The WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities

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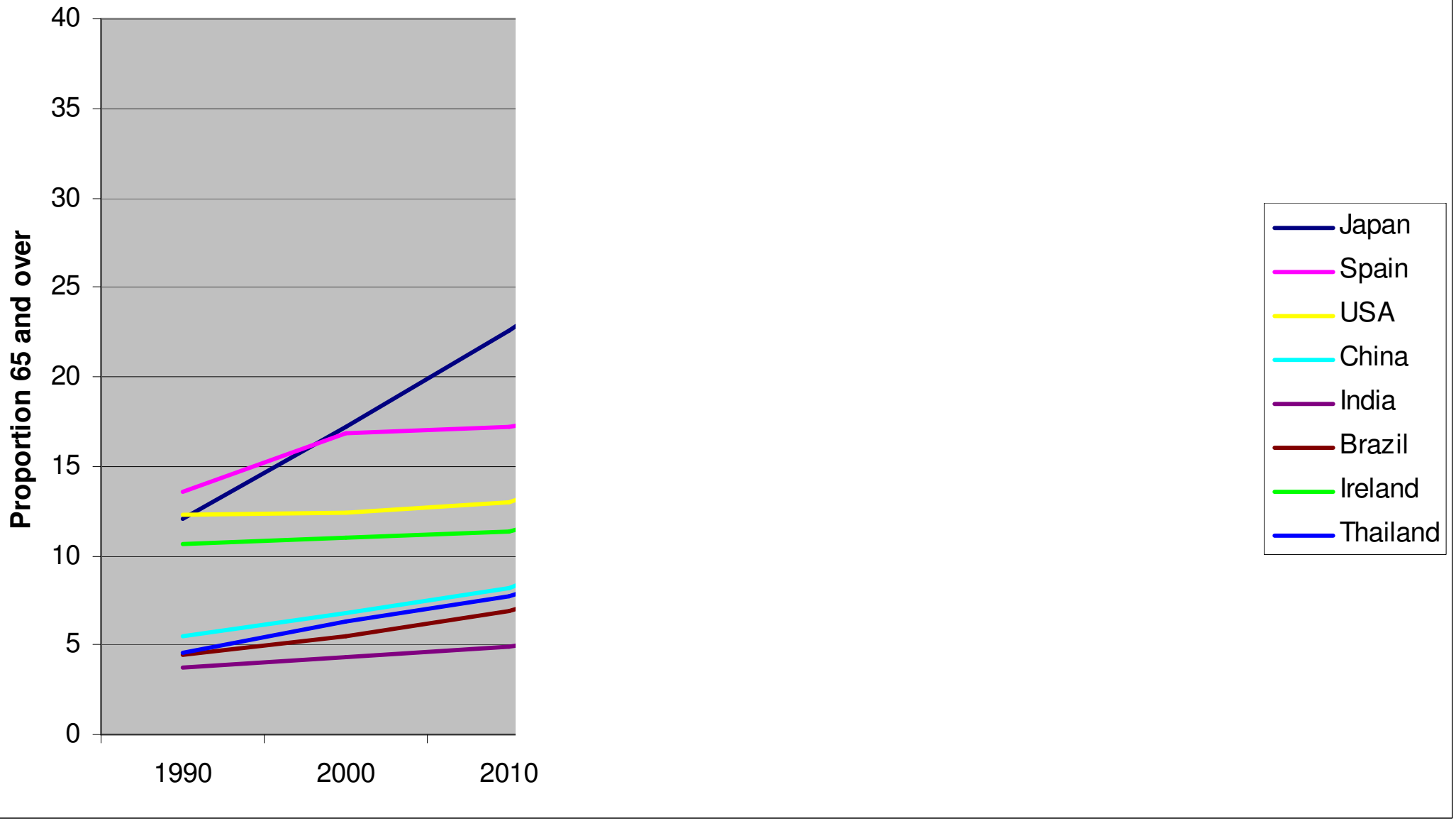
World Health Organization

Outline

- Background
- The WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities
- Future directions

