

CARE–BSDD Kenya Series

# From Demographic Change to Care-Responsive Budgeting



Informing A Smarter World



February – March 2026

Session 1

# The demographic transition and its implications for care systems



Informing A Smarter World



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February 3, 2026

## Overview of the African Union Demographic Dividend Roadmap



**Mohamed A. Sheikh**

Director General, National  
Council for Population &  
Development, Kenya

- ⇒ *African Union Demographic Dividend Roadmap*
- ⇒ *How Kenya positions demographic change, population dynamics, and development priorities*

# Overview of AU and Kenya DD Roadmap



African Union DD Roadmap



Kenya DD Roadmap



Demographic Dividend Roadmaps

3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2026

By  
Dr. Mohamed A. Sheikh  
(DG-NCPD)





# Outline

National Council for Population and Development

1. About NCPD
2. Overview of Demographic Transition and DD
3. Overview of Kenya's population dynamics
4. Position of DD and population dynamics into development priorities
5. Challenges
6. What next?

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# NCPD

National Council for Population and Development

- A semi-Autonomous Government Agency (SAGA) under the State Department for Economic Planning in the National Treasury and Planning

- Mandated to Coordinate formulation and implementation of the National Population Policy and programme



## National DD focal point

- Coordinates the implementation and tracking of Demographic Dividend Roadmap

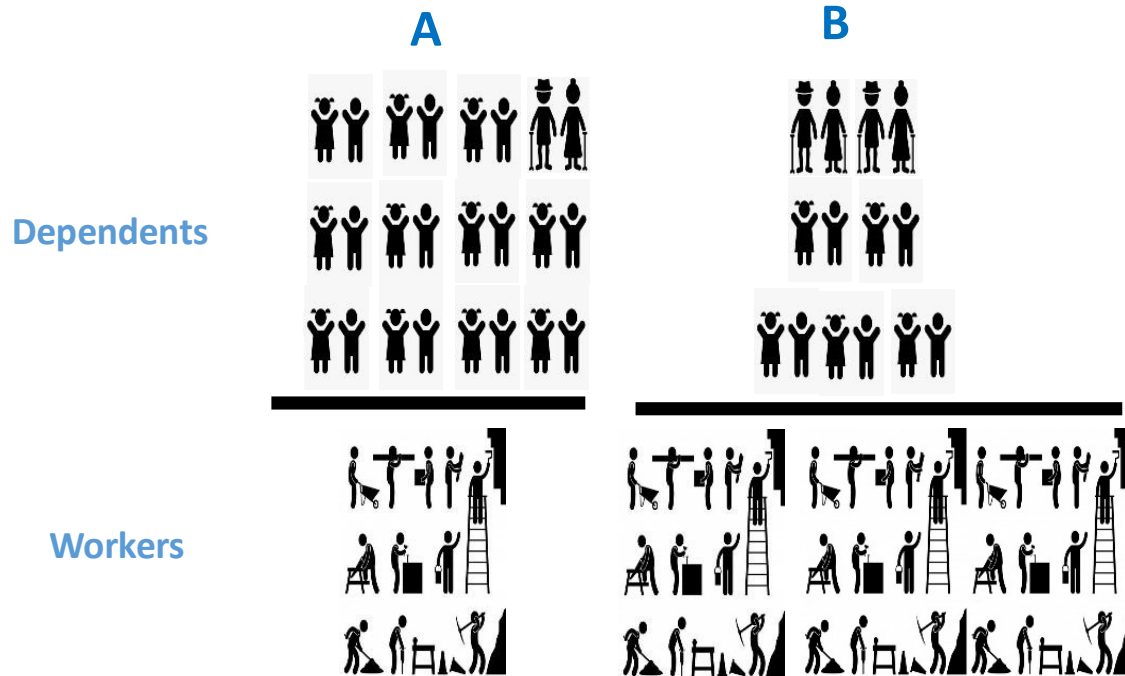
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# Understanding Demographic Dividend (DD)

National Council for Population and Development

Which scenario is likely to reap dividend?



## Demographic Dividend (DD)

- The accelerated economic growth that occurs when a country's working-age population (15-64) exceeds the number of young and elderly dependents
- **BUT** deliberate investments must be made in key sectors (Health, education, labour and Governance)
- DD is not permanent
- DD window opens at different points for different countries

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# African Union (AU) DD Roadmap

National Council for Population and Development

## In 2007 to 2012:

African Population Commission saw importance of DD & devoted the 2012 State of Africa Population Report to “Harnessing DD for the socioeconomic development of Africa

In 2016, the Africa Union (AU) Assembly made the decision to develop a continental roadmap for harnessing the dividend

In 2017 AU Roadmap on Harnessing the DD Roadmap was developed under the theme, Investments in Youth”

Member states were urged to domesticate and operationalize the AU Roadmap

Countries used USAID’s DemDiv model and National Transfer Accounts (NTA) to generate of national DD profiles and the development of DD roadmaps.

