WDA Forum

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The WDA Forum
What are we aiming for?

With our vision of maintaining and enhancing future welfare and prosperity, the WDA Forum aims to address demographic issues and their impact on our social, economic and political environment in an international context.

The WDA Forum was founded in St. Gallen in 2002 and acts as a platform and Think Tank.
Our Next World
The World faces unprecedented demographic challenges!

- **7.6 bn**: Today 6.4 billion people live in less developed countries and 1.2 billion in more developed countries. The world grows each year by 80 million people.

- **250 m**: Global migration: 3.4% of the global population live outside their countries of birth. This percentage has remained stable over the last 15 years.

- **2.4**: The total fertility rate has decreased across the globe. It ranges from 1.2 children per woman in Singapore to 7.2 in Niger.

- **55%**: The percentage of the world’s population living in urban areas is increasing.

- **29.5/1000**: The global infant mortality rate has declined since 1970 from 80 infant deaths per 1000 life births to 29.5.

- **70 - 74 years**: Life expectancy at birth is higher than ever before. 68 – 72 years in less developed countries and 76 – 82 years in more developed countries.
Five Areas of Focus
Basis of the WDA Activities

The ultimate mission is to discover and establish new standards for “Living and Working in an Age of Longevity – A 100 Year Life!”
Life expectancy, birth rates and migration – are all forces that shape nations as well as entire continents with respect to their societal, economic, environmental and political development.
WDA Forum
Our preferred Channels

Dialogue with Academia, NGOs, Government

Collaborations with Business & Venture Partners

Events and Working Groups

Awards
Prix des Generation & Erich Walser Generations’ Award
As a Think Tank, the WDA Forum actively shapes the discussion on demographic topics. We work closely with the Institute of Insurance Economics at the University of St. Gallen as well as other educational and research institutions including the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, Stanford University in California, Population and Ageing Centre at the University of New South Wales in Sydney and the Fudan University in Shanghai.

**Megatrend Global Demographic Change**

- Lecturer assignment at the University of St. Gallen
- Supervision of Master Thesis

**Collaboration with Universities**
## WDA Forum

### Topics since 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2009 | Switzerland 2030-2050:  
- Homogeneity of demographic evolution  
- Scenario for population size and composition  
- Tackle upcoming shortages of healthcare professionals |
| 2012 | Demography and Switzerland’s migration policy |
| 2013 | Demographic ageing in Switzerland |
| 2014 | The future of Switzerland with zero migration |
| 2015 | Sustainability of Switzerland’s three pillar retirement scheme |
| 2016 | Shrinking working age population in Switzerland |
| 2018 | Swiss AHV/IV and BVG systems in light of changing demography |
# WDA Forum
Topics since 2009

Demography and Resources (Global Perspective)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Demography meets food security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Influence on energy demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Population growth and access to food &amp; water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## WDA Forum Topics since 2009

### Country and Regional Case Studies (I/III)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Case Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2030-2050: Population shrinking in Europe = Economic contraction?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>China, India, Singapore 2030-2050</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2011 | Demography meets:  
|      | - Emerging markets: China vs. India  
|      | - Europe  
|      | - Japan  
|      | - Alpine regions |
| 2012 | Demography meets:  
|      | - Outlook on Sub-Saharan Africa until 2050  
|      | - Tackling low fertility in China, Japan and South Korea  
|      | - Indonesia  
|      | - Latin America |
WDA Forum
Topics since 2009

Country and Regional Case Studies (II/III)

- Impact of demography on conflict between Israel and its neighbors
- Demographic future of Hong Kong
- Population ageing in China
- Shrinking societies in Germany and South Korea

2014

- Role of demography for the political, economic & societal future of China and the US
- Demography meets Cuba and Ethiopia
- The demography of the Sahel zone

2015

- Africa’s demographic history and future to 2050
- Demographic picture of Cambodia until 2035
- China’s new one child generation

2016
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Topics since 2009

Country and Regional Case Studies (III/III)

2017
- Demography meets Mauritius/Myanmar
- Comparison Saudi Arabia vs. Iran
- Management of population dynamics in China, Iran and Taiwan

2018
- Africa’s population: How to capture its opportunities

2019
- How sustainable are development strategies in Africa?
- Canada: Critically review how this country manages migration.
- Ongoing low fertility in Europe: What is the impact on society, business and governance in the coming 20 years
### WDA Forum

#### Topics since 2009

**Megatrend Global Demographic Change**

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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>- Shrinking and growing regions/states</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 2010 | - Shrinking and growing regions/states  
      | - Impact of demography (ageing) on public debt in Europe, the US and Japan |
| 2012 | - Outlook demographic change and global power of nations |
| 2013 | - Northern vs. Southern Europe  
      | - The emerging markets |
| 2015 | - Past, current and future population dynamics across the 5 continents  
      | - Managing elderly income in a world devoid of risk-free returns |
| 2017 | - Impact of low interest rates on retirees  
      | - Impact on the wealth of nation |
WDA Forum
Topics since 2009