Real ageing is just beginning

Source: World Population Prospects: 2008 Revision



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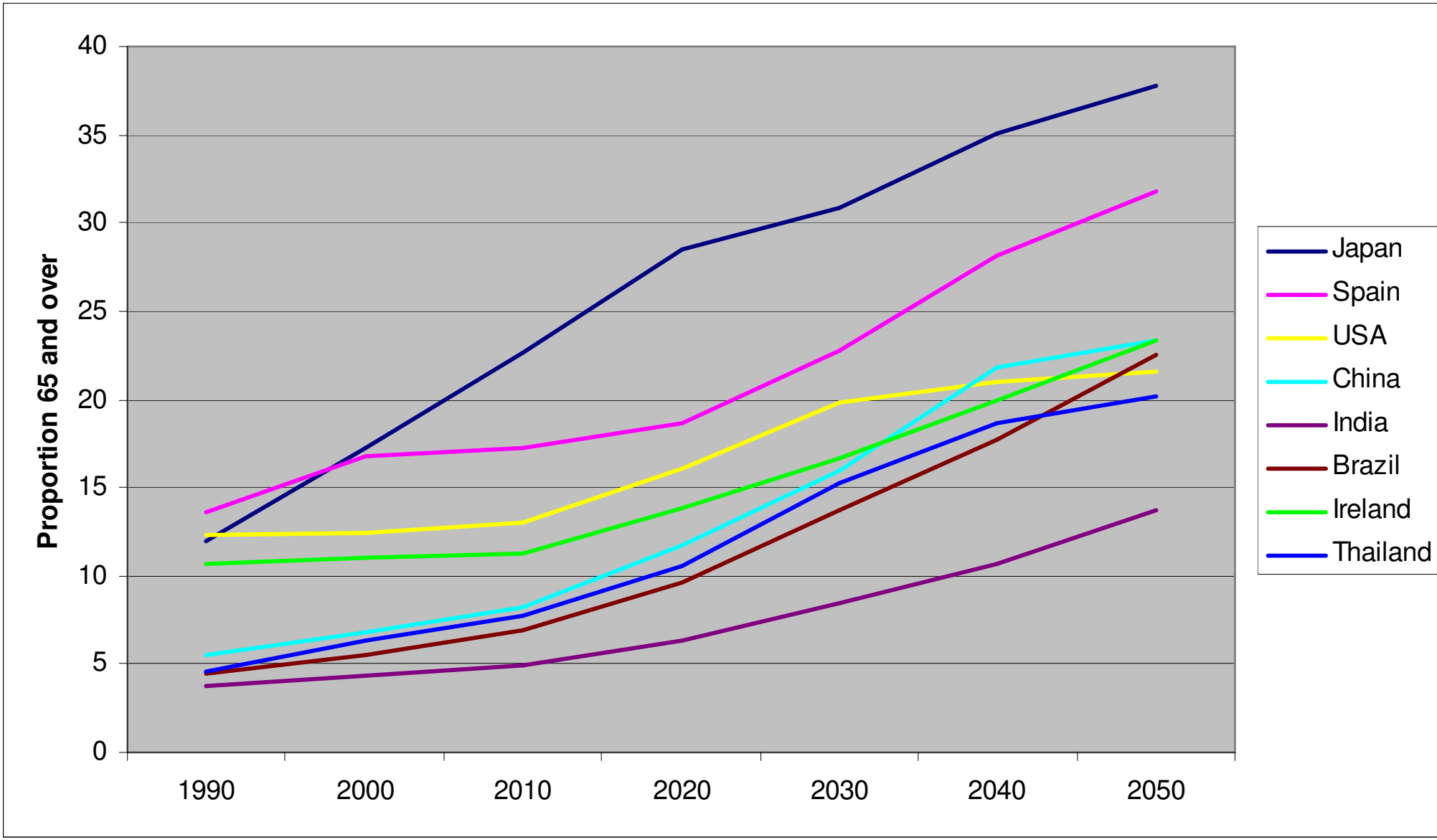
Real ageing is just beginning

Source: World Population Prospects: 2008 Revision



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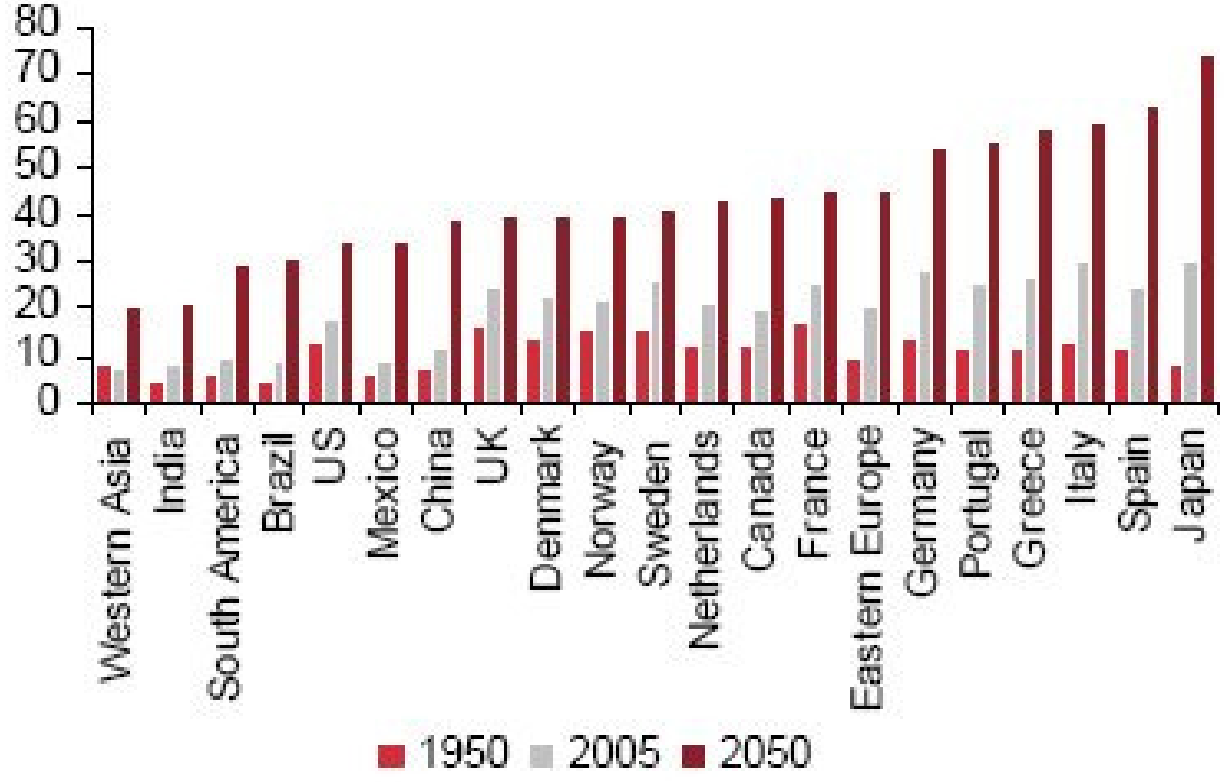
Seeing population ageing as a burden on society

