15th GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING of the REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION
20-24 OCTOBER
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meXico 2004-2014 REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION

Investing in youth to harness the Demographic Dividend in Africa

AVAILABILITY QUALITY EQUITY CHOICE

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SALUD SECRETARÍA DE SALUD

Reproductive Health SUPPLIES COALITION 10 YEARS

SECONAF SÉCURITÉ CONTRACEPTIVE EN AFRIQUE FRANCOPHONE
Un Forum de la Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition

PPD Africa Regional Office

OUTLINE

- What is Demographic Dividend(DD)
- What are the key pillars to harness the DD?
- What should Africa do to reap DD?
- Case study

What is Demographic Dividend(DD)?

Demographic Divided refers to Rapid Economic Growth in a country as consequence of :

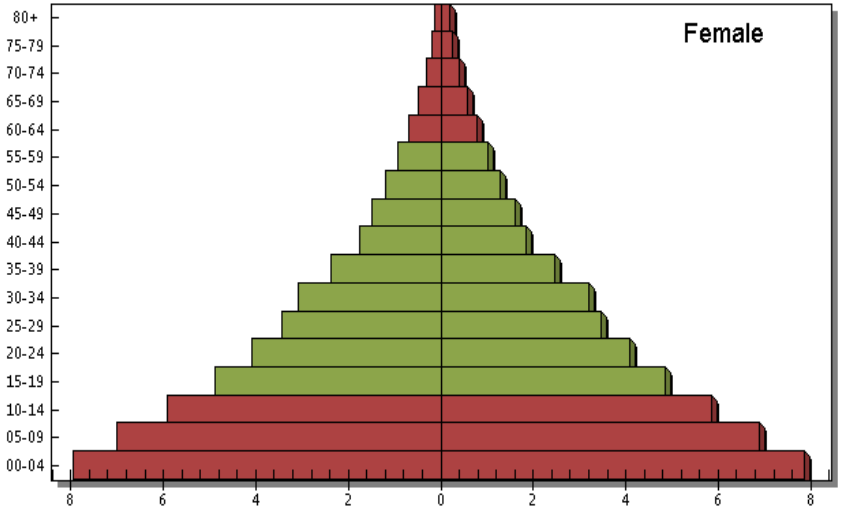
- Demographic transition from high fertility and high mortality to low fertility and low mortality;
- Increase of the size of the working age population and
- Reduction of the dependency ratio.

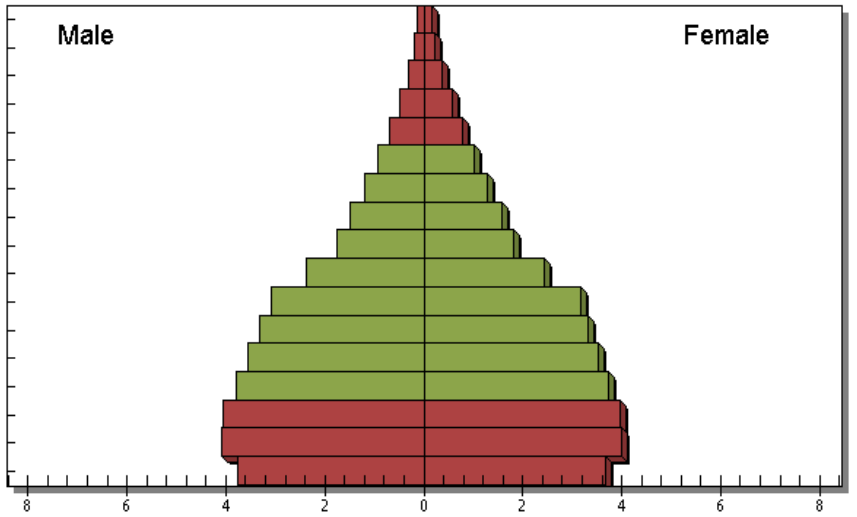
What is Demographic Dividend(DD)? (cont..)

- DD is an opportunity and is not automatic

- Decline of fertility and change in population structure is a pre-condition and not enough

Demographic Transition





What are the key pillars to harness the DD?

WHAT AFRICA SHOULD DO TO HARNESS DD

The delay is not an option and it is time for action

- **Invest in health : Correlation between health and wealth**
    - Reproductive health and family planning, youth friendly services
    - Child survival
    - Health system strengthening

- **Improve access to quality education equally for boys and girls**
    - Higher education
    - Training that meets the needs of the labor market (skilled labor force)
    - Review of training methods and curricula
    - Focus on education of girls (decrease fertility)

WHAT AFRICA SHOULD DO TO HARNESS DD

The delay is not an option and it is time for action

- **Adopt appropriate economic policies**
    - Job creation through a modernized labor market
    - Openness to trade and investment in productive sectors
    - Innovative and competitive private sector
    - Reduction of government public expenditures

