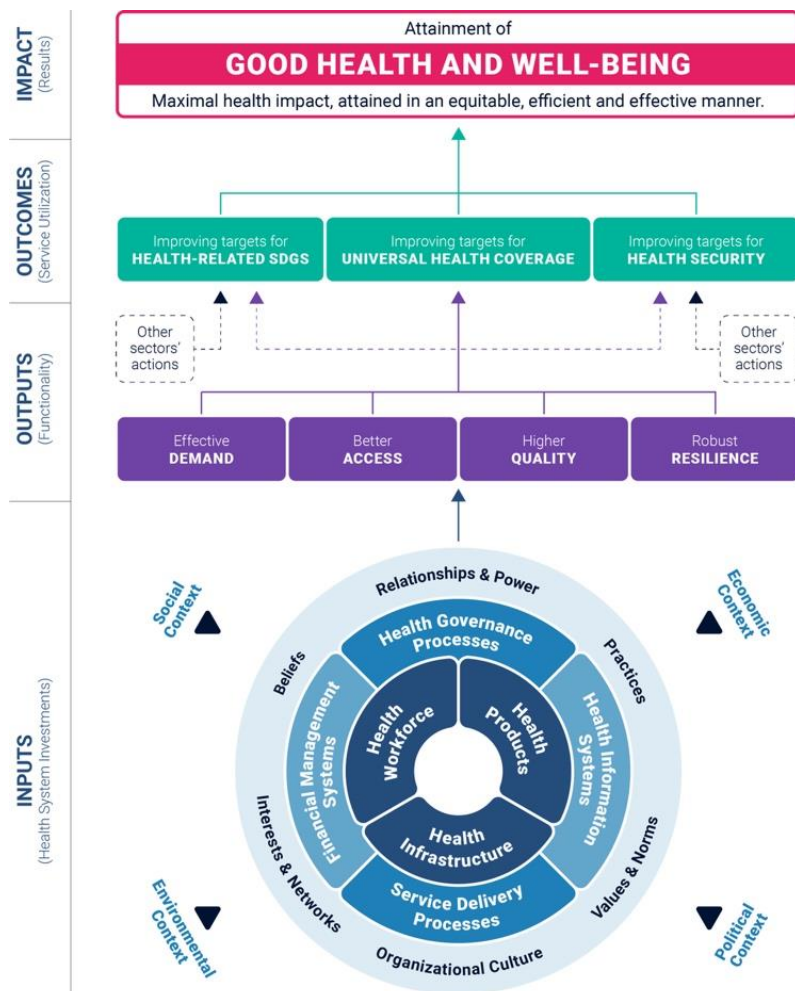




People are living longer, but are they living healthier?

Life Expectancy represents the overall measure of SDG 3 goal progress. Its value represents the totality of all actions aimed at improving health and wellbeing for all at all ages.



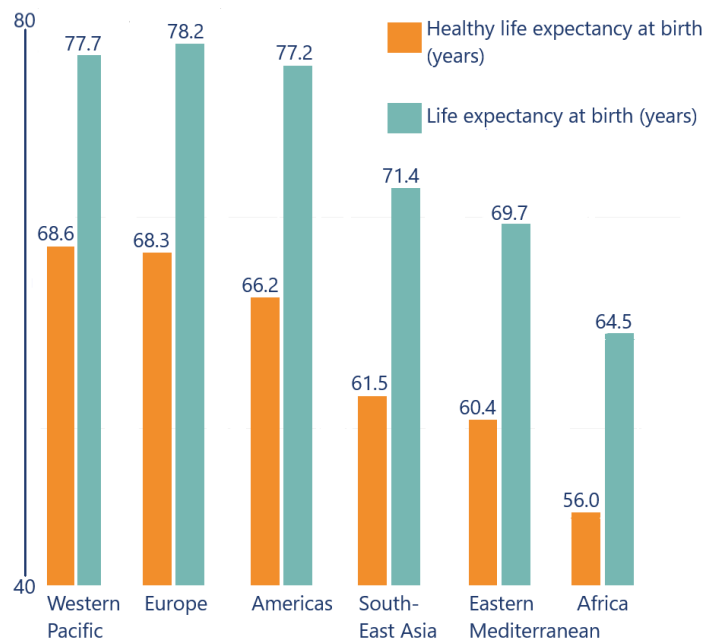
Quick Facts

- In the African region, in 2019, the average life expectancy was **64.5 years** and the average HALE was **56 years**.
- In the African region, people expect to be spent in average **8.5 years** in poor health due to illness and/or injury along their lives.
- Women live **4.2 years** longer than men (66.6 to 62.4 years), on average, and enjoy good health for almost **2 years** longer than men (57.1 to 55 years) in the African region, in 2019.