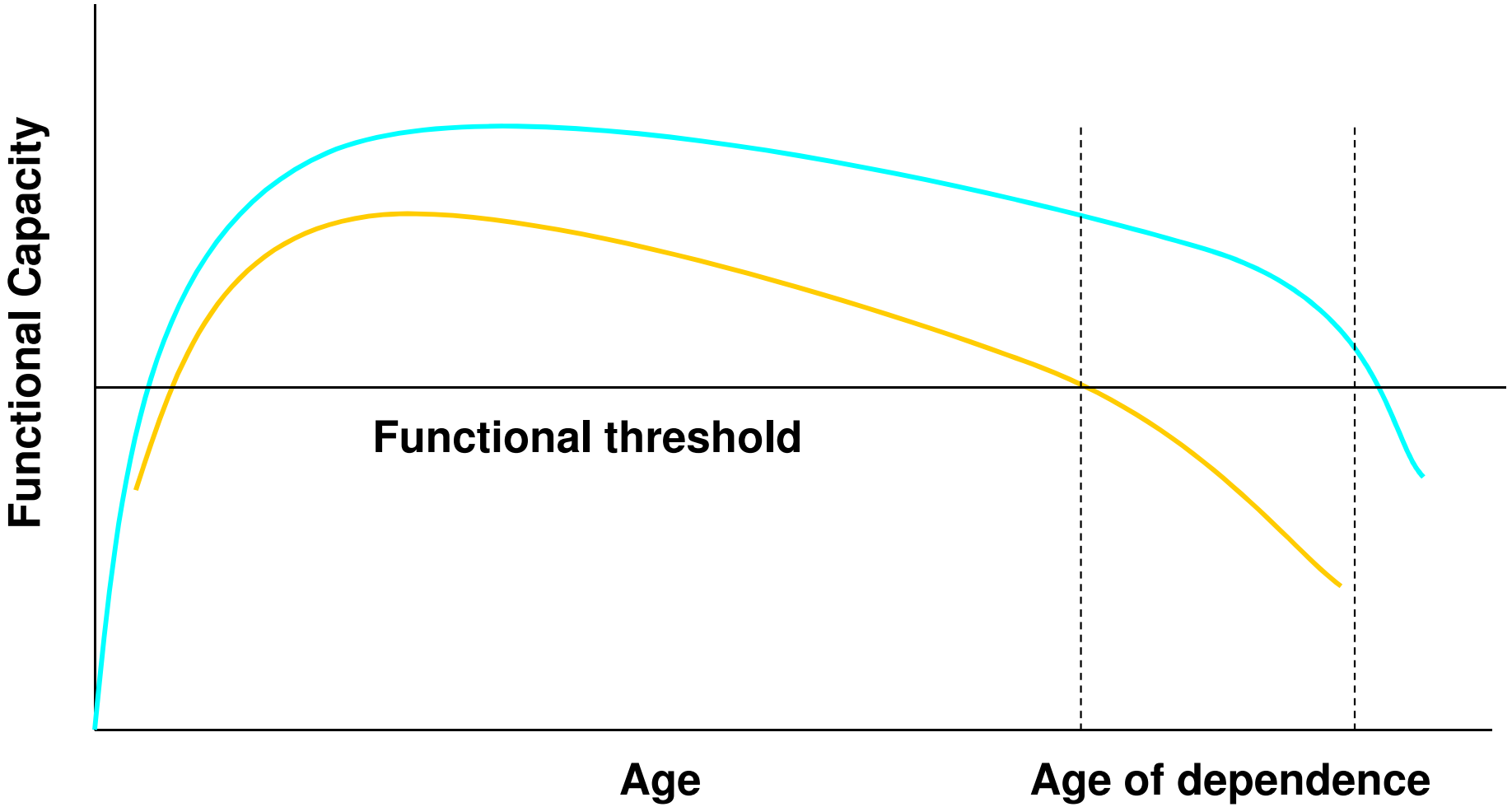
Figure 2. Old-age dependency ratio (number of people aged 65 and over per 100 persons of working age)



From burden to boon

- Health promotion across the life course – the importance of HEALTH
- Creating environments that foster engagement
- Access to age-friendly primary health care
  - Integrated
  - Screening, early detection and amelioration of chronic disease
  - Access to medications
  - Skilled and supported workforce
  - LONG TERM CARE (home and institutional)
- Rethinking ageing

Life Course Approach to Ageing



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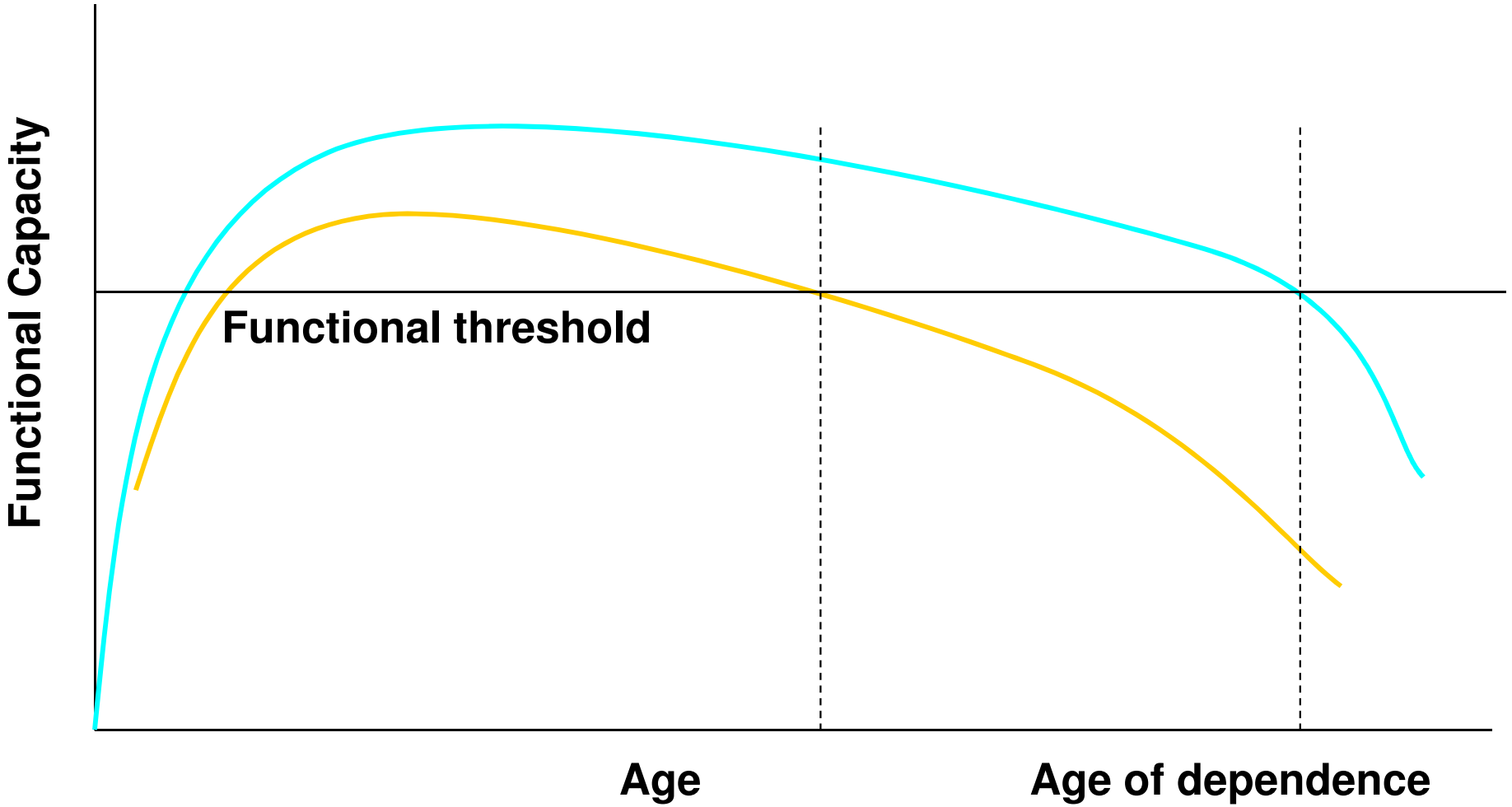
Life Course Approach to Ageing