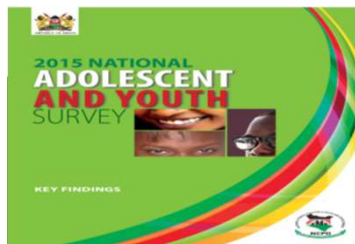


# Kenya's DD Roadmap (2020-2030)

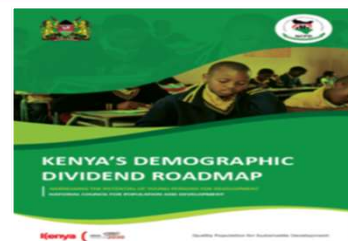
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- Kenya domesticated DD concept in 2013
- Developed DD model in 2014
- Results from the modelling exercise showed that Kenya has the potential to harness the DD



- Conducted the 2015 National Adolescent and Youth Survey
- To Identify key issues that needed to be addressed for harnessing the youth potential



- In 2018, Domesticated AU DD roadmap by developing the 1<sup>st</sup> DD Roadmap (2018-2022)
- In 2020, revised the 2018 DD Roadmap to the current on (2020-2030) to address the current development frameworks

The roadmap highlights priority strategies and actions in 4 sectors (Health, skills development, employment creation and Governance)

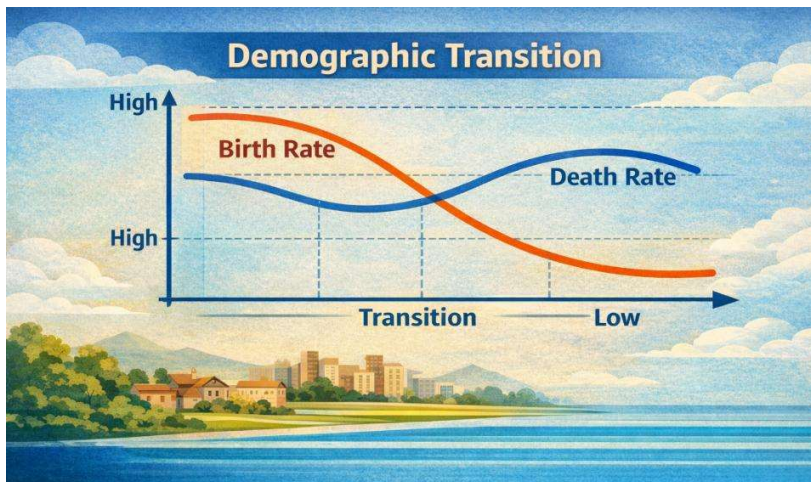


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# Understanding Demographic Transition

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- Population shift from high birth and death rates to low birth and death rates as countries industrialize
- These demographic events create a powerful impact on economic growth of any country

Demographic transition is not a guarantee to harness the DD.

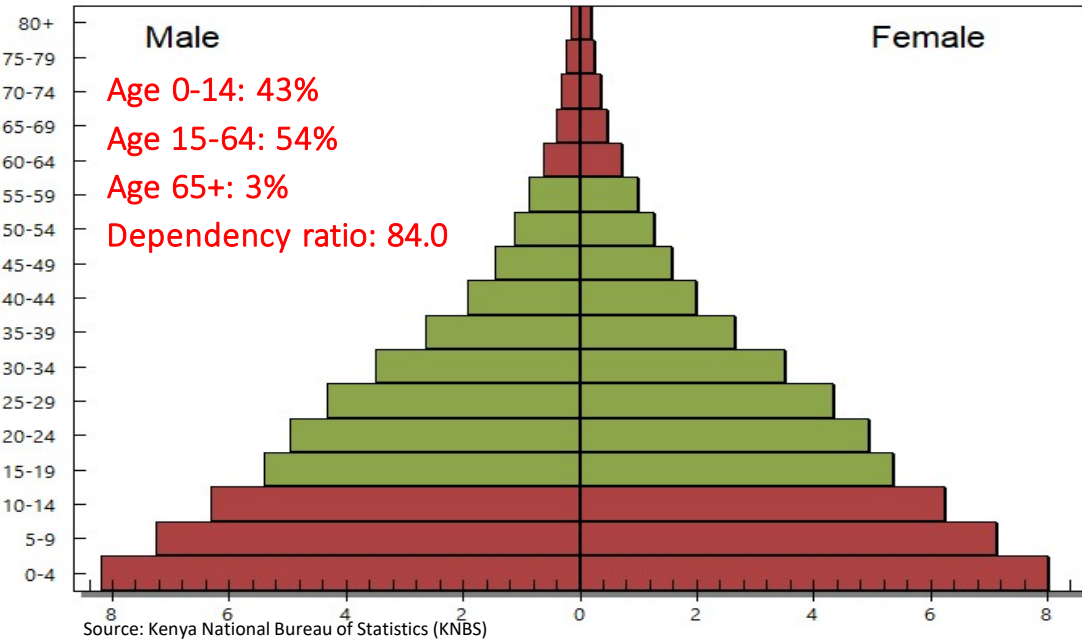
Kenya is at **stage 3** of the Demographic Transition Model (Characterized by a declining birth rate, low death rates, and a rapidly expanding, yet slowing, population growth)



