

INIANET NEWSLETTER



International
Institute on
Ageing, United
Nations—Malta

Issue 4

December 2009

Message from the Director

Dear friends,

Time passes very fast without waiting for anyone. In fact, the year 2009 will soon be over. This year was another special year for us at INIA. For the first time in our history, we have run two new training programmes, the first in Almaty, Kazakhstan and the second in Guangzhou, China. In collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Kazakhstan National Commission on Women Affairs and Family Demographic Policy, the 'in-situ' programme on *Population Ageing and its Implications for Socio-Economic Policies and Plans* was held between the 14th-20th September in Amaty, Kazakhstan. Twenty-seven high government officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrkystan and Tajikistan participated together with seven parliamentarians from the Kazakhstan government. The programme was a big success to such an extent that it is planned to have other training programmes for countries in Central Asia.

The second programme entitled *Strategies for Population Ageing* was held between the 1st – 7th November. It was organised by the Guangdong Research Centre on Public Affairs for the elderly (GRCPAE). The 56 participants were all government directors from various districts of the Guangdong province in South East China.

In all, this year we ran no less than 14 training programmes. Besides the usual five training programmes held in Malta in Social Gerontology; Economic and Financial Aspects of Ageing; Medical Gerontology; Policy Formulation and in Demographic Aspects, we ran nine 'in-situ' programmes in Beijing (two), Guangzhou, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Singapore, St. Petersburg, Tunisia and Turkey. We had more requests from other countries but unfortunately we could not meet these requests this year.



Professor Joseph Troisi,
Director

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This issue of the on-line newsletter, marks also an important milestone. It marks the second anniversary of our e-newsletter. I wish to express my sincere congratulations to Ms. Rosette Farrugia-Bonello and to all of you who have contributed to the success of this electronic newsletter. Last September, on behalf of ISACA, a satellite training centre for the ASEAN countries, we started another electronic newsletter for all those who participated in the ten programmes held in this region. The latter is coordinated by Ms. Colette Berman.

As I said two years ago, this newsletter is perceived to have a dual aim, namely: to keep past participants informed about INIA's activities and also about other international and UN activities in the field of aging, and to serve as a sharing ground between the participants themselves, enabling all of you to let us know what you are doing in your country in the field of aging, the successes you are achieving and the difficulties you are facing.

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S eason's Greetings to you and
your families from ALL at
INIA!



International Training Programmes held in Malta

Policy Formulation, Planning, Implementation and Monitoring of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 12th-23rd October 2009



LEFT: Group Photo taken at the Imperial Hotel, Sliema.

Standing from Left: Anastasia Emelyanova (Russia), Rosette Farrugia-Bonello (INIA), Tatyana Pronko (Belarus), Ivayla Taseva (Bulgaria), Victoria Massalha (Malta), Carmen Ileanu Manu (Romania), Bozidarka Bozic-Eduard (Bosnia), Miloslav Hettes (Slovakia), Ridvan Kurtipek (Turkey), Datta Anupama (India), Mateja Kozuh Novak (Slovenia), Piotr Bledowski (Poland), Lidiya Kozarcenin (Serbia), Natasa Todorovic (Serbia), Petr Wija (Czech Republic), Slobodanka Lazova Zdravkovska (Macedonia), Anjli Panalal Doshi (Malaysia).

Front Row: Kalliroi Nikoli (Greece), Oleg Serezhin (UNDESA), Professor Joseph Troisi (Director, INIA), Dr. Alexandre Sidorenko (Former Head, UN Focal Point on Ageing), Vladimir Kulikov (Russia).

Not in Photo: Anna Xheka (Albania), Phua Kok Tee (Singapore).

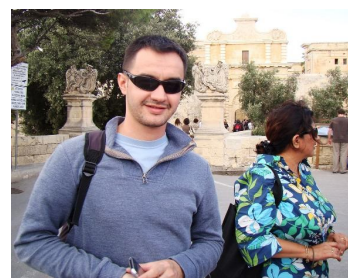
The International Institute on Ageing, United Nations—Malta organised *the second International Training Programme in Policy Formulation, Planning, Implementation and Monitoring of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing*. This was held at the Imperial Hotel, Sliema between 12th—23rd October 2009. Eleven participants hailing from Belarus, Czech Republic, India, Malaysia, Malta, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia and Turkey attended the two-week programme. These were joined by eight more participants during the second week. The latter hailing from Albania, Bosnia, Greece, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Slovakia were invited to attend the programme through the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA). This multi-disciplinary Training Programme aimed at discussing the implications of population ageing, underscoring the importance of including ageing issues in a country's development planning and discussing options for policy formulation and programme / services' implementation. It also aimed at providing a broad and up-to-date understanding of the complex and far-reaching consequences of mass longevity. Participants were helped to evolve and implement appropriate policies, which will ensure the quality of life and well-being of older persons in their own society. The intensive programme included interactive lectures, workshops and a site-visit to Zammit Clapp Rehabilitation Hospital. Apart from local experts, lecturing on the course were four international tutors, namely, Dr. Alexandre Sidorenko, Former Chief at the United Nations Focal Point on Ageing, Division for Social Policy and Development, New York, NY, USA, Dr. Tomas Kucera, assistant professor of demography at the Faculty of Science, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, Mr. Oleg Serezhin, Social Affairs Officer at the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), USA and Ms. Ivayla Taseva, Researcher from Bulgaria.