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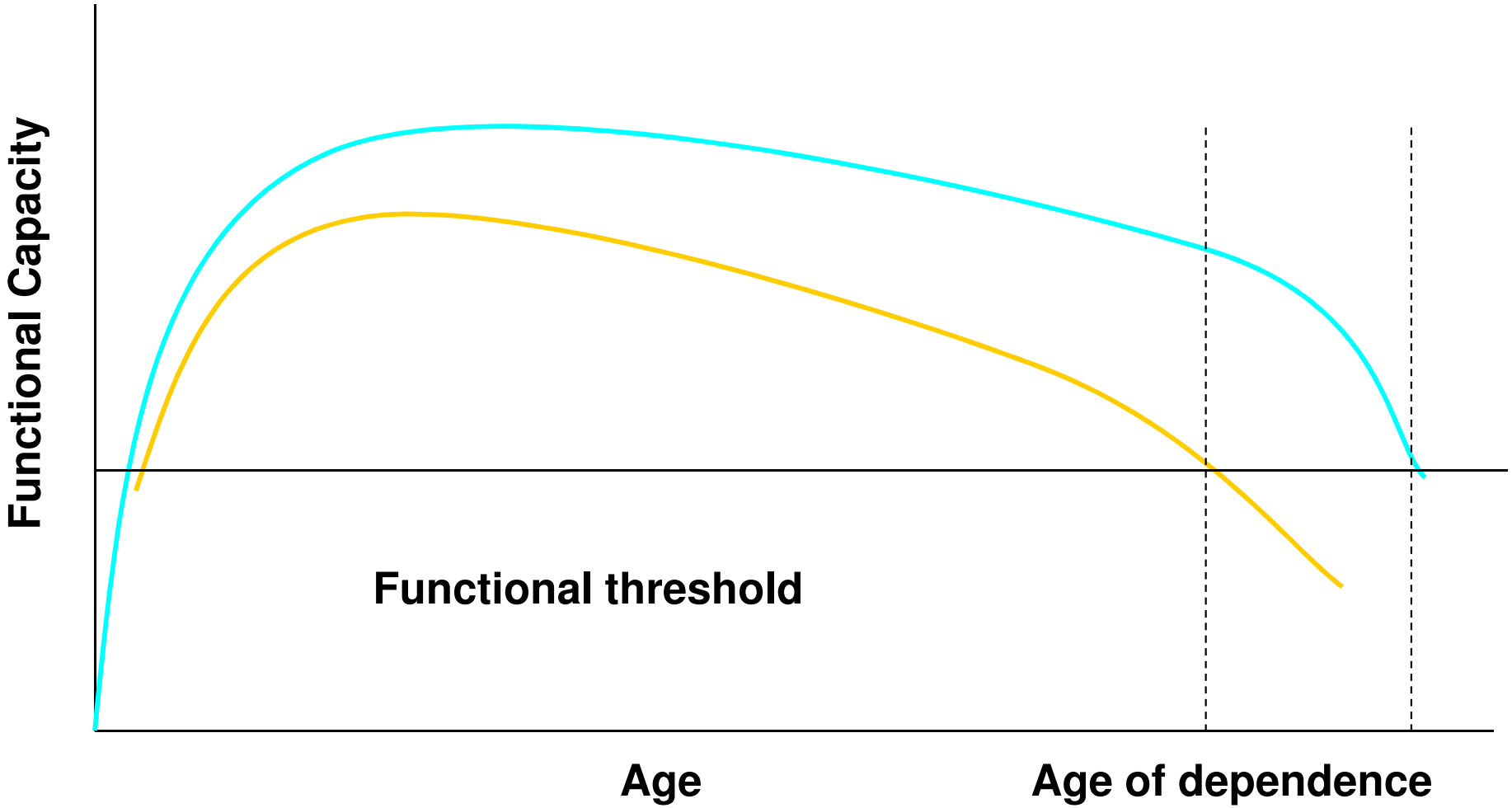
Life Course Approach to Ageing