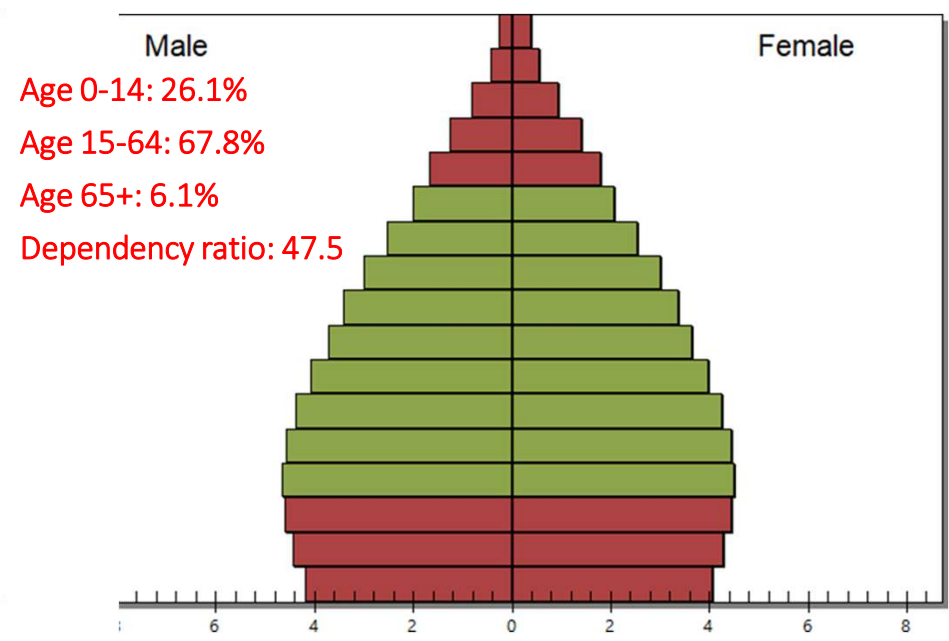
# Kenya's Population Dynamics

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### Kenyan's population pyramid (2010)



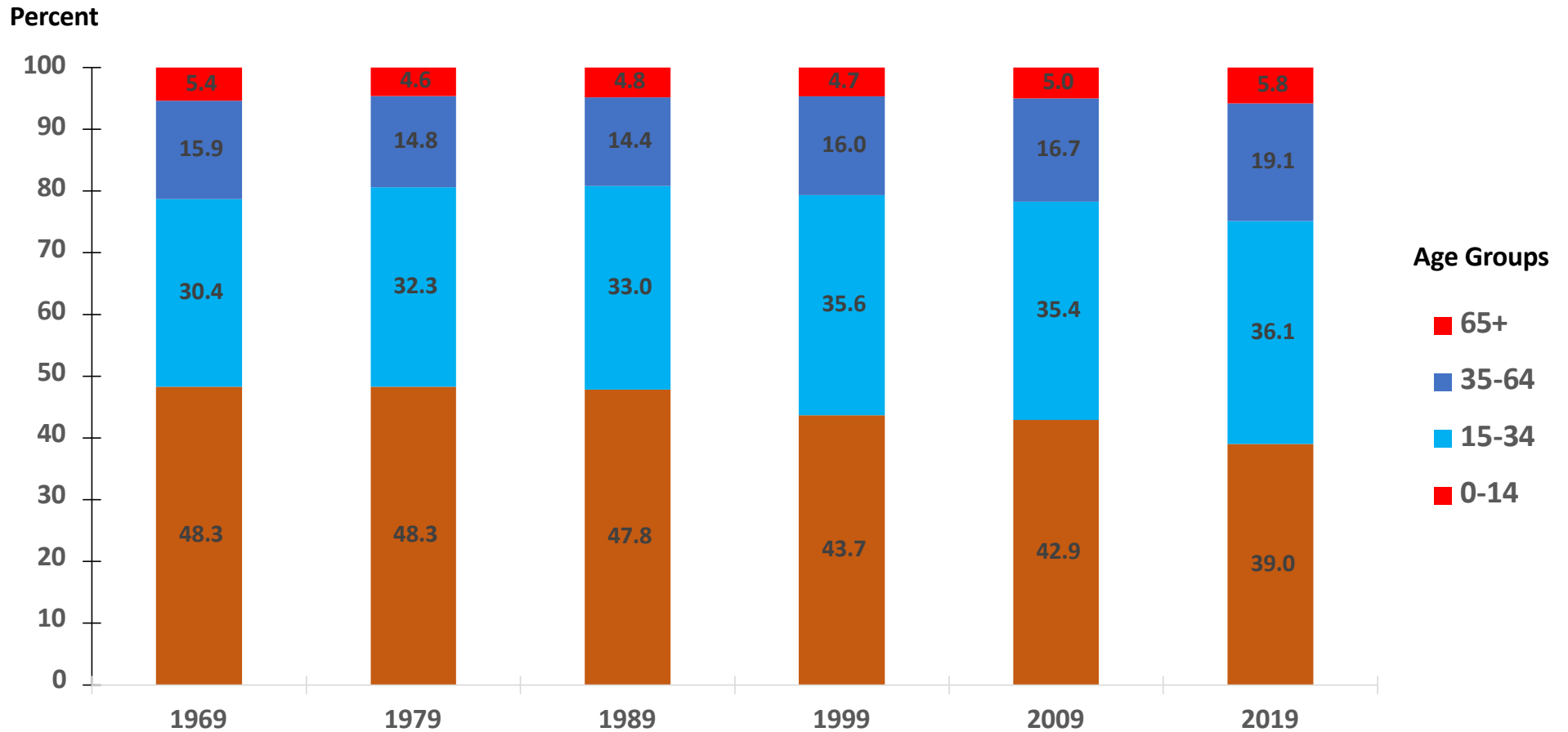
### Kenyan's projected population pyramid (2050)



This can only be realized if investments are made in Economy+ Education+ Health

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# Kenya's Population Evolution by Age Group (1969-2019)



Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS)



## Positioning Demographic Dividend into Kenya's Development priorities

National Council for Population and Development

1. Areas for investment to harness the DD have been identified as health, skills development/ education, job creation and Governance).
2. A tool has been developed to guide the integration of the DD into different frameworks
3. The country has embedded DD and population dynamics into regional frameworks (Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development)
4. Integrating DD priorities into the current population policy



Cont...