ABOVE: Phua Kok Tee (Singapore) in Valletta, during the full day tour around Malta..



LEFT back row: Phua Kok Tee (Singapore), Vladimir Kulikov (Russia), Carmen Ileanu Manu (Romania), Ivayla Taseva (Bulgaria), Tatyana Pronko (Belarus), Natasa Todorovic (Serbia). Front Row: Datta Anupama (India), Bozidarka Bozic-Eduard (Bosnia) and Anjli Panalal Doshi (Malaysia).



LEFT: Ridvan Kurtipek (Turkey) and Anjli Panalal Doshi (Malaysia). in Mdina during the full day tour around Malta.

A special thanks goes to Vladimir Kulikov and Tatyana Pronko for sending us the photos!

Demographic Aspects of Population Ageing and its Implications for Socio-Economic Development, Policies and Plans, 23rd November—4th December 2009



LEFT: Group photo taken during the closing ceremony of the programme.

Standing from left: Ruzanna Pepanyan (Armenia), Maxims Ivanovs (Latvia), Noor Masayu Mhd Khalili (Malaysia), Chanettee Milintangul (Thailand), Valerius Sainsus (Moldova), Abduhalil Rahmonov (Uzbekistan), Rosette Farrugia-Bonello (INIA), Sherzod Kudbiyev (Uzbekistan), Oscar Sandino (Colombia), Metwally Awad (Egypt), Vladimir Chernyshev (Russia), George Sabela Petros (South Africa), Lorie-Anne Azzopardi (INIA).

Front Row: Aida Sharifova (Azerbaijan), Shorena Tsiklauri (Georgia), Professor Joseph Troisi (Director, INIA), Mr. Tarcisio Zammit (Administrator INIA), Zeinab El Shafie (Egypt).

The training programme in **Demographic Aspects of Population Ageing and its Implications for Socio-Economic Development, Policies and Plans**, which was held between 23rd November—4th December 2009 at the Imperial Hotel in Sliema, helped the participants at acquiring the methodological approaches, tools and techniques in demography adopted in assessing the conditions of older persons at global, regional and country level. In so doing, participants gained an ability to convey information effectively to policy makers. This intensive two-week programme covered topics such as economic effects of ageing, factors determining population structure, state of the art, research and modelling initiatives, data quality, reliability and availability, policies for meeting the economic and financial challenges of ageing, international forums and national policies on population ageing, projections, services in the community, the impact of current and future demographic / health trends, financing health care, formal and informal support systems, consisted of lectures, site-visits to Villa Messina and Mtarfa Home for the Elderly and hands-on computer work at the University of Malta. The programme was attended by 14 International participants hailing from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Colombia, Egypt, Georgia, Latvia, Malaysia, Moldova, Russia, South Africa, Thailand and Uzbekistan. Apart from local experts, lecturing on the programme were two international tutors, Dr. Tomas Kucera, assistant professor of demography at the Faculty of Science, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic and Professor Ik Ki Kim, Professor of Sociology at Dongguk University in Seoul, Korea.



ABOVE: Some of the participants with one of the residents at Mtarfa Home for the elderly during one of the site-visits.



RIGHT: During one of the Country reports sessions.

LEFT: Some of the participants at the University of Malta, during the computer lab session.



RIGHT: During the Closing ceremony reception at the Imperial Hotel, Sliema.

A special thanks goes to Noor Masayu Mhd Khalili, Shorena Tsiklauri and Sherzod Kudbiyev for sending us the photos!

'IN-SITU' TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Malaysia, 13th—19th August 2009



LEFT: *Group photo taken during the 'In-Situ' Training Programme in Social, Health and Economic Issues of Ageing held in Malaysia between 13th—19th August 2009*

Since 2007, as part of the United Nations international effort to provide multidisciplinary education and training in specific areas related to ageing, the International Institute on Ageing, United Nation-Malta, (INIA) and the Institute of Gerontology, Universiti Putra Malaysia (IG UPM) have been jointly organizing an *'in-situ'* training programme which has been specifically tailored as appropriate to, and rooted in, the socioeconomic conditions and needs of the country—Malaysia. As in previous years, the International Institute on Ageing, United Nations—Malta and the Institute of Gerontology, Universiti Putra Malaysia organized the **third 'in-situ'** training programme in **'Social, Health and Economic Issues of Ageing'**. This was held at the Awana Genting Highlands Golf and Country Resort, Pahang. The programme, which was attended by 17 government officials, was held between **13th -19th August 2009**.