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Age-Friendly Cities

Urban environments that promote active ageing

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Key Themes of an Age-friendly City

Outdoor space & buildings

Transportation

Communication & information

Housing

Respect & social inclusion

Social participation

Civic participation & employment

Community support & health services

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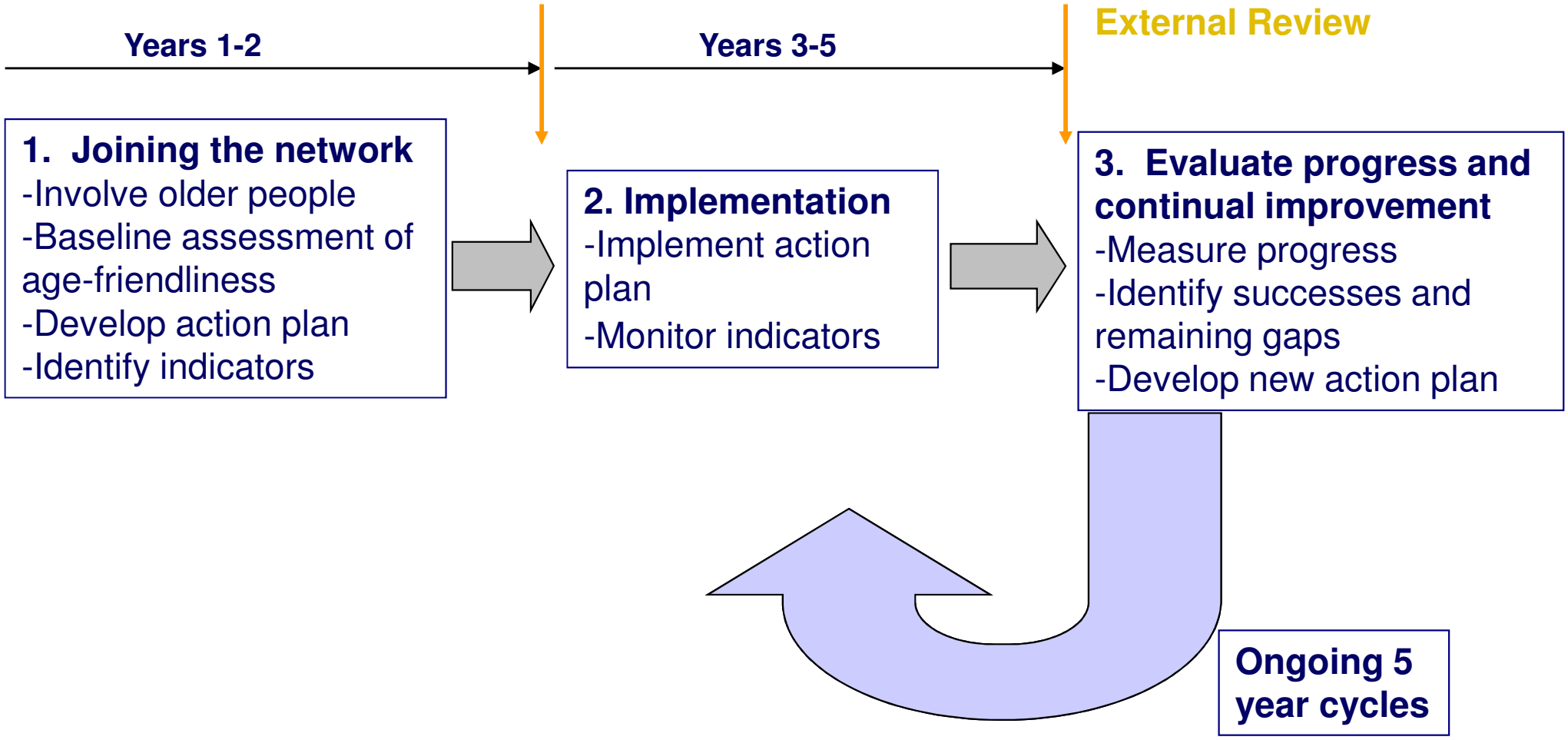
WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities



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Launch of the Global Network June 28 2010

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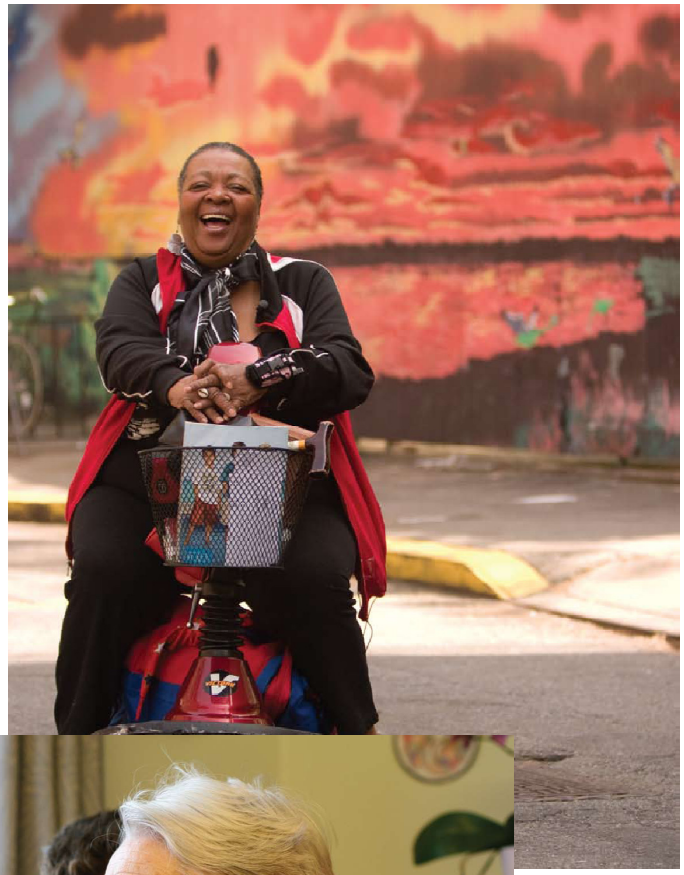
New York – a City for All Ages

http://www.agefriendlynyc.org



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Early Action Improvements Implemented July 2008

