

Equity, Transport Justice and the Older Population in Nigeria and Uganda

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16 November 2022

Outline

- Background
- Aim and objectives
- Significance and impact
- Methods
- Findings
- Conclusions



Overview: Equity and Transport Justice

How do institutions shape the distribution of transportation benefits and burdens in society?

- Being fair, impartial

Equity

- create conditions for more inclusive transport systems that allow different people to satisfy their basic needs and lead a meaningful life

Transport Justice

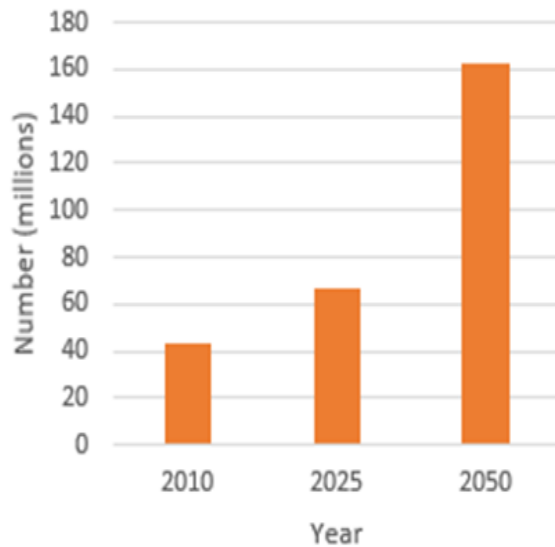
- equal access to safe, reliable and affordable transportation system that connects people to each other, places, and resources they need to thrive.

Does this really apply to:



Older persons
Especially in Africa

Background



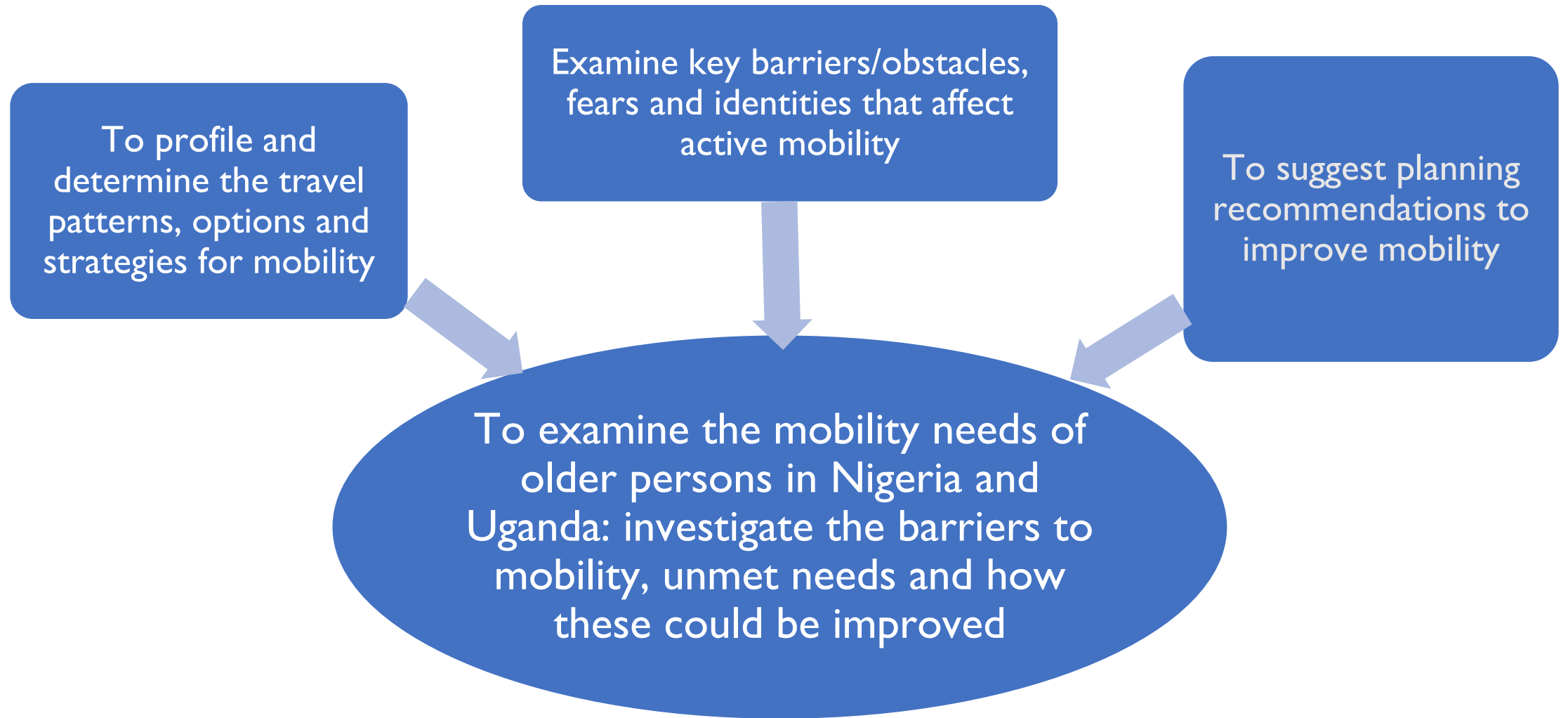
Estimated population of elderly in Africa (WHO, 2018)