Geopolitics and Financial Markets (II/II)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2018 | - Investing in Africa: Chinese vs. European financiers  
      - Performance of stock-quoted demography investment funds |
| 2019 | - What can strategic planners learn from “political demography”?  
      - The interaction of population dynamics on social cohesion and equality. |
## WDA Forum
### Topics since 2009

### Opportunities arising from Demography for Business & Society (I/III)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 2009 | - An analysis of services/industries for Europe 2030-2050:  
- Business concept for an innovative and stimulating environment for elderly |
| 2010 | - Impact of Ageing populations on industries and services in developed countries  
- Determinants for fertility in the developed and developing World |
| 2011 | Demography  
- Dependency ratio  
- Business  
- Office space |
| 2012 | Demography meets:  
- Retirement age  
- Intergenerational communication |
## WDA Forum Topics since 2009

### Opportunities arising from Demography for Business & Society (II/III)

<table>
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| 2013 | - Impact of ageing on capital markets  
      - Flexible retirement  
      - How to make longevity an achievement |
| 2014 | - Young people’s entry into the working world  
      - Principles of intergenerational solidarity |
| 2015 | - Phenomenon of low fertility rates  
      - Feasibility of a demographic risk indicator |
| 2016 | - Impact of gender equality on fertility rate |
| 2017 | - Key population dynamics in the 20th and 21st Century |
# WDA Forum

## Topics since 2009

### Opportunities arising from Demography for Business & Society (II/III)

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</table>
| 2018 | - Longevity and the 100-Year Life  
- Demography and digitization: blockchain |
| 2019 | - Our life courses  
- Demography and digitalization/information technology/artificial intelligence |
The WDA offers a broad range of services to corporations. We help institutions to shape a corporate strategy that takes into account demographic factors and help identify new investment opportunities in markets likely to profit from demographic change.

Using a venture approach, the WDA also co-organizes expert workshops in less-developed countries to enable local communities to build their strategy.
Fostering Young Entrepreneurs in Ethiopia

- Together with the private sector, the WDA supports entrepreneurs to improve the local health care system in a sustainable way

Derivation of dedicated Investment Schemes

- We advise corporations with the set-up of demography specific investment schemes, e.g. a demography fund, and help to find attractive investment opportunities
To readily position corporations for demographic change, we help them derive new corporate strategies.

- Redefining our work life both from employer and the employee perspective is a WDA core competence.

In partnership with corporations and institutions, the WDA organizes co-creative workshops to address specific and pressing themes such as:

“Our 100-Year Life” and its impact on Human Resources Strategy.
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Events

“Our Next World”
The WDA Forum is committed to excellence. It brings together the best minds globally in order to create awareness and solutions impacting one of the most critical megatrends on our planet: demographic change.

Events & Congresses

Workshops

- We organize and give educational and insightful presentations about demographic and aging related topics
- Topics currently include:
  - Africa – Failure is not an option
  - Changing life courses
  - The future of longevity
  - Population Dynamics in the 21st Century
WDA Forum Awards

Prix des Generation

The Prix des Generation honors individuals who have made an exemplary international contribution to improving or advancing understanding between generations.

2005 Helmut Schmid
2006 Václav Havel
2007 Dirie Waris
2008 Mary Robinson
2009 ICRC
WDA Forum Awards

Erich Walser Generations’ Award

The Erich Walser Generations Prize honors individuals who have made an exemplary international contribution to improving or advancing understanding between generations.

2016
Adolf Ogi

2019
Carla Del Ponte
WDA Forum
Books

Die Demografiefalle
Gesundheit als Ausweg für Deutschland und Europa

Nicholas Eberstadt
Hans Groth

Auf der Basis der amerikanischen Originalausgabe
Europe's Coming Demographic Challenge: Unlocking the Value of Health
by AFJ Press, Washington, D.C.
Überarbeitete deutsche Ausgabe,
übersetzt von Jürgen Neuhäuser

Population Dynamics in Muslim Countries
Assembling the Jigsaw
Hans Groth
Alfonso Sousa-Poza
Editors

Africa's Population: In Search of a Demographic Dividend
Hans Groth, John F. May
Editors

Springer
WDA Forum
How to invest?

Become a WDA Corporate Partner
Sign up, participate at our events, and contribute to our discussions

Join the WDA Generations-Club
Our regional networks invites individuals to join events and discussions related to ageing and longevity

Rethinking Demography
Annual activities  www.wdaforum.org

Support the WDA Vision
As a non-profit organization, the WDA Forum is financed by sponsors, donations and legacies
WDA Forum

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