The objectives of the week-long residential training programme were to deliver multidisciplinary knowledge on different aspects of human ageing which are relevant to national socio-economic conditions and needs and to facilitate capacity building of individuals who work or intend to work in the field of gerontology and geriatrics. This was made possible through participatory and hands-on learning by means of lectures, workshops and group activities with international and local trainers. The intensive training programme was designed for professionals with a broad interest in issues related to older persons. The programme featured topics on social, health and economic aspects of ageing with a globalised outlook of the phenomenon. Lecturing on the programme were Associate Professor Tengku Aizan Hamid, Director, Institute of Gerontology, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Professor Naohiro Ogawa, Research Advisor at Arish, Nihon University, Professor Joseph Troisi INIA's director, Professor Gopal Dhar Chakraborti, Professor of Economics and Demography in the Department of South & Southeast Asian Studies, Calcutta University, India and Professor Harrison G. Bloom, Professor at Mount Sinai, New York University Medical Center, New York. The next *'in-situ'* training programme in Malaysia, is going to be held between 18th—24th July 2010.



'In-Situ' Programme in Singapore, 21st August – 1st September 2009



Standing From Left To Right: Ms Yuana, Dr Pay Sambo (Cambodia), Mr Sat-yaprakash Tiwari, Mr Cheah Sang Huat, Mr Lim Chee Koon, Mdm Anuradha Kaliappan, Mr Wang Junjie, Ms Ivy Lim Ai Ching, Mr Sim Jui Liang, Ms Lim Hwa Shan, Mr Patrick Choon, Madam Meera Krishnan, Ms Alexis Lee, Ms F R Monica Jayarani, Mr Tay Soo Wan, Ms Jasmine Ng Shu Hua, Mr Wan Noor.

Front Row: Mr Phua Kok Tee, Dr Aris Ananta, Professor Joseph Troisi, Dr Lee Ngak Siang, Mdm Le Minh Giang (Vietnam).

Not in picture: Professor Harrison Bloom, Dr Hennessy Kurniawan (Indonesia), Ms. Julie Spencer, Ms Chin Wan Ping, Ms Trudy Loh, Ms Jennifer Yin.

The 10th ASEAN Gerontology Course was organised by ISACA a Satellite Centre of the International Institute on Ageing, United Nations – Malta (INIA) which was set up on 6th April 2002 for the ASEAN countries in collaboration with the Singapore Action Group of Elders (SAGE) . It was formally inaugurated on the 4th September 2002. This twelve days' training programme which was held between **21st August - 1st September 2009** at the Furama City Centre Hotel Singapore was attended by 18 participants from four ASEAN countries namely: Cambodia, Indonesia, Singapore and Vietnam. The programme covered various issues of ageing including: the health, social, economic and environmental aspects. It also gave the participants the opportunity to become more and more aware of the challenges connected with the demographic phenomenon of population ageing which in the ASEAN countries is taking place very rapidly. In fact, Singapore is one of the fastest ageing populations in the world. The programme consisted of participatory lectures, workshops and site visits. The course was conducted by renowned overseas lecturers such as Professor Joseph Troisi, Director, The International Institute on Ageing, United Nations-Malta (INIA); Dr. Harrison G. Bloom, Associate Clinical Professor (Medicine), Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development, Mount Sinai, New York University Medical Center. A number of other experts from Singapore including Dr. Aris Ananta from the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, professors and lecturers from the National University of Singapore and top officials from various ministries contributed to the success of this programme through their lectures and presentations. The objective of the Course was aimed at providing a broad understanding of the Social, Medical and Economical aspects of Ageing. It equipped the participants with an awareness and knowledge to evolve viable and realistic policies to meet the challenges of population ageing which are appropriate for their own countries and communities. It was targeted to meet the challenges of sustaining an acceptable quality of life and health of the older persons while maintaining the economic development of the country. The first programme was held between 4th-15th September 2000. Since then, no less than 165 persons working in the field of ageing and/or with older persons from the ten ASEAN countries have benefited from these courses. These programmes have attracted persons from various disciplines including, among others, Demography, Economics, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Medicine, Nursing, Social Work, Sociology, Statistics, working both in the private and public sectors.

Source: <http://isaca.sg>



ABOVE: President of SAGE, Dr Lim Chan Yong presents a token of appreciation to Professor Joseph Troisi of INIA



ABOVE: Mr. Phua Kok Tee, Chief Executive Officer at SAGE & Chairman of ISACA Council.



ABOVE: The participants during the programme

'In-Situ' Training Programme in Kazakhstan, 14th—19th September 2009



ABOVE: Group photo taken during the 'in-situ' programme held in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

The International Institute on Ageing, United Nations-Malta (INIA), in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Kazakhstan National Commission on Women Affairs, organised for the **FIRST** time, an '*in-situ*' training programme in '**Population Ageing and its Implications for Socio-Economic Policies and Plans**'. The programme, which was organised in Almaty, Kazakhstan between **14th—19th September**, was the first training programme in the field of ageing to be held in Central Asia. Twenty-seven high government officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan participated, together with seven parliamentarians from the Kazakhstan government. The participatory sessions were directed by INIA's Director Professor Joseph Troisi, as well as by Dr. Nikolai Botev, UNFPA Director Central Asia Regional Office and Country Director, Kazakhstan. Other training programmes for countries in Central Asia are being planned for the future.



LEFT: Professor Joseph Troisi, INIA's Director lecturing the group.



RIGHT: The participants during the programme.