Policy makers need to start considering transport solutions for older persons to ensure they enjoy benefits of longevity.

- Older persons reflect diversity of the general population, have different travel and mobility needs compared to other age groups.
- However, in Africa, their transport needs are often neglected? Why is this so?



Aim and Objectives



Methods: approach

1) Stakeholder workshops
- affected by;
have direct interest in,
or
involved in
transportation and
have control over
transport
finance/funding

2) Interviews
Older persons &
Policy Makers
Travel diaries

3) Case Study
Abuja [Nigeria] and
Kampala [Uganda]



Method: Workshop

Aim: understand current situation and identify topics for interview, travel diary and survey

- 47 Nigeria; 32 Uganda
- Participants divided into 3 groups/workshop /country

Discussion guide

- current situation of mobility and transport for older persons
- challenges, fears, concerns and barriers
- Safe and inclusive mobility: how mobility challenges could be improved



Interviews and Travel diaries

2 semi structured interviews



1st with Travel diaries: Older persons

examine travel pattern and understand how, when, why...

- Role of mobility
- Options for mobility
- Challenges and Barriers
- Unmet travel needs
- Changes after 60

- 50 Participants
- Age range: 60-90
- Gender balanced

2nd: Policy makers

Perception on:

- Older persons mobility
- Issues and challenges
- Policies and policy implementation

- 30 Participants
- Age range: 38-60
- Gender balanced

Role of Mobility and Needs

- Fundamental to providing financial support
- Get to places, maintain good health, social engagement

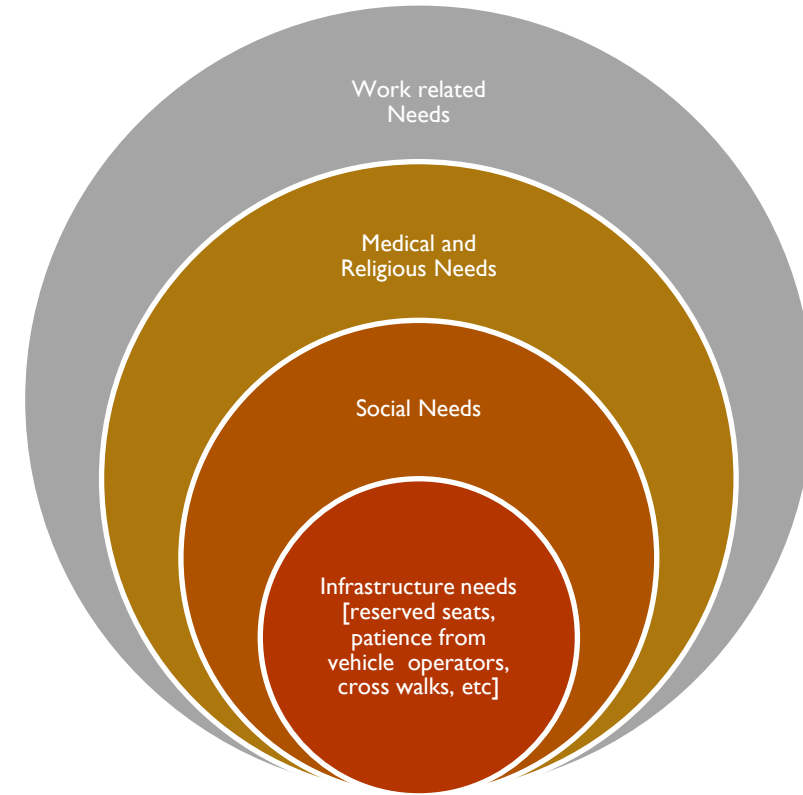
It makes it easy to get to my place of business (M, 76, UG)