Seniors given more time to cross the major street at 26 of the 43 intersections

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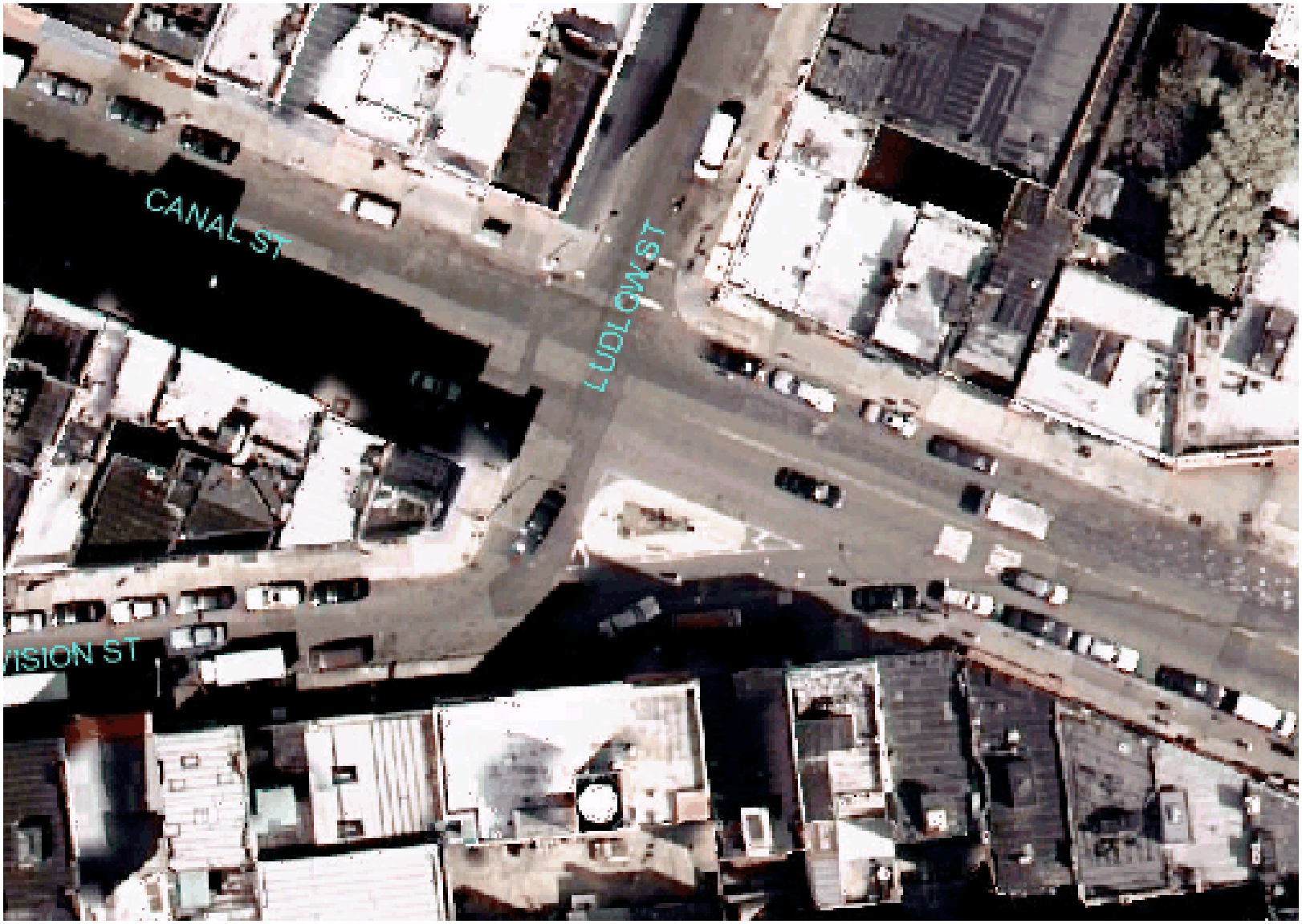
Streetscape 1



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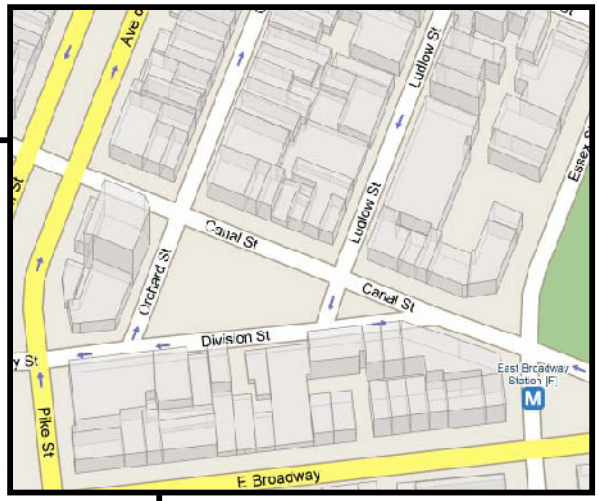