LEFT: Professor Joseph Troisi, INIA's Director, handing the certificate of participation to Mr. Parviz Khakimov from Tajikistan.



ABOVE from left to right: Mr. Khaidarov Alisher (officer of the Institute of civil servants professional development, Tajikistan), Mrs. Klimova Tamara (President of the Association on social researches), Professor Joseph Troisi (INIA's Director), Dr. Gaziza Moldakulova (National Programme Officer, UNFPA Kazakhstan) and Dr. Nikolai Botev (UNFPA Director Central Asia Regional Office and Country Director, Kazakhstan).

A special thank you goes to Dr. Gaziza Moldakulova and Mr. Parviz Khakimov for sending us the photos!



Three 'In-Situ' Programmes held in China: November 2009

Programme organised in GUANGZHOU, 1st—7th November 2009



ABOVE: Group photo taken during the programme held in Guangzhou in collaboration with the Guangdong Research Center on Public Affairs for the Elderly (GRCPAE).

Between 1st - 7th November 2009, INIA, in collaboration with the Guangdong Research Center on Public Affairs for the Elderly (GRCPAE) organised the FIRST 'in situ' training programme on 'Strategy for Population Ageing' for 56 officials working in various areas, from all over the province of Guangzhou. The programme was held at the University Town International Hotel in Guangzhou.

The programme consisted on lectures and discussions on the social, medical and demographic aspects of ageing. Lecturing on the programme were INIA's Director Professor Joseph Troisi, Dr. Osama M. Rajkhan, Social Affairs Officer and human Rights Focal Point, Population and Social Issues Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific, Thailand, and Professor Lu Jiehua, Professor in Demography at the Peking University Population Research Institute, Peking, China.



RIGHT (from left to right): Professor Lu Jiehua (Programme lecturer / Professor in Demography at the Peking University Population Research Institute, Peking, China), Mr. Chen Haijun (Director of Guangdong Provincial Bureau for Veteran Cadres), Professor Joseph Troisi (Director INIA), Madam Zhang Guoying (former chair of Guangdong People's Congress & Director of Guangdong Research Centre on Public Affairs for the Elderly), Madam Wang Ge (Vice-Director of Guangdong Provincial Bureau for Veteran Cadres) and Dr. Osama Rajkhan (Lecturer and Social Affairs Officer and human Rights Focal Point, Population and Social Issues Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific, Thailand).



ABOVE: Chinese women dressed in the national costume. The women are learning Chinese opera at one of the Universities of the Third Age in Guangdong Province.



ABOVE: Professor Joseph Troisi lecturing the group

A special thanks goes to Ms. Lu Lin from China, for sending us the photos!

Programmes organised in BEIJING, CHINA: 8th—14th November 2009



Between **8th-14th November 2009**, INIA, in collaboration with the **Beijing Civil Affairs Bureau (BCAB)** organised the **ninth 'in situ'** training programme for 29 officials working in various areas and programmes from BCAB. The programme was held at Jingmin Hotel in Beijing.

Lecturing on the programme were INIA's Director Professor Joseph Troisi, Professor Lu Jiehua, Professor in Demography at the Peking University Population Research Institute, Peking, China and Assistant Professor Gerald Choon-Huat Koh, Assistant Professor at the Community, Occupational and Family Medicine Department, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore.

The programme consisted on lectures and discussions on the social, medical and demographic aspects of ageing.



ABOVE: Group photo taken during the programme held in Beijing, in collaboration with Beijing Civil Affairs Bureau (BCAB).

Programmes organised in BEIJING, CHINA: 15th—21st November 2009



LEFT: Group photo taken during the programme held in Beijing, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Centre, Ministry of Civil Affairs (SWC) and the Support and Nursing Committee for the Elderly (SNCE).



In collaboration with the **Social Welfare Centre, Ministry of Civil Affairs (SWC)** and the **Support and Nursing Committee for the Elderly, China (SNCE)**, INIA organised the **fourth 'in-situ'** training programme in Gerontology. The programme, which was attended by 60 Chinese government officials working with older persons in 12 provinces in China, was held between **15th—21st November 2009** at Zhongmin Hotel in Beijing. The programme consisted on lectures and discussions on the social, medical and demographic aspects of ageing.

Lecturing on the programme were INIA's Director Professor Joseph Troisi, Professor Lu Jiehua, Professor in Demography at the Peking University Population Research Institute Peking, China and Assistant Professor Gerald Choon-Huat Koh, Assistant Professor at the Community, Occupational and Family Medicine Department, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore.



