

UNFPA Indonesia
Monograph Series:

No.1

Indonesia on the Threshold of Population Ageing



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Foreword

In Indonesia, as in other countries around the world, the number of births is declining while life expectancy is rising. The world today is experiencing rapid demographic change, characterised by the fastest-growing segment of the world population being those aged 60 and over. This phenomenon is widely known to impact on issues of pensions, social insurance, taxation and, most importantly, the welfare of the elderly.

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, continues to support BPS-Statistics Indonesia in disseminating census results and ensuring their broader utilization through various initiatives. One of these initiatives, besides supporting the 2010 Population Census documentation exercise, is the development of a series of census-based thematic monographs focused on emerging population issues and social trends of public policy concern.

This monograph on Indonesia's ageing population is the first in this series. Besides ageing, the series of monographs will cover other population-related issues such as youth, urbanisation, internal migration and gender. The output component of this ageing monograph is to provide high-quality statistical information to support informed debate on policies and programmes related to Indonesia's ageing population and the wellbeing of its older people.

The aim of this publication is to present an authoritative yet reader-friendly description of contemporary data relating to older people that describes i) the size and structure of the elderly population and how it has changed over time; ii) the demographic trends underpinning population ageing in Indonesia; and iii) the life circumstances of older people and how they vary depending on age, sex, place of residence and other characteristics.

This publication is an updated and extended version of an earlier version of the same monograph that was published in 2013 in Jakarta. It now includes the official population projections for 2010-2035, released by BPS-Statistics Indonesia and launched by the President of the Republic of Indonesia in January 2014, and has also been extended to include a chapter showing the pace of population ageing in other countries in the ASEAN region.

It is hoped that this monograph will draw attention to pressing issues related to ageing in Indonesia. The data analysis pointed to areas for further research such as the difference in morbidity rate for men and women, and issues that affect older women in particular, including certain types of sexual and reproductive health-related illnesses, as well as social protection for older women who are vulnerable to gender-based violence, poverty and abandonment.

It is with pleasure that we present this monograph, *Indonesia on the Threshold of Population Ageing*. We hope that it will serve as a valuable reference for advocates of the elderly, as well as government, academic, development, civil society and other stakeholders, in promoting, developing and implementing policies and programmes to support the wellbeing of Indonesia's older people and the prosperity of the country as a whole.

This monograph was primarily prepared and co-authored by Professor Sri Moertiningsih Adioetomo (University of Indonesia) and Dr. Ghazy Mujahid (York Centre for Asian Research). My greatest appreciation

goes to them both as the two authors of this report. I also would like to acknowledge the valuable contributions made by Mr. Horst Posselt and Professor Mayling Oey-Gardiner, Ph.D., who provided very constructive input as reviewers.

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Mr. Jose Ferraris

UNFPA Representative in Indonesia

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