1. Global picture (by WHO regions)

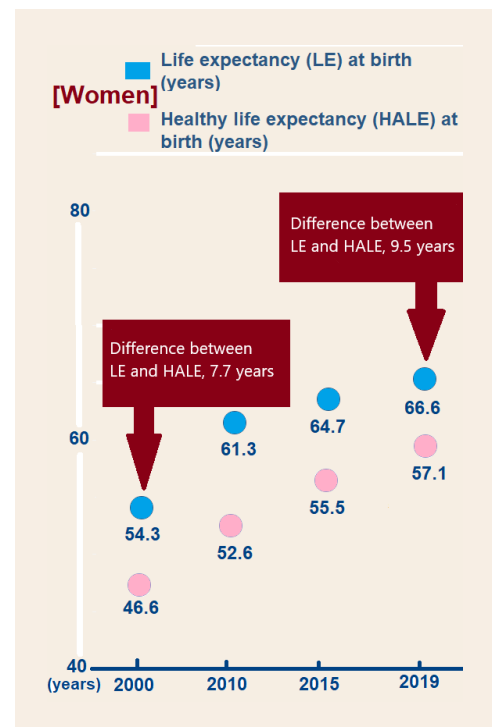
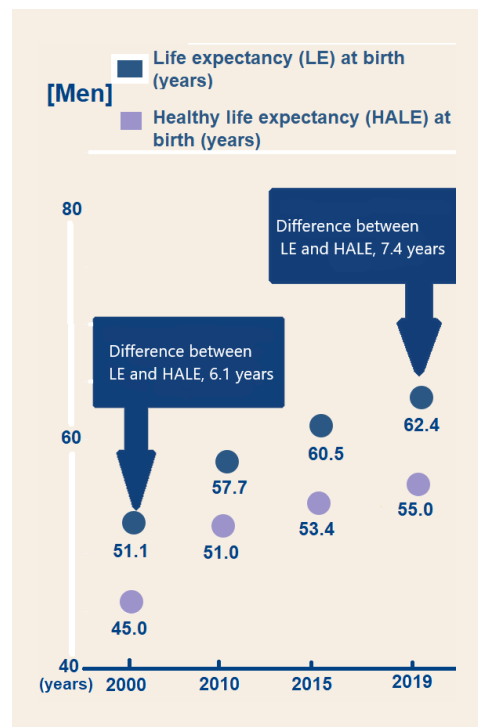
HALE and LE, by regions, 2019 (at birth in years)

- In all world regions, in 2019, HALE at birth is between **8.5 and 11 years** shorter than LE at birth.
- The gap between LE and HALE in the African region was about **8.5 years in 2019**.
- For men, the difference between LE and HALE was about **7.4 years in 2019** in the African region.
- For women, the difference between LE and HALE was about **9.5 years in 2019** in the African region.



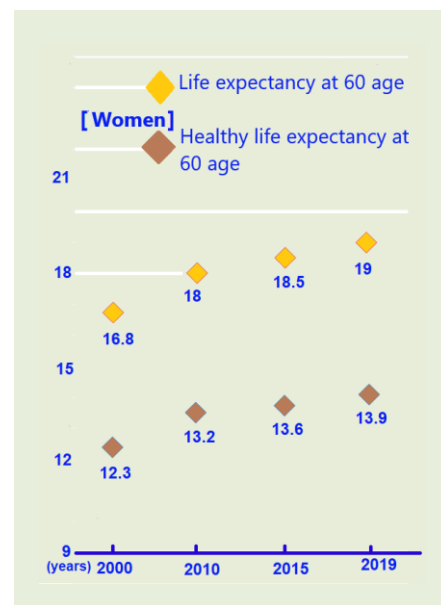
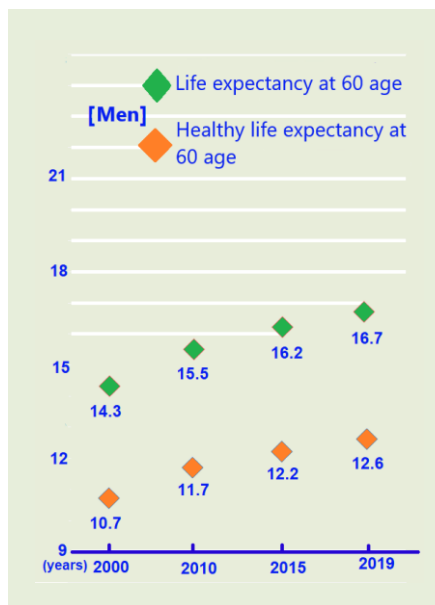
Trends in Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy in the WHO African Region, 2000–2019