National Council for Population and Development

5. The Kenya Vision, 2030's **Medium-term plans (MTPs I-IV)** have incorporated DD components for national development
6. All the 47 Counties have integrated DD into their **Development plans (47 CIDPs)** giving them the autonomy to budget for key activities at their level to harness the dividend
7. Development of DD strategies and coordination of DD activities are **domiciled under The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning** through NCPD as the main stakeholder

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# Challenges

- \* Limited understanding on how the DD contributes to national development which risks the country to miss the opportunities for development
- \* Limited resource allocation/investments in the 4 identified sectors
- \* Lack of a good monitoring and evaluation system with clear indicators, targets and tools for measuring performance indicators.

## What next

?

Undertake multi-sectoral collaboration as the attainment of the DD involves multiple stakeholders

Sustain mass sensitization and advocacy to enhance awareness of the DD concept

Revision of the DD roadmap (2020-20230) to incorporate the current development priorities, current data sets and monitoring and evaluation framework

Conduct high level political declarations and identify champions who can push DD agenda

Thank  
you!

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Session 1

# The demographic transition and its implications for care systems



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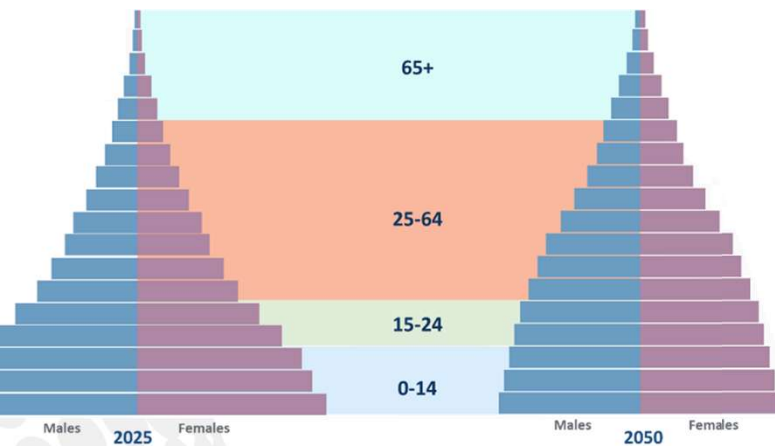


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# Demographic transition as a structural driver of care



Demographic transition is a change in the population structure

The population structure is organized around the life course: childhood, working age, and older age.



➔ *At any given moment, a society is a specific combination of people who need care and people who are expected to provide it.*

## Care needs consume time



- ⇒ *Early-life and late-life care needs increase at the same time*
- ⇒ *Growing pressure on the time of working-age adults*



- ➔ *Care demand is mechanically produced by population age structure, whether policies and systems are ready for it or not.*

## The mismatch of timelines: demography, policy, budgets

Budget → 1 year

Policy Framework → 3-5 years

Demography → 20-30 years

- ⇒ *Misaligned timelines*
- ⇒ *Reactive planning vs anticipatory*
- ⇒ *Late response to predictable pressure*

→ *Demographic evidence provides early signals that current planning and budget cycles are not designed to absorb.*

Demographic pressure on care systems is already visible in the data, well before institutions are ready.

⇒ *The population structure informs us.*



# Demographic Evidence from a National Perspective



**Latif Dramani**

Coordinator, Regional  
Consortium for Research  
in Generational  
Economics (CREG)

- ⇒ *Ground the narrative in demographic evidence.*
- ⇒ *What population structure is already signaling about future care pressure.*

**Session 1 – Guest Speaker – Pr. DRAMANI - CREG**

# Demographic Evidence from a National Perspective



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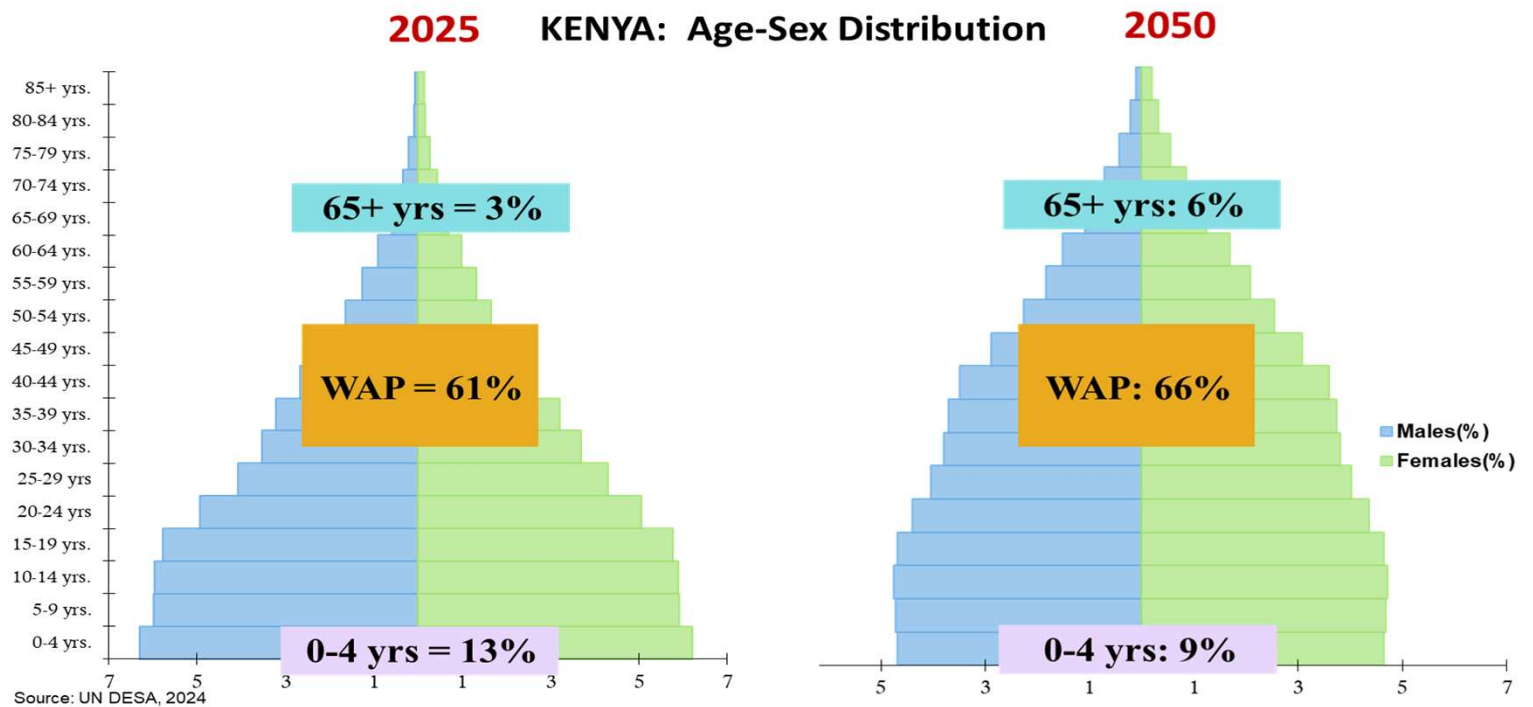
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# AGE STRUCTURE IS THE PRIMARY DRIVER OF CARE DEMAND

