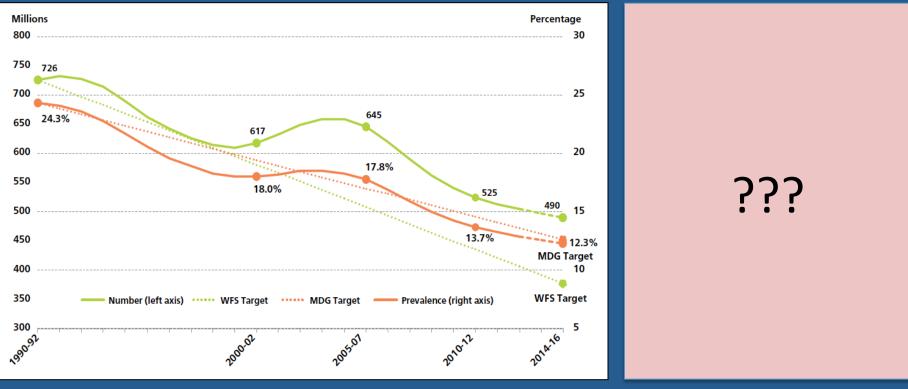
Economic growth, demographic transformation and inclusive food security: Emerging challenges and opportunities

> Upali Wickramasinghe Senior International Consultant FAO – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Presentation made in the Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development (MPDF) Seminar Series Friday, 17 June 2016, 10-11:30 Hrs. Meeting Room H UNCC, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand.

Note: Author is responsible for the ideas expressed, and should not be attributed to the FAO or its affiliated institutions

#### Undernourishment (Prevalence and number) declined



Source: FAO (2015)

Next 15-20 years

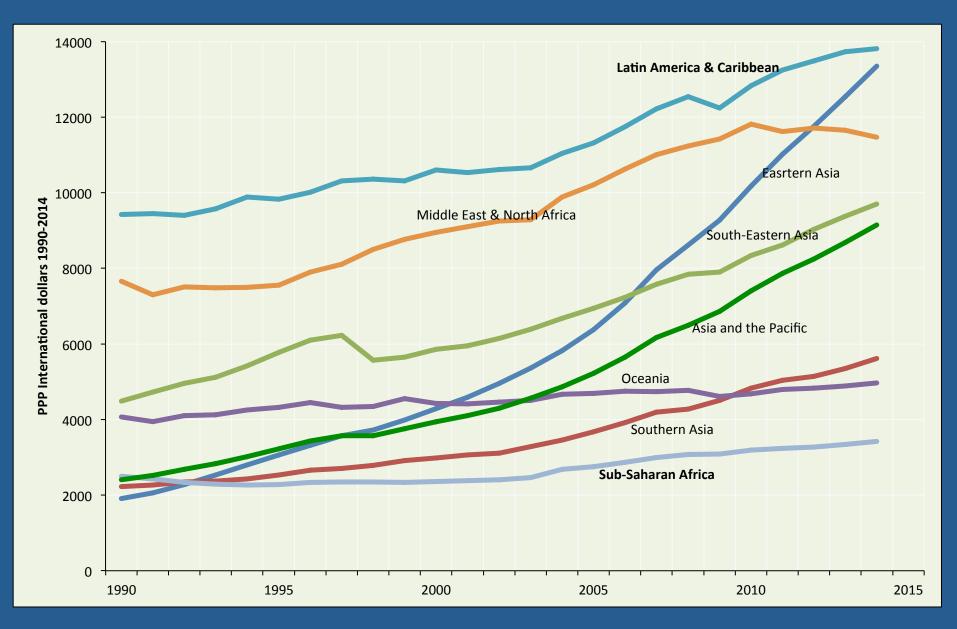
## An extended 'development trilogy'

Economic Growth (policies, demographic change, innovations and technologies)

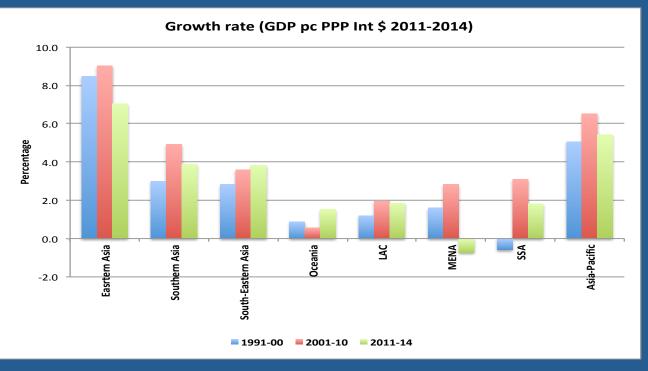
**Food Security** 

Equity (social, institutional)  Stability
(Climate change, disasters and cyclical variaions )