ST. PETERSBURG INSTITUTE OF
BIOREGULATION AND
GERONTOLOGY

'In-Situ' Training Programme in St. Petersburg, Russia, 5th—11th December 2009



Санкт-Петербургский
городской
гериатрический

Fully aware of the demographic changes which are taking place in the majority of countries in Central and Eastern Europe resulting in a rapid population ageing, and the urgent need of capacity building and training of personnel to meet this challenge, the possibility of setting up an INIA satellite centre in St. Petersburg was discussed. On 30th March 2005, an agreement was signed between Dr. Eugeny V. Dot-senko, head of the St. Petersburg City Geriatric Centre, Professor Vladimir N. Anisimov, President of the Russian Gerontological Society for the Russian side and Professor Joseph Troisi on behalf of INIA. The St. Petersburg City Geriatric Centre was nominated as INIA's satellite centre for the countries of Eastern Europe. The International Institute on Ageing, United Nations-Malta, in collaboration with the City Geriatric Center in St. Petersburg and St. Petersburg Institute of Bioregulation and Gerontology, organised an 'in-situ' training programme in Gerontology and Geriatrics. The programme was held between 5th-11th December 2009. St. Petersburg Institute of Bioregulation and Gerontology was established in 1992 and has been engaged in research in bioregulation and gerontology. Its basic task is to introduce into the medical practice the results of 20-year experimental and clinical studies of a new class of medicinal substances – peptide bioregulators, which were created in the Research Laboratory of Bioregulators of the S.M. Kirov Military Medical Academy. Presently St. Petersburg Institute of Bioregulation and Gerontology of the North-Western Branch of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences is the only research institution in the North-Western region of Russia, which is engaged in research on ageing, and at the same time is an active clinical diagnostic center in gerontology and geriatrics.

Director's Message—*continues from page 1*

Kindly remember that the success of this venture totally depends on each and every one of you. You are requested to send in any piece of news and/or information you deem of interest to the other participants. Contributions are to be sent to Ms. Rosette Farrugia-Bonello at rosette.bonello@inia.org.mt. I am convinced that this electronic newsletter will be a great opportunity towards networking.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR filled with everything that your hearts desire.

Sincerely,

Professor Joseph Troisi
Director

Articles by past participants, published on BOLD

Title	Author / Authors	Issue
1. <i>Elderly persons and Ageing in South Africa</i>	Dr. Marina Clarke (<i>Medical Gerontology 2009</i>)	Vol. 20, no.1, pg 7
2. <i>Shelter homes for the elderly in Malaysia</i>	Dr. A. Zaiton et. al. (<i>Medical Gerontology 2006</i>)	Vol. 20, no.1, pg 12
3. <i>Meeting the Challenges of population Ageing Who are the role players?</i>	Mr. Simon Cilia & Ms. Jeanine Cauchi (<i>Medical Gerontology 2009</i>)	Vol. 20, no.1, pg 23
4. <i>Elderly Adults in Puerto Rico</i>	Professor Melba Sanchez-Ayendez & Professor Ana Luisa Davila (<i>Demography 1995</i>)	Vol. 20, no.1, pg29

FROM INIA'S OFFICE

Appreciation: Dr. Alfred Grech, INIA's First Director (1926-2009)



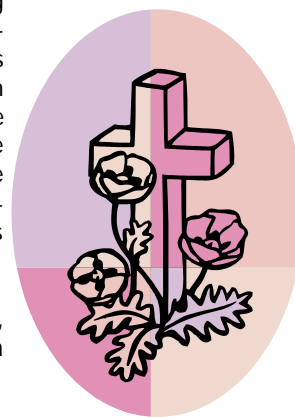
Dr. Alfred Grech
1926-2009

Dr Alfred Grech, former Chief Government Medical Officer and the first Director of INIA passed away on Monday 31st August 2009, at the age of 82 years.

Born in 1926, Alfred Grech received his medical education at the Royal University of Malta, graduating in 1952. After a two year commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps, he entered the administrative ranks of the Department of Health in Malta, with an initial dedication to occupational and industrial health problems. Backed by extensive post-graduate studies and training abroad, and the acquisition of the relevant diplomas, he was appointed Principal Medical Officer by 1969 and finally Chief Government Medical Officer in 1976, which post he relinquished on reaching the retiring age in 1986.

Dr. Grech's high ranking official position naturally led to his being appointed a delegate, often the chief delegate, from Malta to a succession of assemblies and regional commissions of the United Nations and of the World Health Organisation. His active participation therein was officially recognized by his election to such posts as the Vice Chairmanship of the WHO Regional Commission for Europe, a Vice Presidency of the World Health Assembly at Geneva in 1984, and the Chairmanship of the WHO Executive Board for 1987-88 and of a Global Advisory Expert Group from 1990 to 1994. Of special significance were his contributions at the Alma Ata Convention and at the United Nations World Assembly on Ageing in Vienna in 1982.

It was at these highest levels of international fora where he soon became a familiar figure, that Dr. Grech acquired not only for himself but also for his country, the warm regard of a host of world leaders.



Appreciation: Ms. Nadia Farrugia, INIA's Tutor (1980—2009)



Ms. Nadia Farrugia
1980 - 2009

Ms. Nadia Farrugia, aged 29 passed away peacefully after a long illness on Monday 2nd November 2009. Nadia has been lecturing with INIA during the international training programmes on ageing for the passed three years. Besides she was also an assistant lecturer at the University of Malta, Faculty of FEMA, lecturing in Microeconomics and the co-ordinator of the MA Economics course. Her main teaching areas were Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Monetary Economics, Introduction to International Trade and Mathematics for Economists. Her main research areas were small states studies, in particular economic vulnerability and resilience, economic growth and competitiveness. She was previously employed as an Economics Officer at the Central Bank of Malta, within the Economic Analysis Office. She graduated Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) in Economics (First Class) from the University of Malta in 2002 and obtained a Master of Arts in Economics (with Distinction) from the same university in 2004.



FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS

Some of your comments about INIANET newsletter



Thanks so much for the INIA July 2009 "INIANET Newsletter". Its amazing to see activities of INIA, will go long way to help the cause of Elderly. We congratulate you and your team for your selfless service for INIA. Also, thanks for sharing Silver Innings information. We will continue our work for Elderly with your guidance. Three cheers to INIA.

Sailesh Mishra
 Director/Founder
 Silver Innings
 India
 Social Gerontology 2009

Thanks for sending the recent copy of the INIA Newsletter. It gave me an excellent opportunity to update myself about the new developments at INIA. As an alumni of the training programme at INIA in 2001, I find it extremely important and useful to be in touch. I will be more than happy to participate in the forthcoming survey by INIA.

Aswini Nanda Kumar
 Senior Research Officer
 Population Research Centre
 Chandigarh, India
 Economics 2001

We are also looking forward to work with INIA for the Geriatric Training in Nepal.

Hom Nath Chalise
 Director
 Help the Aged,
 Kathmandu, Nepal
 Demography 2007

I am glad to receive your email and read the message from Professor Joseph Troisi. I participated in an International Training Programme in Medical Gerontology held in Malta between 4th-15th May 2009 at the Imperial Hotel in Sliema. I would like to answer any questionnaire to improve the quality of training programmes as needed. I am very delighted to receive INIANET Newsletter. I think I learned more from the training course in Malta. I will spread the knowledge of medical gerontology in every opportunity I have such as in conferences and training. I will also try to influence the government's decision making.

Chen Zheng
 President
 Beijing Geriatric Hospital
 China
 Medical Gerontology 2009

Thank you very much for the newsletter. I noticed that INIA has been increasing its activities. I look for the incoming survey.

Bernadethe Marheni Luan
 Sint Carolus School of Health Sciences
 Research Division & Community, Family
 Gerontological Nursing Section,
 Jakarta, Indonesia
 Geriatrics 2005

Thank you for your greeting. I am glad to join your survey. As a past participant of INIA training programmes, I think the training programme is very useful. First of all, it provides an exchange platform to the students. Moreover, since the students come from different countries, they have different cultures. The short-time training programme is important not only to learn from the professors but also to learn each other. Secondly, the programme helped me to have a new view. I learned new knowledge. All knowledge learned from this programme help to improve our daily work. Thirdly, I met many new friends and I am still in touch with a few of them. They are all ready to help whenever I had problems in my day to day work. I am very happy to have so many friends from all over the world. Lastly, the beautiful country of MALTA brings back with it wonderful memories. The blue beach, the long historical culture, the excursions are all in my mind. All of this will accompany me for a lifetime. Above all, I think the training programme is helpful and useful not only to me personally, but also for my country. I wish that I am able to attend another programme in Malta once again!

HU Jinhong
 Director
 Zhenhai Working Committee on Ageing
 China
 Economics 2003

Thank you very much for sending the INIA newsletter. I will sure co-operate for any survey and input from me for the future training programmes of INIA and for any purpose.

Dr. Habibullah Ansari
 Lecturer
 Departemnt of Psychology
 SNTD Women's University
 Mumbai, India
 Social Gerontology 2005

Thanks for sending the INIANET. We have attempted to do something academically and on policy level about the elderly in Nepal. INIA alumni people like Prem S Bisht, Hom Nath Chalise, Upendra Adhikary and myself are in close contact to each other. We are also seeking INIA's support in conducting training and research in ageing and care for the elderly. I am awaiting for the survey questionnaire.

Bidhan Acharya
 Demographer, Communicator,
 Litterateur
 Associate Professor,
 Ribhuvan University,
 Kirtipur, Kathmandu
 Nepal
 Demography 2005

It is great to receive mail from you. I am really happy to know that INIA is planning to evaluate training. In this context, I still remember my comments. Being a trainer for the last two decades, I strongly feel the need of continuous evaluation. It will be my pleasure to contribute something technically if needed. I am planning to contribute one article explaining where India stands today.

Majeed Khan
 Professor
 Department of Social Sciences
 National Institute of Health &
 Family Welfare
 New Dehli, India
 Social Gerontology 2008

Greetings from Sierra Leone. I will pass on the newsletter to my colleagues here.

Rev. Augustine Lansana
 Executive Director & I
 nternational Relations
 Current Evangelism Minis-
 tries
 Sierra-Leone
 Social Gerontology 2003

Thank you very much for sending me the INIANET newsletter, as I always look forward to reading it. Best regards to all at INIA offices.

Angela Borg Barthe
 Principal Pharmacist
 St. Luke's Hospital
 Malta
 Medical Gerontology 2006

FROM PAST PARTICIPANTS

Some of your comments about INIANET newsletter



I am very glad to receive INIANET NEWSLETTER it shows the hard effort and work. Thanks to INIA, you, all workers and of course Professor Troisi about this effort. I have made copies from INIANET NEWSLETTER in order to give them to my colleges in Ain shams University and other places in order to market INIA's activities. I hope to hold a medical gerontology programme in Egypt.