- ⇒ Population structure shapes care demand across the life course
- ⇒ Demographic signals appear long before systems respond

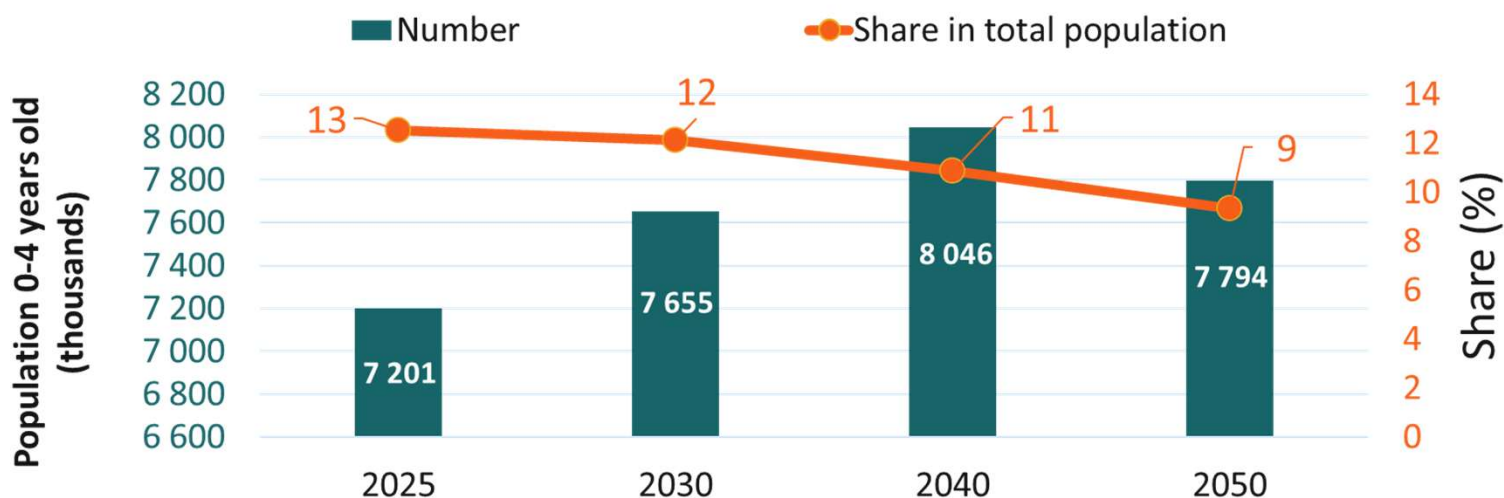


- ⇒ The number of children and older persons directly shapes care needs.
- ⇒ Demography creates obligations before institutions respond.



