DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND IN AFRICA: REAPING THE BENEFITS

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OUTLINE

• What Demographic Dividend (DD) is
• What does Research Tell Us about DD in Africa?
• What Africa can do to Reap DD
• What if it is business as usual?
What Demographic Dividend is

- **Demographic Divided** refers to virtuous cycles of economic growth that come with
- Increases in Working Age Population with transition from high fertility and high mortality to low fertility and low mortality
- Leading to production and income increases
- As a result of the existence more effective workers per consumer.
• 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
SSA Population age structure, 1950 - 2100

% aged 0-14
% aged 15-64
% aged 65 or over
East Africa Population age structure, 1950 -2050

Central African Population age structure, 1950-2100

West Africa population age structure, 1950 -2100

Southern Africa population age structure, 1950-2100
What Does Research tell us about DD in Africa?
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What Africa can do to Reap DD

- Promoting and strengthening FP to sustain fertility decline
- 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 second dividend.
What if it is business as usual?

- God forbid!!!
- Direct relationship between failed states and high fertility
- Direct relationship between share of population aged 0-29 years and failed state
- There is a relationship between high infant mortality and high child dependency
- Direct relationship between high infant mortality and index of failed states
- Must Africa continue on this path?
- A wake-up call.
- FP is it!!!

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THANK YOU