



The European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity Between Generations



European Year for **Active Ageing**
and **Solidarity between Generations 2012**



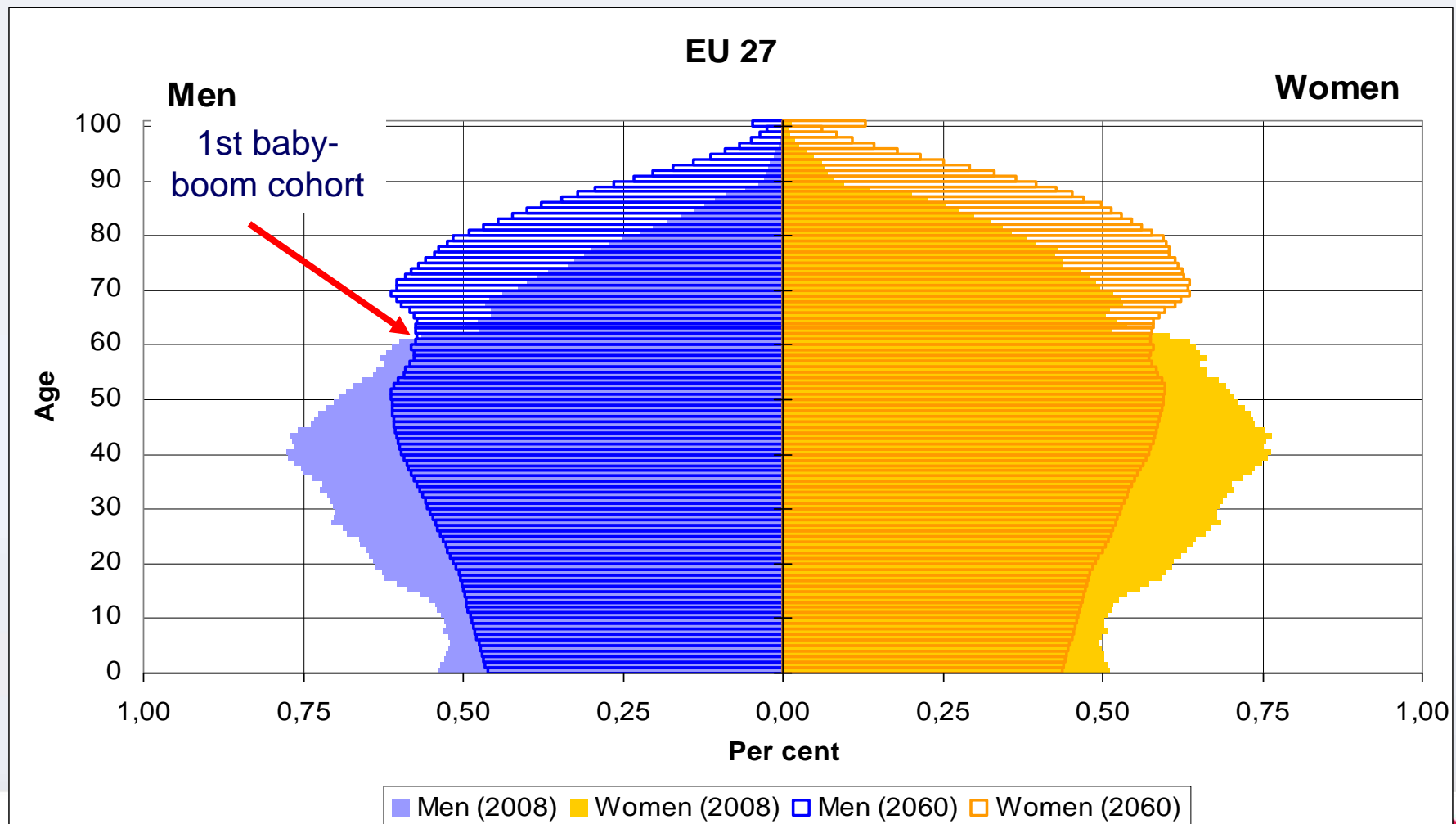
FUTURAGE Road Map Launch Conference

Brussels, 18 October 2011

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Population pyramids today... and in 2060