## TREND 1: YOUNG CHILDREN (0–4)

⇒ *Early childhood care pressure is persistent*



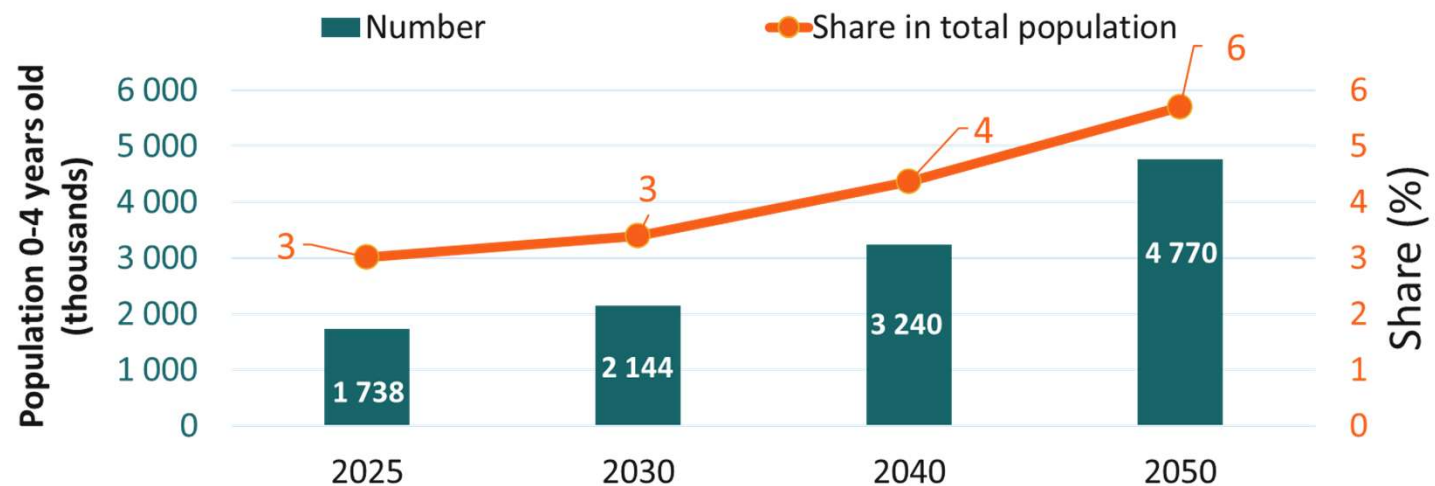
Source : UN DESA 2024

- ⇒ *Early childhood requires intensive, daily care.*
- ⇒ *Growth or persistence of this age group means sustained childcare pressure.*
- ⇒ *This pressure exists regardless of whether formal services are in place.*



## TREND 2: OLDER POPULATION (65+)

⇒ *Longer lives mean longer care needs*



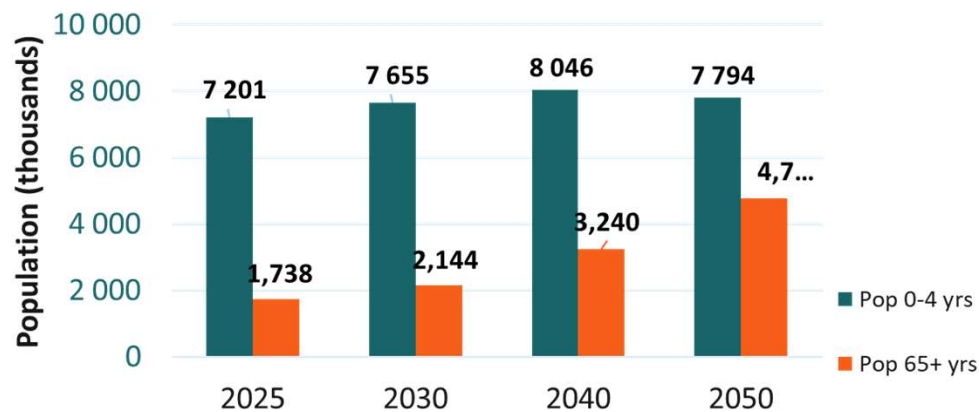
Source : UN DESA 2024

- ⇒ *Longer life expectancy increases duration of dependency.*
- ⇒ *Eldercare demand rises gradually but steadily.*
- ⇒ *This is often underestimated because it grows silently.*