- Between 2000 and 2019, HALE have increased about **10 years** for men.
- HALE increased also about **10.5 years** for women.
- **Men and women in the WHO African Region are living longer but less healthy lives on average**



Trends in Life Expectancy at 60 age and Healthy Life Expectancy at age 60 in the WHO African region, 2000–2019

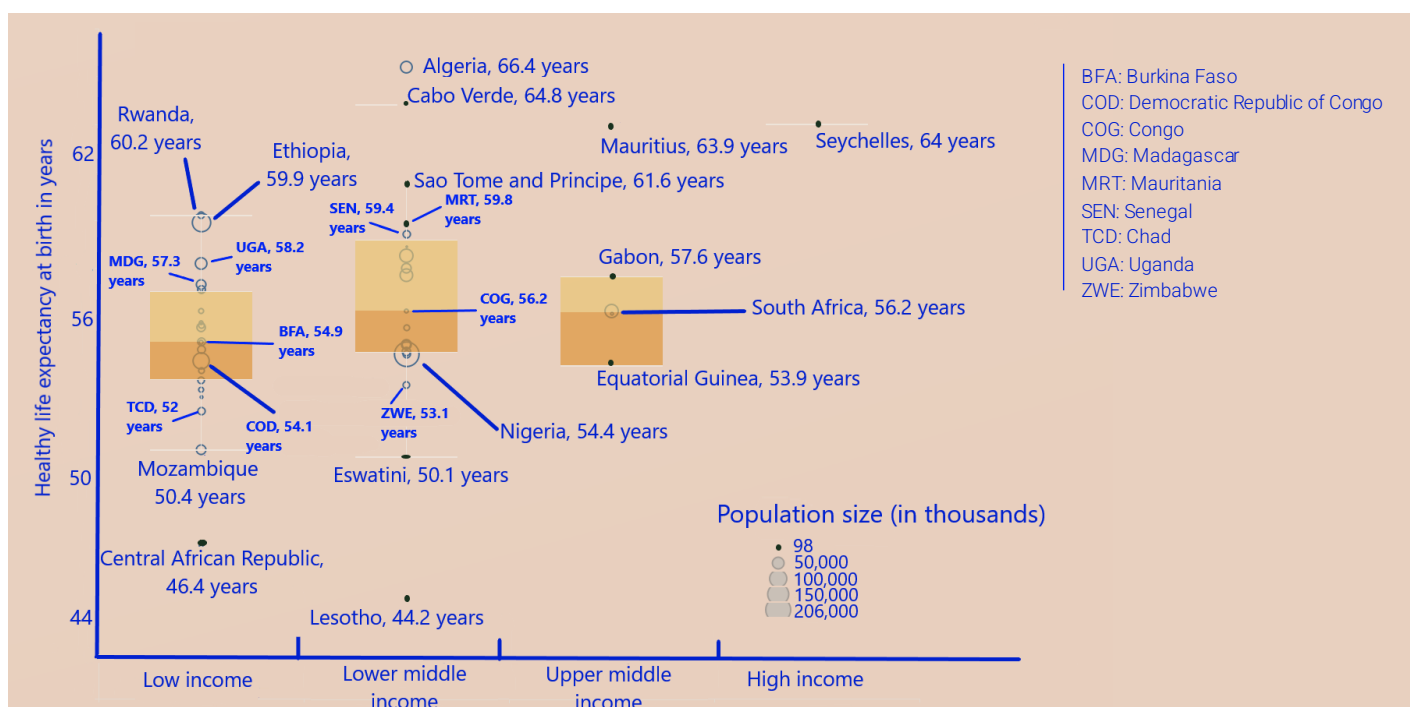
- Between 2000 and 2019, Healthy life expectancy at 60 age (HALE60) have increased by about **1.9 years for men and 1.6 years for women**



2. Comparing levels of Healthy Life with income in the WHO African Region

HALE (2019), World Bank income group classification (2021) and Population size (2020)

- In 2019, in the African Region, among low-income countries, the median HALE was about 54.9 years (Burkina Faso).
- In lower and upper middle-income countries, the median HALE was about 56.2 years (Congo and South Africa).