I teach in a private school and that is the most common movement I make every week (F, 65, NG)

I move to the mosque for prayers, visit neighbors (M, 76, UG)

I normally go to the market every week to get food items (M, 77, NG)

My medical appointment is once in a week; so it is very important that I don't miss it (F, 68, NG)



Preference for different modes

Depends on age, culture, gender, finance, availability

If my income had not reduced, I would have been using my personal car, I just manage public transport these days, it is not easy at all (F, 70, NG)

Change in transport and mobility needs after 60



Ah.....Totally totally. To stand up now as I'm seated I will first bend then stretch myself before I can move, I have no vehicle of my own, I use public vehicle (M, 71,NG)

Things have changed from the time I turned 60 years. Today I have less energy to move to far areas which was not the case in the past years. Presently, I do not have money, and I normally feel sick (F, 62, UG).



Mode preference

I prefer Car. That is what can take me very quick to where I am going that I know (M, 71, NG).

I would prefer using boda bodas (motorcycles) at this stage of life. This is because it's cheap and safe (M, 76, UG)

At this stage of life, I would prefer taxis as the mode of transport. (F, 76, UG)

Implications of Reduced Mobility

- Further Functional Decline
- Decreased Levels of Physical Activity
- Decreases in Quality of Life
- Increases in Isolation and Depression

Unmet travel needs

*I would love to travel more but I cannot. I would desire to visit different parts of the country but I cannot travel to those areas. This is because of **financial constraints**...(M, 62, UG)*

*I am no longer **strong enough** to travel as I would love to (F, 71, UG)*

*Yes. There are plenty places I want to go to..., but I can't really go because I don't **get money again**, I am not working, I'm always home I take only whatever they give me (M, 70, NG)*

*Yes, there are places I would love to travel to but can't. I want to visit my relatives in the villages but I cannot due to **financial support** (M, 76, UG)*

*Yes o, there are, they are plenty. Sometimes if I don't get car, keke-napep or bike to take me to where I am going to, I just sit back because I know **I cannot trek** (F, 65, NG)*

*Sometimes I miss my medical appointments because of lack of **transport and money** (F, 70,NG)*

Options for mobility



Walking

If I want to go out sometimes I trek...(M, 71, NG)

I always move by foot around my home and also walking to the mosque (M, 76, UG)

Private Vehicles

Sometimes my son carries me in his vehicle (F, 76, NG)

I drive and I use my car always (M, 68, UG)

Combination of modes

I normally walk up to the taxi stages to and back from market and the hospital. I do not use motorcycles (boda-boda) because those people drive carelessly ...(F, 65, UG).

I use okada, buses and keke, It depends on where I am going and what I am going to do (F, 70, NG)

Public transport



Motorcycles

I normally use Motorcycles (boda-boda). The services are easier compared to other modes of transport. They can also maneuver through jam which cannot be done by taxis. They are also fast though they are risky (M, 62, UG)

I use bike, because to walk is not easy for me (M, 70, NG).

