage of migrants by age group

Take home messages

- Developed countries are at an advanced stage of population ageing
- Migration flows to developed countries have been substantial
- Without migration gains, the population of working age in developed countries is expected to decline
- Migration can slow the effects of population ageing, but is unlikely to stop or reverse it
Take home messages

- The populations of most developing countries are about to enter an era of rapid population ageing.
- Some may become, if they have not done so already, net receivers of migrants.
Population Division
United Nations

www.unpopulation.org

For information relating to the High-level Dialogue

www.unmigration.org