- **Improve governance, accountability and transparency**
    - Management system anchored around , transparency, accountability, in all sectors
    - Respect for human rights and democracy
    - Gender Equality
    - Strengthen citizenship by encouraging political participation, respect for cultural differences
    - Fight against corruption

RECOMMENDATIONS

The delay is not an option and it is time for action

- Without the right policies the demographic transition could translate into an army of unemployed youth which may increase social risks and tension

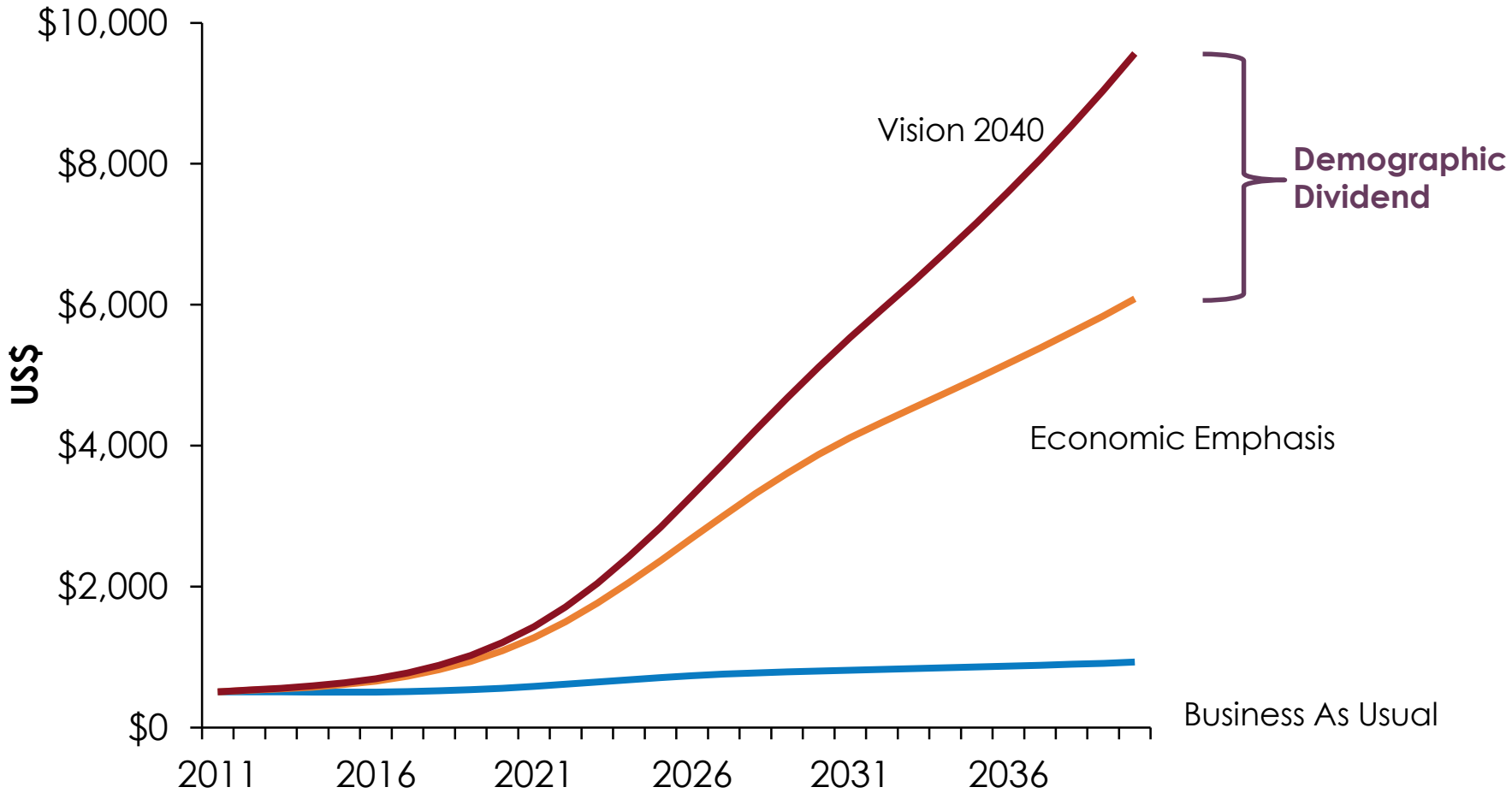
- Young people are central to the Demographic Dividend. Therefore it is a must to fulfill and protect their rights for education, employment and health including access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and information

Case Study: Uganda
Three policy scenarios

"Business As Usual"	✦ Modest investments in family planning, education, and economic reforms ✦ Slow progress in economic development and demographic transition
Economic Emphasis	✦ Maximize economic investment ✦ Modest investments in family planning and education
Combined scenario (vision 2040)	✦ Maximize economic competitiveness ✦ Simultaneous prioritization of family planning and education

Case study: Uganda

GDP per capita



Thank you