THE DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND AND ITS PROSPECTS IN AFRICA

Adedoyin Soyibo

Health Policy Training and Research Programme, Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
OUTLINE

• Demographic dividend; its significance
• Africa's population structure and demographic dividend portents
• Demographic dividend in Africa
• Africa's requirements for meeting the dividends
• Conclusion
Demographic Dividend; its Significance

- The Global Population Mark of 7 Billion

- Working age population increases with transition from high fertility and high mortality to low fertility and low mortality leading to production and income increases

- Leads to virtuous cycles of economic growth called demographic dividend
• Changing Age Structure and Lower Dependency Ratio
• Changing Age Structure and increasing Longevity
• Increasing Working Population to Total Population
• Growth in Working Population to Total Population
Africa’s Population Structure & DD Portents

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SSA Population age structure, 1950 - 2100

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Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
East Africa Population age structure, 1950 - 2050

Central African Population age structure, 1950 - 2010

West Africa population age structure, 1950 - 2100

Southern Africa population age structure, 1950 - 2100
DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND IN SSA

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Department of Economics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
Meeting DD Requirements

- Increase investment in human capital as fertility declines.
- Deliberate policies to improve access to labor markets for youths (domestically).
- Deliberate policies to improve access to labor markets for youths (regionally and internationally, where possible).
- Promoting industrialization in a sustainable way; for example, through infrastructural development to enhance job creation.
- Financial sector must be strengthened to aid and sustain investment that will enhance possibilities of reaping second dividend.
Conclusion

• The prospects of DD in Africa are high, but the requirements for realization must be in place
• Started in SSA in 1990 will peak 2030 and end in 2050
• There are Regional Variations:
  • Southern Africa; Start, 1970; Peak, 1995, End, 2050
  • West Africa; Start, 1990; Peak, 2035; End, 2090
  • East Africa; Start, 1985; Peak, 2030; End, 2075
  • Central Africa; Start, 2000; Peak, 2020; End, 2075.
• There also country variations as shown by NTA research
Thank you