Dr. Mohamed Hassan
Ain Shams University
Egypt

Thank You for INIANET Newsletter. Its a great pleasure for me to receive e-mail from you. My best wishes goes to you and your colleagues.

Larisa Lisogor
Senior Researcher
Ukraine National Academy of Sciences
Ukraine
Economics 2003

Thanks a lot for sending me the INIANET Newsletter. It revived my warm memories about my participation in the Programme of Policy Formulation. Big job you have made and very interesting edition.

Olga Mikhailova Ph. D.
Executive Director
St.Petersburg Institute of Bioregulation & Gerontology
Academic Secretary of the Gerontological Society of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St.Petersburg, Russia
Policy Formulation 2008

Congratulations for the 3rd issue of the INIANET Newsletter. As a participant of the first batch of the Policy Formulation Course, I am extremely happy and glad to see many pictures and news of our group. I hope others will also very happy to see them in the news letter. I am also very happy to see my earlier comments published on the news letter. I am very proud that I got some place in all the three issues of the new letter. I have started to think of me as a part of it. It is very clear from the news letter that INIA is getting more global day by day. I think it is the fruits of your hard work, dedication and empathy for the elderly people of the world. I hope and pray that INIA will able to bring many change agents to bring many positive changes in the life of the many elderly people around the world. Wishing you all the best.

Mehedi Hasan Khan
Assistant Professor
Department of Population Sciences
University of Dhaka
Bangladesh
Policy Programme 2008

Thank you for interesting newsletter. You really done a lot in aging sphere. I was proud that I had the possibility to study at the International Institute on Ageing, United Nations -Malta in 2006. I read the newsletter, especially the articles written by the participants of the Programmes. For information of other e-newsletter readers, I am proud to say that my colleagues' article and mine was published on Bold in 2006. The details are: Golubeva E., Danilova R. (2006) Elderly people in Russia: family and state responsibility// Bold-quart. Journal of Int.ernational Institute on Ageing, United Nations, -Malta, Vol.17,No.1, p.11-16. We are interested to send one more article for the publication .

Elena Golubeva, Ph. D.
Dean of the Faculty of Social Work
Pomor State University, Arkhangelsk, Russia
Social Gerontology 2006

Thanks for the newsletter!

Robert Grech
Facility Manager
Villa Messina
CareMalta Ltd.,
Malta
Medical Gerontology 2006

Thank you for sending the INIA newsletter.

Martine Najem Kteily
UNFPA Project Leader
Lebanon
Demography 2005

Thank you for the July 2009 INIANET Newsletter. I enjoyed reading it and am amazed at what INIA achieved. Well done to you as a team. Of course, you would like us to do the same with the input you have so freely shared with us!

Dr. Marina Clarke
Lecturer, Faculty of Health & Wellness,
Cape Peninsula University of
Technology,
Cape Town, South Africa.
Medical Gerontology 2009

Thanks for the newsletter!
Looking forward to helping you with the survey.

Nicolae Caus
Personal Advisor
Ministry of Labour & Social Security
Bucharest, Romania
Demography 2004

*All the best from Bucharest.
Keep in touch!*

Maria-Mihaela Mihalcioiu
Romania
Medical Gerontology 2001

You can count on me on all occasions!

Dr. Julienne Nouthe Djubgang
Medecin de travail
Yaounde, Cameroon
Health and Longevity 2001

I would be happy to participate in your survey!

Dr. Predrag Erceg
Medical Doctor
Clinical Hospital Centre
Belgrade, Serbia
Geriatrics 2002

Always looking forward hearing from you!

Dr. Pauline Weir
Co-ordinating Medical Officer of Health
Kingston & St. Andrews Health Department
Jamaica
Geriatrics 2004

FROM THE PARTICIPANTS - On the job!

in UGANDA

Matunda Ya Wazee (MAWA) was involved in the National preparation of UN International Day for Older Persons which is held every year on 1 October. I chaired the National Organizing Committee for Advocacy and Awards. The committee met different Senior Government Officials including Ministers to advocate for the National Council and older persons representations to Parliament. Also, we are to identify older persons who have excelled in humanitarian practices during their life in Uganda. Hon. Madada S., Minister of State for Disability and Elderly, accepted to include MAWA's project of bee keeping in the Action Plan for Implementation for the National Policy of older persons which was recently passed by Parliament. This is a big achievement on the part of MAWA and the older persons of Uganda.