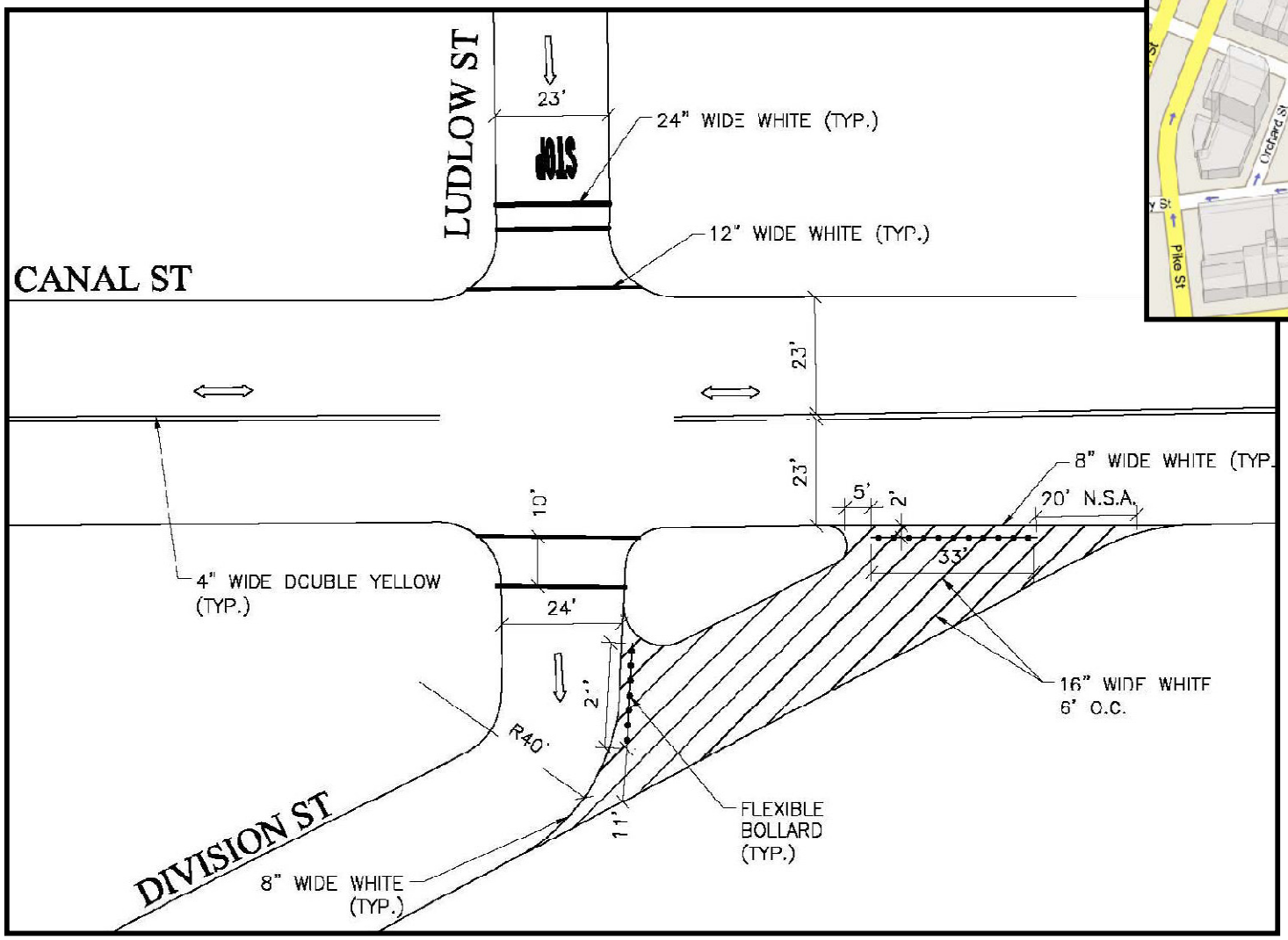

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Geneva – Public Spaces and Buildings

- Increase benches in streets and parks

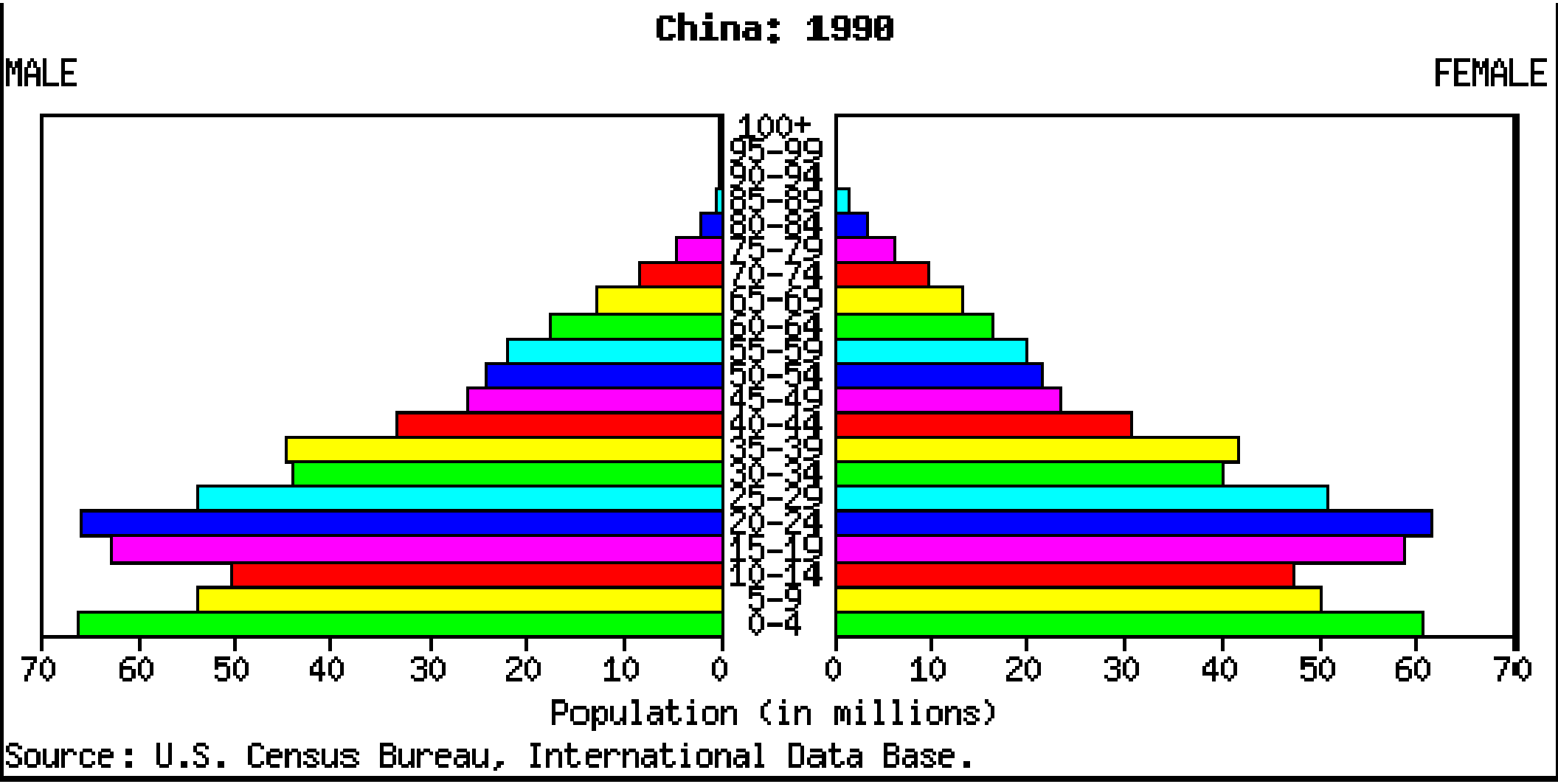
- Make street crossings safer and increase crossing times
- Improve footpaths and lighting

