**Abstract**

**RS-113**

**Title: « Development of proposals on measures and budgeting of active aging policies »**

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**Object of the research:** active ageing policy in Russia.

**Aim of the research:** based on the results of the analysis of social policy towards elderly population (pension provision, social support, social services, etc.), indicators of well-being of older people and their inclusion in social policy measures as well as the characteristics of their labor, educational, economic and consumption behavior, to develop proposals for measures and budgeting of active aging policy.

To achieve the goal the following **methods** were used: (a) literature review; (b) the review of legislation; (c) micro-data analysis of population and households surveys and transcripts of focus groups; (d) estimation and analysis of the Russian budgetary system expenses on financial provision of activities (measures) focused on the development of active aging; (d) economic modelling of the effects from the implementation of active aging policy measures.

**Empirical base of the research**

For the review of legislation the legal acts concerning the measures for employment promotion, educational programs, pension provision, social support, social services, medical care and provision of medicines for older persons, adopted at the federal and regional level and published in the bases «Consultant», «Garant», as well as on the official websites of Federal executive bodies, executive bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, in the official website for publishing information about state (municipal) institutions (bus.gov.ru) were used. The analysis of government programs implemented in the Russian Federation on the relevant themes was based on the data published on the official website: <https://programs.gov.ru/Portal/> . To estimate the budget expenditures along with these data, Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) data published on the official website, budget reports data published on the website of the Ministry of Finance, Treasury of the Russian Federation, Pension Fund of the Russian Federation, Federal Treasury data on the budgets execution of the budgetary system of the Russian Federation, including the received data on the basis of the requests from the constituent entities of the Russian Federation were used. In the economic modelling the Forecast of the Russian Federation socio-economic development for 2017 and the planning period of 2018 and 2019, developed by the Ministry of Economic Development in the framework of the draft law «On the Federal Budget for 2017 and the planning period of 2018 – 2019» were also used. The empirical base for the estimates of elderly population and its characteristics, including participating in various social programs, was Rosstat sample surveys: Statistical survey of income and participation in social programs (2014, 2015), Comprehensive monitoring of living conditions of the population (2014), Selective supervision of quality and availability of services in education, health care and social services, assistance of employment of the population (2013, 2015), as well as data of the Russian Longitudinal Monitoring Survey - HSE (1994-2016), «Readiness for change» (2016), «The population perception of socio-economic changes in modern Russia» (2017), etc. Motivation of people to participate in lifelong learning was also studied on the basis of the results of focus groups conducted in 2017.

**Results of the research**

1. The analysis of the dynamics of socio-demographic characteristics of elderly population over the last 20-25 years has shown that human capital (the level of formal education and self-reported health) of people aged 50 years and over in the Russian Federation grew substantially. At the same time, in comparison with the middle of 1990s, the employment rate of people 50-72 years increased. However, the involvement of elderly population in lifelong learning and practices for maintaining a healthy lifestyle (including physical activity) and disease prevention remains very limited.

2. The analysis of income level dynamics, income and expenditures structure and the level of absolute income poverty in the households with elderly people reveals that pension provision in Russia largely guarantees minimum economic security of older generation, preventing poverty risks of the elderly but, as a rule, not providing a satisfactory standard of living. The most effective tool for income growth remains pensioners’ employment. For the period of the current economic crisis, real incomes decreased, and the expenditure structure changed negatively: the expenditures on food and medicines increased. However, the level of absolute poverty of elderly population is still lower than of other social groups.

3. The analysis of social policy implementation institutional framework concerning elderly people shows a low relevance of the social support measures to the objectives of the Action Strategy on senior citizens. Both at the federal and regional level, so far it poorly fits in the direction of active ageing policy implementation. In addition, the analysis demonstrates that despite of the institutional and infrastructural reforms in the field of social services, the population demand for social services is not yet fully satisfied. Rights on the availability of social services for the elderly and people with disabilities needing social support are not confirmed by real data.

4. The analysis of medicaments and health care services consumption by elderly people has identified that the main problem – availability of health care services, which determines the low claims to their quality. The main constraint in obtaining necessary health care for the elderly is mobility to the location of these services. The second most fundamental problem is related to availability of medicaments provision, high health care expenditures in the elderly’s households, reduction of expenditures on these purposes in case of incomes reduction and low satisfaction with the range of medicaments. The third one is associated with a high need for technical aids for the elderly without disabilities.

5. The analysis of the demand and supply in the market of lifelong learning for the elderly in Russia reveals low interest and very limited participation of the target group in lifelong learning programs. The main constraint is the lack of visible connection between the passage of the educational programs and employment conditions or prospects; in addition, the quality of re-education programs offered by the employment services is unsatisfactory. Additional factors limiting the expansion of lifelong learning include very weak interagency cooperation on this issue, overlapping of the same tasks by several organizations, poor awareness of population about existing opportunities.

6. Active ageing funding in Russia occurs on a residual basis. The majority of expenditures fall on the budgets of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation: in 2016, at least 2.7 billion rubles was spent on the activities for active aging development from extrabudgetary sources. If social support for the elderly is excluded from the volume of financial provision for active ageing development measures, the total funding is equaled only to 51 – 54 billion rubles in 2016-2019, despite the fact that about half of this volume is the funds provided for the development of modern forms of social services and social services market. A large part of the expenditures on the activities for active ageing development includes the procurement of goods, works and services, social benefits and financial support for the implementation of the state task for rendering of the state services and execution of works by autonomous and other uncommercial institutions. The total expenditure on activities for active aging development does not depend on the index of estimated budget sufficiency in a region, and is determined by the number of senior citizens in a region.

7. Proposals for the improvement of policies in the field of social support, social and medical care of elderly people, increasing the participation of this target group in lifelong learning programs aimed at the potential of active aging improvement are developed. As the analysis of the macroeconomic effects from the implementation of some proposed measures has showed, all the proposed measures of active ageing development have a direct and positive impact on macroeconomic indicators of the country.

**Degree of implementation of research results**

The work is realized in the interests of the Russian Government on the issue of the implementation of the Action Strategy on senior citizens in the Russian Federation up 2025 and is aimed at the monitoring of the Plan implementation. According to the results of the project 8 analytical notes were prepared. The materials of this study were used in the preparation for participation in meetings in the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Russian Federation; the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation, at the meeting of the Council Under the Government of the Russian Federation on Guardianship in the Social Sphere.

**Level of implementation**

The results and recommendations emanated from the project implementation can be used to advise public authorities and improving existing or developing legislation in the field of social policy measures in the interests of elderly people and active ageing policy with the aim of increasing their effectiveness. The obtained results allow improving the methodology of active aging policy budgeting and evaluation of financial effects from the implementation of these measures.