Buses

...public transport is because I am not mobile, I don't have a vehicle for now (F, 65, NG)

I use matatu, it is very convenient for me (M, 77, UG)

Taxis

I prefer taxis to other modes, I take taxis any time I need to go out (F, 72, NG)

Key issues

Poor public transport system

Even you tend to fight for taxis when there are many people waiting for those taxis (F, 65, UG).

when they are rushing, I will stand there looking at them, Ah.... They have fallen me to the ground before and hit me where I was standing and nobody even looked at my side (M, 71, NG).

It is very poor, people rush to get in, I try to stand away from them and that makes me spend more time waiting (M, 77, NG)

Discrimination

Sometimes operators prefer younger persons as passengers (M, 76, NG)

Nobody cares if you're old or not, they handle everyone the same (M, 76, UG)

Even as I use walking stick, the drivers do not even seem to notice (F, 70, NG)

Safety and Security

I do not use motorcycles (boda-boda) because those people drive carelessly therefore, I fear them (F, 65, UG).

when I'm on bike I fear so much so that they won't throw me down, but I feel safe in car (F, 72, NG)



Key Issues

Affordability

Financial constraints as I may want to move but due to lack of money, I am forced to stay at home and that means I will not be able to go for shopping in the market (F, 65, UG).

Sometimes I find it difficult to get to the school where I teach because of lack of money for transport ...they do not really pay me much (F, 68, NG)

Health impairments

I no longer move fast due to my old age therefore I am not able to do and go wherever I want (F, 70, UG).

... of course it's the strength that I don't have that is where it affects me (F, 77, NG)

Wow..., I know that I am no longer as strong as I used to be, my health is affecting me (M, 76, NG)

Available transport options cannot fulfil basic needs

Cost: not affordable

Not safe

Inequalities

Polymakers' perception

(A) Consideration of older persons

Seriously I am not sure anybody considers them in transport planning, I help them whenever I can, on my own (F, 52, VIO, NG)

There is no support from the government for older persons, it is as if they are not even part of us (M, 60, Driver, NG)

None at all, look at the pedestrian bridges, how do you expect them to climb over 40 steps up and 40 down (M, 56, WB, NG)

(B) Issues and barriers

They find it difficult to work long distances (M, 48, NURTW, NG)

Reckless driving of drivers is very prevalent and not safe especially for older persons (M, 50, Chisco, NG)

Some of them have poor visibility and are not able to see properly and that affects their driving (M, 60, Driver, NG)

(C) Transport policy

Yes, for our company, the elderly must be assisted at all times with especially their luggage and information about their travel (M, 50, Chisco, NG)

There are policies which are not being implemented, only on paper (M, World Bank, 56, NG)

(D) Recommendations

If they government can help the elders maybe by paying them (M, 48, NURTW, NG)

Government needs to provide an inclusive transport system and implement policies regarding them (F, 48, FMT, NG)

many of them served this nation, they are veterans, they have really spent their years to see how the nation come alive, there should be a kind of welfare, a kind of money set aside to help them, to promote their wellbeing, because many of them want to go to the hospital but no means to go and nobody around to assist them (F, 51, VIO, NG)

Recommendations

A) Redesign Built environment

- 1) Providing special facilities to encourage active mobility and use of public transport
- 2) Improve conditions of existing walking infrastructure and invest in more.

(B) Awareness Creation

- 1) Increase the **level of awareness** about transport needs of older persons

(c) Digitalization of the urban economy

- 1) Creating spaces that incorporate and integrate technologies to ensure enough aids to take care their needs

(D) Improve access to Services

- 1) Improve existing service provisioning in health facilities

(E) Regulation and enforcement of policies and regulations [on fares, priority seats, reserved seats, etc.]



Thank you!

Questions/Comments:

Please indicate by raising your hand, and the moderator will call you.

References



1. WHO (2018). World Health Organisation fact sheet on ageing. Available via <https://www.who.int/health-topics/ageing>