

Panel session 2

Low for Long: Living Longer – Societal Ramifications of Low Interest Rates



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Panel Chair

John R. Strangfeld Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Prudential Financial



Richard Jackson President Global Aging Institute (GAI)



YoshinobuTsutsui President Nippon Life Insurance Company



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Global Aging and Retirement Security in an Era of Low Interest Rates

Richard Jackson President Global Aging Institute

44th General Assembly of the Geneva Association San Francisco June 15, 2017



The Coming Crisis in Retirement Security



The world stands on the threshold of a stunning demographic transformation.

Elderly (Aged 65 & Over), as a Percent of the Population in 2015 and 2050



Source: World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision (New York: UN Population Division, 2015)



Many developed countries have enacted deep cuts in the future generosity of state retirement provision.

- Several developed countries, including Germany, Italy, Japan, and Sweden, have indexed their state pension systems to offset the impact of population aging.
- Many other developed countries have raised retirement ages and trimmed benefit formulas.

Cumulative Percentage Decline in Current-Law Government Pension Benefits Relative to "Current-Deal" Benefits, from 2010 to 2040*



*The "current-deal" projection assumes that retirement ages and replacement rates remain unchanged in the future.

The elderly in most developed countries are highly dependent on government benefits.

- The high level of dependence of the elderly on government benefits leaves them vulnerable to reductions in the generosity of state retirement provision.
- The relative living standard of the elderly is on track to suffer a sharp decline in many developed countries over the next few decades.
- Unless countries fill in the gap left by cuts in state retirement benefits with alternative sources of income support, there is likely to be push back from aging electorates.

Government Benefits as a Percent of the Cash Income of the Median-Income Elderly (Aged 60 & Over) in 2010*



*Income refers to the third quintile of the elderly income distribution.



Many emerging markets are aging before they have put in place the protections of a modern welfare state.

In countries with large informal sectors, many workers fail to contribute to state pension systems, and even when they do contribute they do so irregularly, which means that the ultimate benefits they receive will still be inadequate.

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Effective State Pension Coverage Rate and Size of the Informal Sector* in the Most Recent Available Year



*The informal sector is defined as informal employment in the non-agricultural sector plus agricultural employment as a share of total employment.

Source: Voluntary Pensions in Emerging Markets (Alexandria, VA: GAI, forthcoming)

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Alternative income sources will not be sufficient to make up for inadequate state pension benefits.

- Traditional family support networks are already under stress from the forces of modernization and will soon come under intense new demographic pressure as societies age and family size declines.
- Voluntary pension systems in emerging markets cover only a tiny and privileged minority of the total workforce.
- Even in high-saving East Asia, very few workers are accumulating significant financial assets on their own.

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Source: East Asia Retirement Survey: Wave 2 (Alexandria, VA: GAI, 2015)

Average Net Financial Asset-to-Income Ratio of Survey Respondents at Age 50*



* Includes all classes of household financial assets; ratios are averages for respondents aged 45-54. Source: East Asia Retirement Survey: Wave 2

Rising life expectancy puts retirees at a growing risk of outliving whatever personal savings they have.

- The history of life expectancy projections is largely a history of embarrassing underestimates.
- While life insurance companies are expert at mitigating individual longevity risk, it is much more difficult to hedge against systemic longevity risk.

Change in Projected Life Expectancy at Birth for the Year 2050: UN 2015 Revision versus UN 2000 Revision



Source: World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision and World Population Prospects: The 2000 Revision (New York: UN Population Division, 2000)



Low rates of return to capital further complicate the challenge of preparing for retirement.



*The projections assume real wage growth of 1.5 percent, a 40-year career, retirement at age 65, a ilfe expectancy of 22 years at age 65, and administrative fees equal to 0.5 percent of AUM. Source: GAI calculations



Perspectives on Reform



- There are only two ways for aging societies to maintain (or improve) the living standard of the old without putting an unsustainable tax or family burden on the young.
- The first way is to work longer. Later retirement ages not only reduce the cost of retirement without undermining adequacy, they are also good for the economy and, according to most gerontologists, good for the elderly themselves.
- The second way is to save more for retirement during the working years.
- While the rate of return to funded retirement systems will fall as societies age and economic growth slows, the rate of return to PAYGO systems will fall even further. Despite the low interest rate environment, funded retirement systems will enjoy a widening cost advantage.
- Although low rates of return make it more difficult to achieve a targeted final salary replacement rate, low real wage growth pushes the other way and makes it easier.