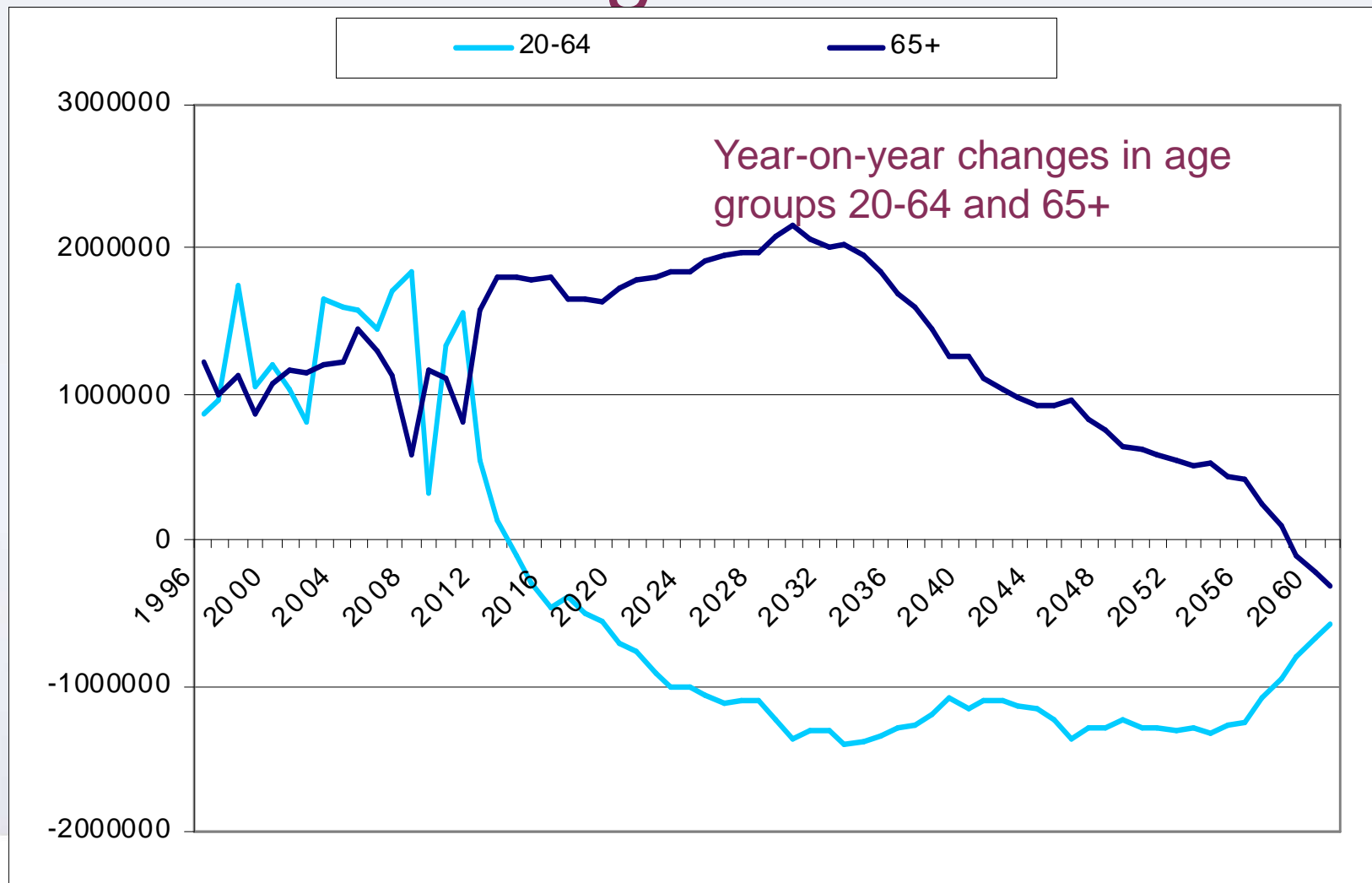


Demographic Ageing Starts Now!

- Long-term projections: doubling of old-age dependency ratio over 50 years (1:4 to 1:2)
 - Rising life expectancy
 - Low birth rates
 - Migration not compensating for declining working-age population
- Ageing is happening now: baby-boomers starting to retire



Rapid growth of older population, shrinking labour force



What will Happen to Solidarity between Generations?

- Increased needs for social spending on pensions, health and long-term care
- Reduced economic growth
- Conflicting interests between workers and older people:
 - Adequate social protection for older people **vs**
 - Sustainable tax/contributions burden for the active
- Good conditions for older people depend on overcoming this conflict



Active Ageing – Basis for Solidarity between Generations in the Future

- People have opportunities to stay longer on the labour market and earn a living...
- ... and will rely on pensions later in life
- Increased retirement age still leaves many healthy life years for active participation in society
- Healthy ageing postpones the onset of dependency



The European Year 2012

- Focus on opportunities, rather than threats and constraints
 - FUTURAGE: *a new vision of ageing which promotes its positive possibilities rather than deficits*
- Awareness raising and...
- ...mobilising policy makers and stakeholders
- Commitments for specific initiatives



The Scope of Active Ageing

Employment

- Promote healthy ageing at work
- Adapt work places
- Access to life-long learning
- Incentives for longer working lives

Social Participation

- Promote senior volunteering
- Support for family carers
- Cultural and social activities
- Adult learning

Independent Living

- Healthy ageing
- Age-friendly goods and services
- Accessible transport and housing
- Maximising autonomy in LTC



Commitments for Active Ageing

National governments

- Raise the employment rates of older workers
- Combat age discrimination
- Promote access of older people to education and ICT

Local and regional authorities

- Join the Age-friendly City Programme of WHO
- Increase opportunities for senior volunteering
- Launch intergenerational housing projects

Employers and trade unions

- Offer flexible transitions to retirement
- Promote mentoring schemes
- Adapt working conditions to the needs of older workers

EU

- Research funding and coordination (EIP, AAL...)
- Policy coordination (employment, social protection)
- Communication activities, knowledge sharing (European Year and beyond)



http://www.active-ageing-2012.eu

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European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012

Worried about growing older? About your place in society when you're 60, 70 or 80?

There is a lot to life after 60 — and society is coming increasingly to appreciate the contribution older people can make. That's what active ageing is about — getting more out of life as you grow older, not less, whether at work, at home or in the community.

And this can help not just you as an individual but society as a whole.

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