MAWA pledges to continue journeying with older persons in improving their household incomes through bee keeping and other income generating activities. Our motto remains: **Ageing with Social Security and Dignity.**

Kituku Cris Mpweire
 Executive Director
 Matunda Ya Wazee (MAWA)
(Economics & Financial Aspects 2003)

in INDIA

"Ageing is not 'lost youth' but a new stage of opportunity and strength"

*Silver Inning Foundation, an dedicated organisation for Elders, celebrated its 2nd World Elders Day ' 2009 by presenting **UMANG**, A Senior Citizens Stage Talent Show. On the occasion of World Elders Day on 1st October 2009, Silver Inning Foundation once again organized UMANG - A Stage Talent Show program for Senior Citizens. As there is not enough opportunity for elderly to show their talent, the main purpose of this programme was to provide a platform for Elderly to display their talents. It was not a competition between Elderly, but a forum to encourage them to demonstrate their hidden talents. As in 2008, UMANG 2009 was a success. All participants received a Certificate of Appreciation and moreover, all selected Artist/performer were reimbursed with actual to and fro travel expense within the city of Mumbai MMRDA region.*

Mr. Sailesh Mishra
 Founder Member of
 Silver Innings
(Social Gerontology 2009)



Source of Photos:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/sailesh2000_2000/

in SOUTH AFRICA

Since returning to South Africa from the course in Malta in mid-May 2009, I formed a small discussion group consisting of two Gerontologists, three Registered Nurses with a wealth of experience in caring for the

elderly in retirement institutions, and two Researchers. We recognised that in our country, there currently is only one university offering specialised training for Registered Nurses in Geriatrics and plans to phase this course out by 2011. Then, there will be no specialised training regarding the care of the aged for nurses. This group developed a strategy towards influencing our policy makers to ensure that nurses are adequately trained to meet the needs of the elderly. A recommendation on the content of courses for Registered Nurses (at least four year training) and Enrolled Nurses (two year training) that had been previously compiled, was submitted (after review) together with a letter of motivation to the National Minister of Health and the Directorate: Chronic diseases and Geriatrics. I am glad to report that the Assistant Director: Chronic diseases and Geriatrics has confirmed that they have met with the South African Nursing Council (SANC) Acting Registrar and there was a positive outcome. They have requested that our submission together with others that have been received, and with motivation from the National Department of Health be sent to them, so that the matter can serve at the next full SANC Council meeting, scheduled for early next year.



Dr Marina Clarke, Lecturer, Faculty of Health and Wellness, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, Cape Town, South Africa.
(Medical Gerontology 2009)

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ISSN: 1997 - 1648

In accordance with the Vienna Plan of Action on Ageing, INIA is mandated to provide Multidisciplinary education and training in the following areas: Social Gerontology, Economic and Financial Aspects of Ageing, Medical Gerontology, Policy Formulation, Planning, Implementation & of Action on Ageing and Demographic Aspects of Population Ageing and its Implications for Socio-Economic Policies and Plans. The training programmes are oriented towards persons, particularly from developing countries, who hold positions as policy-makers, planners, programme executives, educators, professions and para-professionals who work, or intend to work in the field of Ageing, or with older persons.

The Institute's complementary activities to its training are: research, data collection, information exchange, documentation, publications and technical co-operation.



Your comments and feedback on how the newsletter can be improved are most welcome! Moreover, you are also invited to write and send us short articles about any research, activities and projects that you are involved in. Share your experience with others. Please include your name, organisation (if any) and postal address.

*Any correspondence should be addressed to :
 Ms. Rosette Farrugia-Bonello
 INIANET Newsletter Editor
 E-mail: rosette.bonello@inia.org.mt*

For your Diary: 2010

9th - 18th January: Short Training Programme in Social, Economic and Health Aspects of Ageing in collaboration with the Beijing Civil Affairs Bureau (BCAB), Malta.

15th-26th February: International Training Programme in Social Gerontology, Malta.

8th-19th March: International Training Programme in Economic and Financial Aspects on Ageing, Malta.

19th-30th April: International Training Programme in Medical Gerontology, Malta.

1st-9th May: Short Training Programme in Gerontology, in collaboration with the Social Welfare Centre, Ministry of Civil Affairs, China (SWC) and the Support and Nursing committee for the elderly (SNCE), Malta.

18th - 24th July: '*In-situ*' training programme in Social, Medical & Economic Issues of Ageing in collaboration with the Institute of Gerontology, University Putra Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia.

26th July - 3rd August: Eleventh '*in-situ*' training programme in Singapore for the ASEAN countries, in collaboration with Singapore Action Group of Elders (SAGE) and INIA / SAGE Satellite Centre (ISACA), Singapore.

October 2010-June 2011: International Post-Graduate Diploma in Gerontology and Geriatrics (P.G. Dip. Ger.) at the European Centre of Gerontology, University of Malta.

11th - 22nd October: International Training Programme in Policy Formulation, Planning, Implementation and Monitoring of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, (Malta).

24th - 30th October: Second '*in-situ*' training programme on Strategies for Population Ageing in collaboration with the Guongdong Research Centre on Public Affairs for the Elderly (GRCPAE), China.

1st - 7th November: '*In-situ*' training programme for officials from the Beijing Civil Affairs Bureau (BCAB), Jingmin Hotel, Beijing, China.

8th - 14th November: '*In-Situ*' training programme for officials from the Social Welfare Centre, Ministry of civil Affairs, China (SWC) and from the Support and Nursing Committee for the Elderly (SNCE), ZhongMin Plaza, Beijing, China.

29th November - 10th December: International Training Programme in Demographic Aspects of Population Ageing, Policies and Its Implications for Socio-Economic Policies and Plans, Malta.