- In addition to encouraging longer work lives and greater retirement savings, policymakers need to recognize that global aging is a global problem requiring global solutions.
- Open global labor markets can match savers in older and more slowly growing economies with investment opportunities in younger and fastergrowing ones, while open global labor markets can match workers with job opportunities.
- The danger is that aging societies with slowgrowth economies and stagnant domestic markets may be tempted to roll back globalization.





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"Low For Long::Living Longer"

- 1. Historical Look at Ultra-low Rates in Japan
- 2. Future View of Potential Impact on Japanese Insurance Consumers of Negative/Low Rates and Demographic Challenges

June 15, 2017

Nippon Life Insurance Company Yoshinobu TSUTSUI

Long Term Interest Rate



Nippon Life Insurance Company: Impact of Negative Spread





Burst of the **bubble economy**

Negative spread



Loss from risky investments

Bad loans

Increase of surrender rate

Between April 1997 and March 2001,

life insurance companies became insolvent

Amount of insolvency Approx. JPY 2.7 trillion

Measures to Reduce the Negative Spread



6 To change **investment** strategies

Guaranteed Interest Rates



Products





Capital



Diversifying Allocation and Extending Asset Duration

| Asset Portfolio | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
| | 1990 | 2000 | 2014 | | | |
| Public and corporate domestic bonds | 8% | 27% | 46% | | | |
| Loans receivable | 39% | 29% | 13% | | | |
| Currency-hedged foreign bonds | 0% | 0% | 12% | | | |
| Domestic stocks | 23% | 17% | 14% | | | |
| Foreign securities (Non currency-hedged) | 13% | 11% | 10% | | | |



(Billions of Yen)

| | 1995 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Difference between investment return (without capital gain) and average assumed interest rate | -1.45% | -0.10% | -0.14% | +0.07% | +0.08% | +0.07% | +0.26% |
| Impact of negative spread | ▲470 | ▲40 | ▲60 | +30 | +32 | +32 | +115 |

Monetary Easing Policy of the Japanese Central Bank Since 2013





Investment Reforms

| Enha Inves Yi | ancing stment ield | | New Invest Alternative In | ment Opportunity |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Credit Inv | vestment (Overseas |) |
| | | Foreign Bo | ond with Currency H | ledge |
| Redu Inves Ri | ucing tment sk | Duration | Gap | |
| | | Equity Risk | | |
| | 2013 | | 2016 | 2017 |
| Γ | Monetary Easing | | Negative Interest | New Mid-term Management Plan |

New Investment Plan in Growing Fields

JPY 1.5 trillion in total



Alternative Investment 1,500 (Billions of Yen) 1,000 500 0

(2017 - 2020)

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015

Overseas Project Finance







Future View of Potential Impact on Japanese Insurance Consumers of Negative/Low Rates and Demographic Challenges



Savings-type Products



Influence on Consumers and Mission for Life insurance Company



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Product line-up will be limited for consumers

Necessity for further self-efforts to be made after retirement

Average Life Expectancy Becoming Longer



Source : The data is based on "Abridge life table" (from 1964-2014) and "Complete life table" (in 1980 and 2000) of the Health, Labor and Welfare Ministry. The data after 2016 is an estimate median age based on birth/death of "Population Projection for Japan (as of January 2012)" released by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.

Two Types of "Longevity Risk"



Longevity pension

Whole-life private pension with government subsidy





Expected Government Support



Government should support:

Policy to promote economic growth

Measures against declining **birthrate** Reform of SOCial Security System

etc.



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One View of the Future from McKinsey – Investors should anticipate lower returns closer to the 100 year average





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The new environment makes it more difficult for customers to predict their needs into their retirement

The Challenge of Longevity Risk Making Retirement Income Last a Lifetime

October 2015



• **Underestimation:** People may underestimate the value of guarantees and longevity.

• **Uncertainty:** Looking at an average life expectancy of a large group can provide reasonably accurate and consistent results. However, longevity risk for an individual is much more uncertain.



Insurers need to rethink the relationship they have with their clients and proactively encourage positive outcomes



John Hancock

Rethinking decumulation strategies and solutions to help customers succeed in the new environment



Insurers need to embed goals-based solutions. Solutions need to be based on life goals, risk tolerance and accumulated wealth of clients





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Proprietary and confidential. Do 96



Manulife CX Challenge

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Final Thoughts

- Growing financial and retirement security challenges worldwide
- Implications of failure to take corrective action
- Significant role for our industry
- Call to action!