Age-friendly Geneva – Public Spaces and Buildings

- Increase benches in streets and parks
  - New benches 165
  - Benches replaced or repaired 232
- Make street crossings safer and increase crossing times
- Improve footpaths and lighting
  - Enlarged 27
  - Renovated 24
  - Other improvements 90
  - New lighting 26

Network activities

- SharePoint
- engAGE WHO
- Planned Conferences
  - Dublin
  - Singapore
- Twinning
- Best Practices
- Languages



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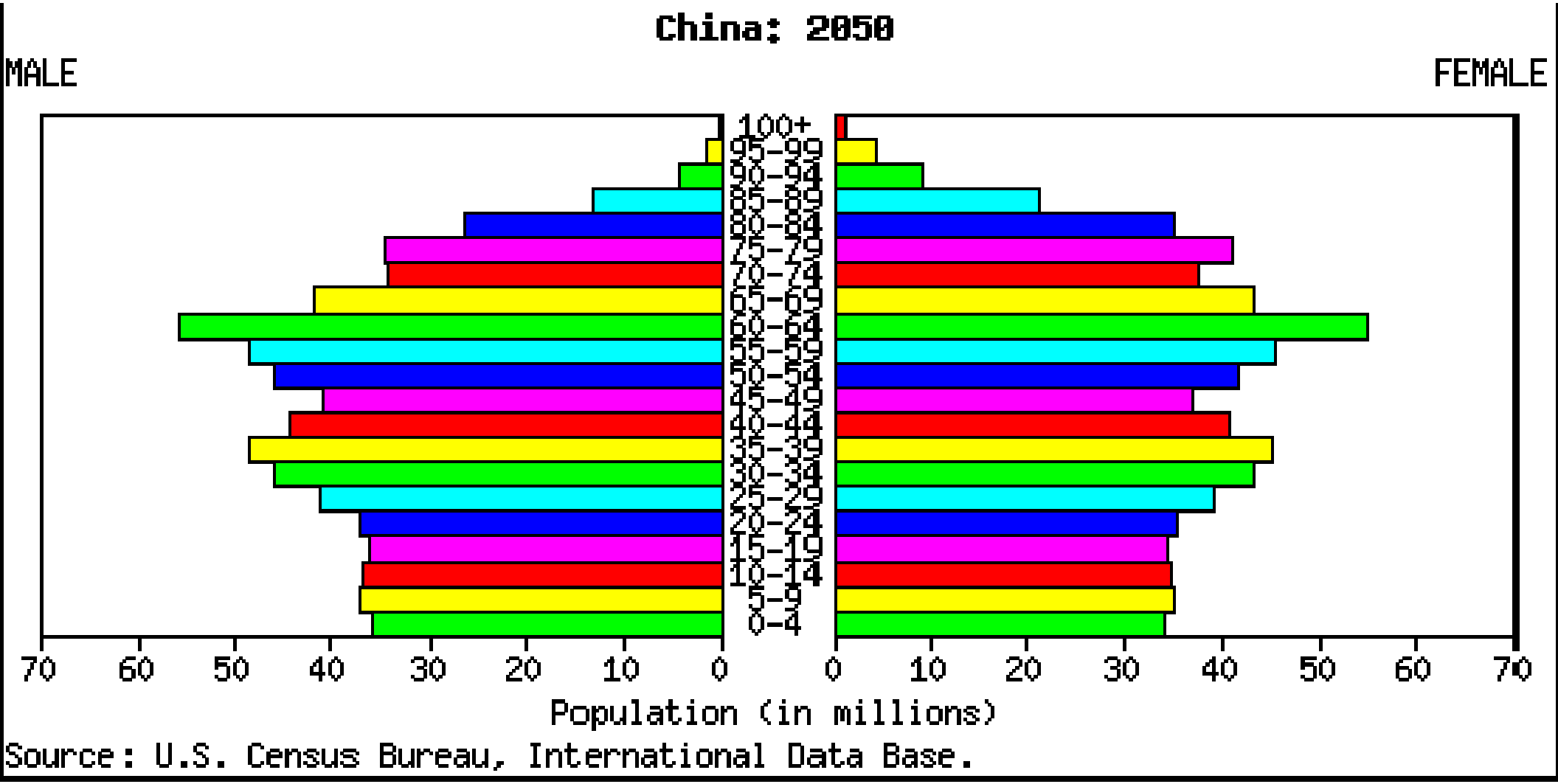

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