# Real per-capita GDP increased significantly

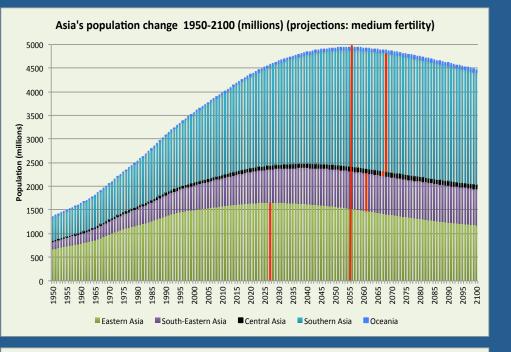


# Slowing down of economic growth



- Long-term growth projections (ADB 2011, 2015; UN 2016) predict a growth slowdown – 'New normal' for several reasons:
  - Delayed recovery
  - Moderate prospects of China and India
  - Weak economic performance of large global players
  - Conditional convergence due to slow growth of labour force

### Asia's population change 1950-2100



Rate of population growth 1951 - 2050 (projections: medium fertility)

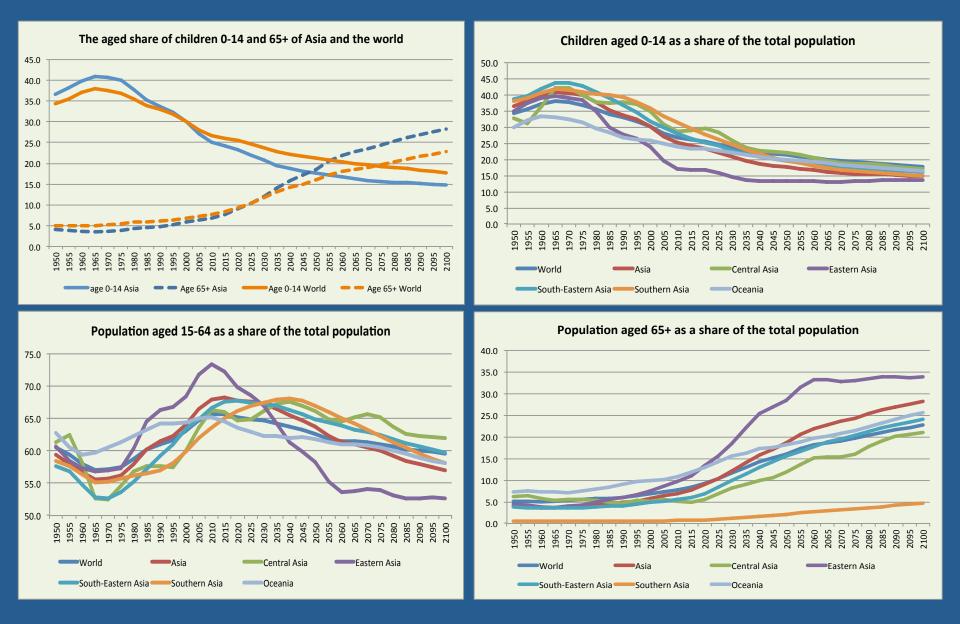


- Fertility rates have declined (total births per woman declined)
- People live longer
- More children survive beyond five years



- The share of children aged 0-14 in the total population decline sharply
- Share of the working age population 15-64 has been rising with each region and country reaching peak levels at different time periods
- The share of aged population 65+ will outstrip that of children for the first time in known history

### Elements of demographic transition



# Food security implications

- Rural-urban migration and urbanization
  - Significant rural-urban migration → more people will begin to live in cities than in cities within the next 10-20 years
  - Populations in urban agglomerations are increasing
    - China: 63 million in 1970 to 278 million in 2010 (83 million of this, after 2000)
    - India: 43 million in 1970 to 164 million in 2010
    - APR: 223 million in 1980 to 619 million in 2010 (increase of 396 mil)
- Implications
  - $\rightarrow$ Urban food security becomes a critical component



https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\_2955