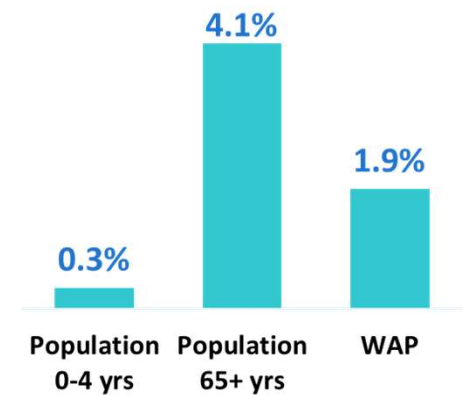


# OVERLAPPING PRESSURES

⇒ *Childcare and eldercare pressures overlap in time*



Average annual population growth



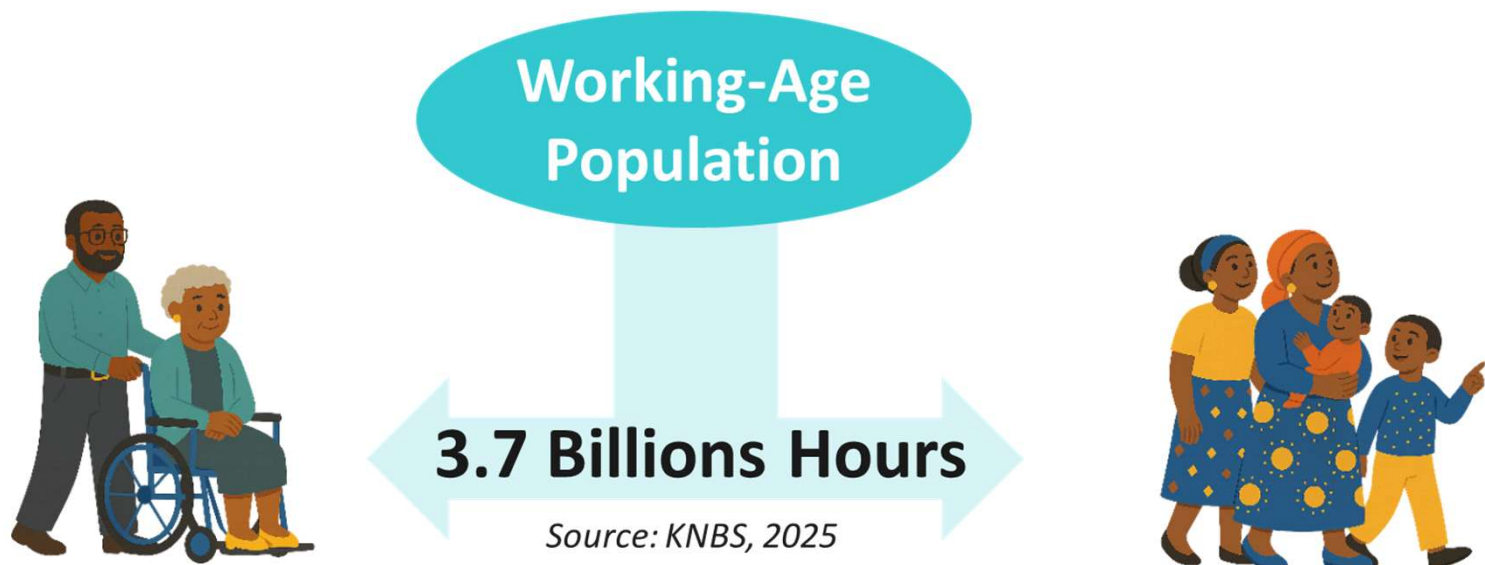
Source : UN DESA 2024



- ⇒ *These are not sequential phases.*
- ⇒ *In many countries, societies face double care pressure.*
- ⇒ *Planning systems rarely account for this simultaneity.*

# GENERATIONAL LOGIC AND DEPENDENCY

⇒ *Care demand reflects generational relations and transfers*



- *Care is a relational economic issue.*
- *It involves transfers of time, labor, and resources across generations.*
- *When systems do not absorb this demand, households do.*

## Unplanned care demand is transferred to households

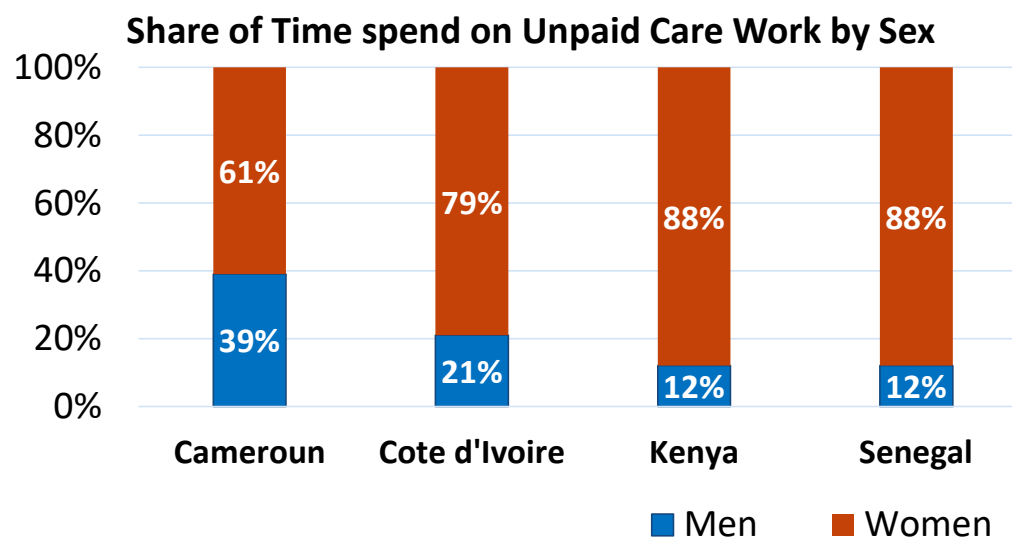
⇒ *In most contexts, women provide the majority of unpaid care work*

In Kenya, 88% of Unpaid Care Time is provided by Women:

⇒ **3.2 billions hours for Women**

⇒ 434.2 millions hours for Men

Source: KNBS, 2025



- *Care does not disappear when it is not planned.*
- *It is absorbed by families, largely through unpaid work.*
- *This has consequences for labor participation and economic functioning.*

# Thank You

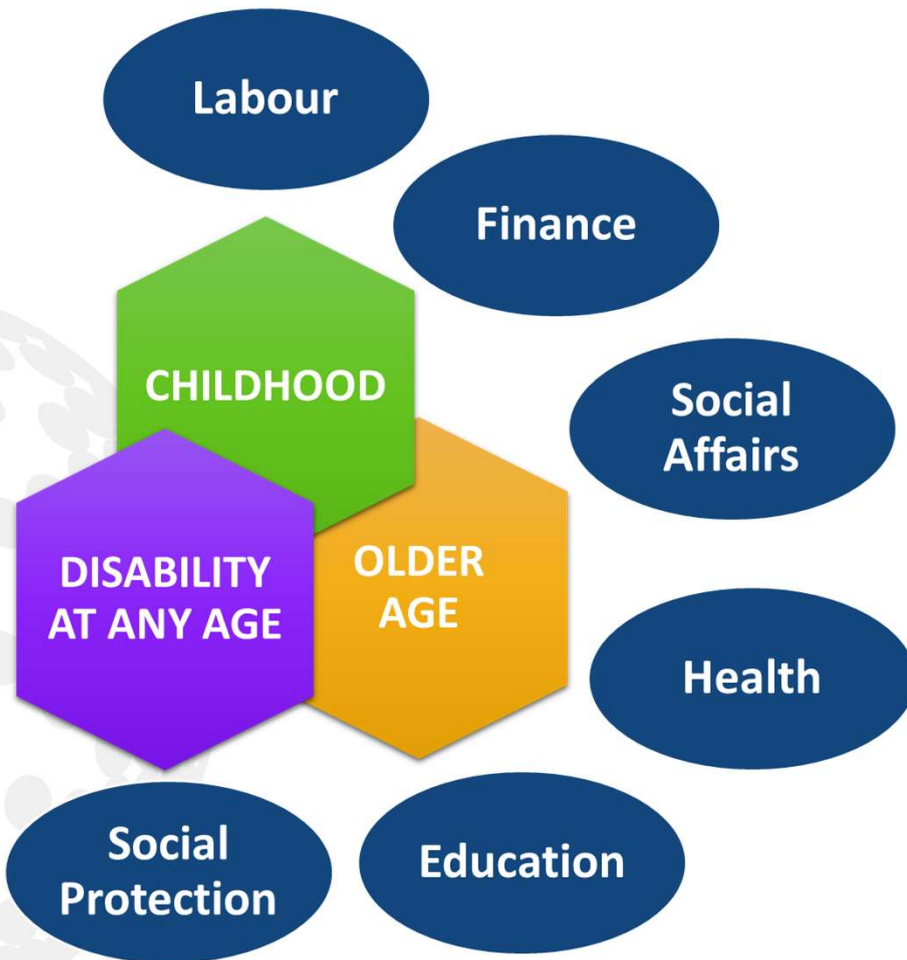


**Pr. Latif Dramani**

[creg-center.org](http://creg-center.org)

[www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org)

## Fragmentation : institutions respond to care needs separately

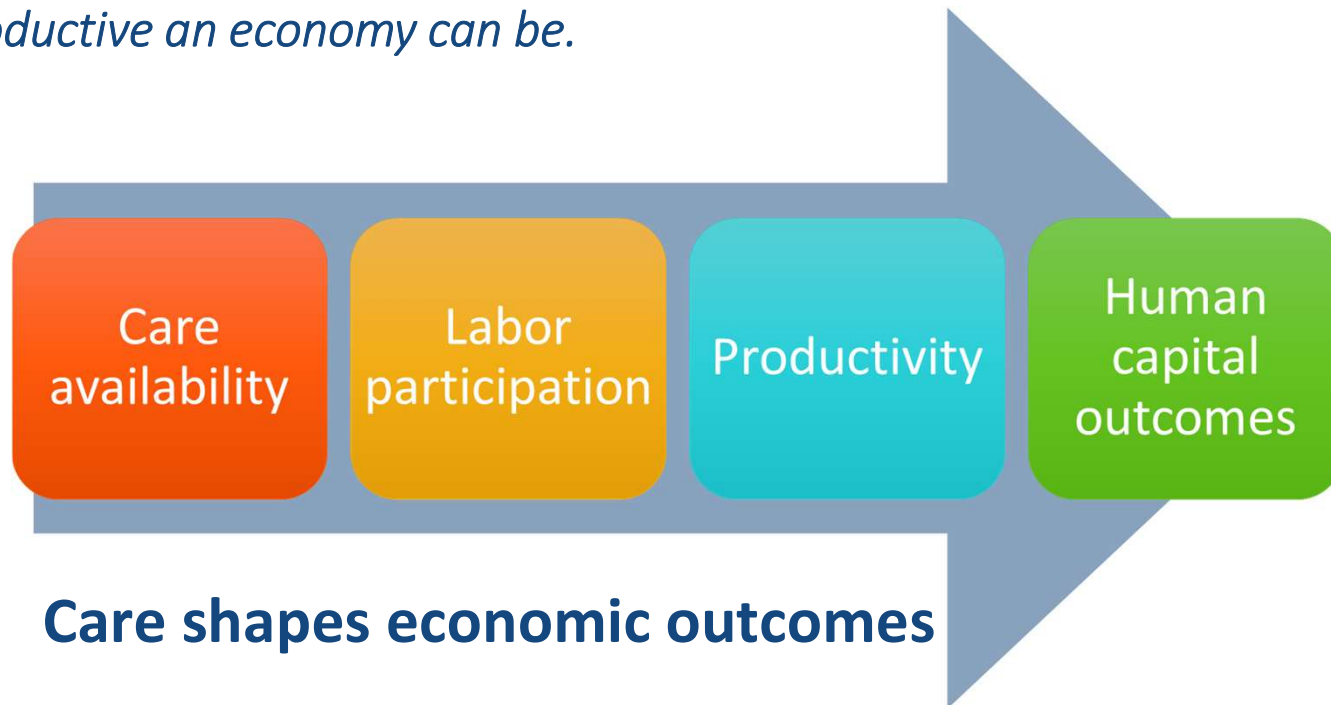


*Care pressures overlap, but planning does not.*

- ⇒ *Childcare, eldercare, care for disability usually planned separately*
  - ⇒ *No system-level view of total care demand*
  - ⇒ *Underestimates scale of care needs*
- ➔ *It is not a sectoral problem—it is a systemic planning failure.*

## Reframing care: from family issue to economic infrastructure

⇒ *Care shapes how time is allocated, who can participate in the labor market, and how productive an economy can be.*



→ *Unplanned care constrains economic performance.*

## Q&A session – 10 min

➔ *This session is about understanding signals, not yet about choosing instruments.*

*Any questions about:*

⇒ *age structure,*

⇒ *timing,*

⇒ *planning implications?*



## Take away & next step



⇒ *Care demand is a structural outcome of the demographic transition.*



**Next session:**

➔ *Introducing the Demographic Dividend Monitoring Index (DDMI)*



**Thank You**