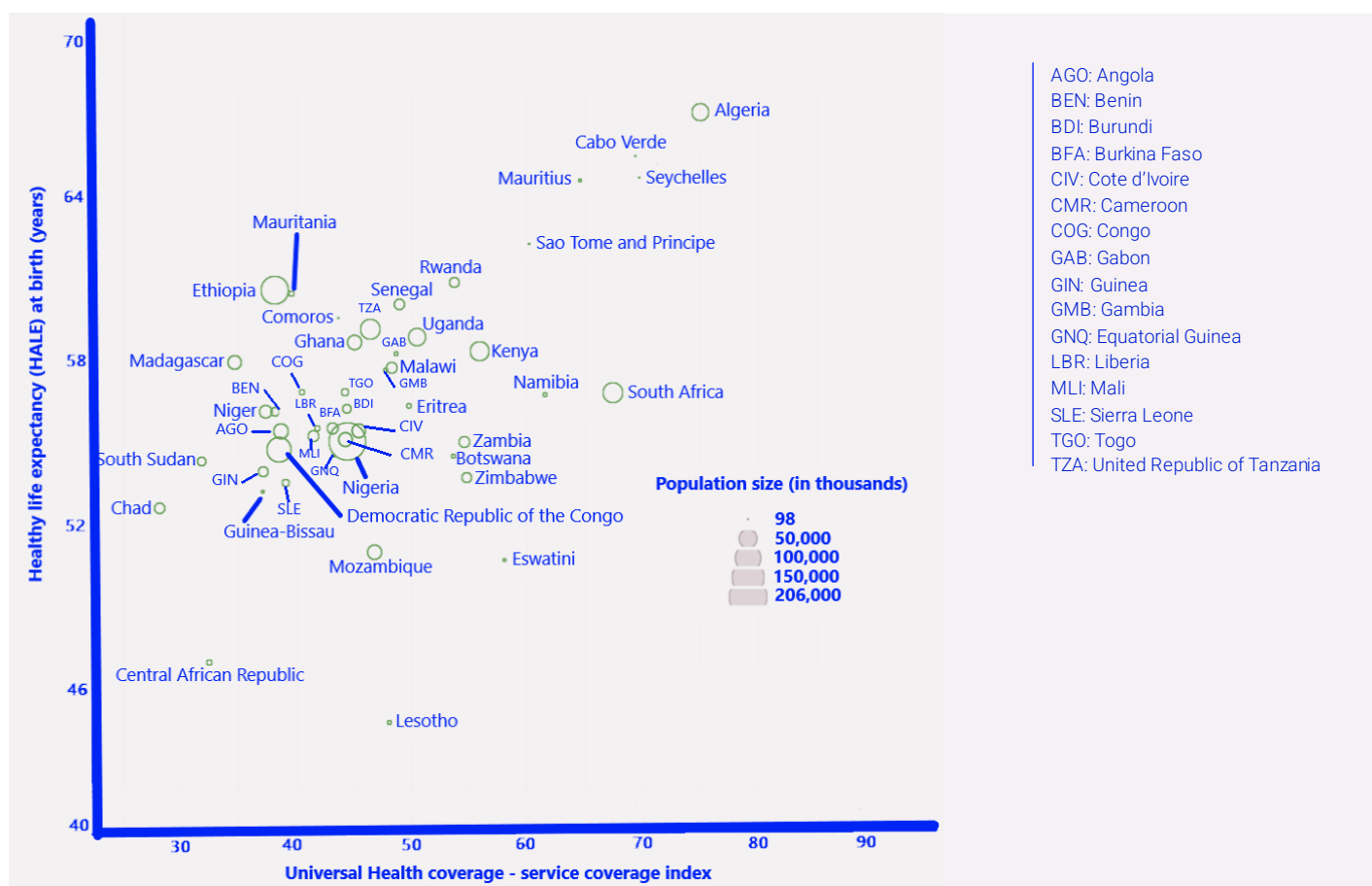
3. Comparing levels of Healthy Life and UHC Service Coverage in the WHO African Region

Healthy life expectancy at birth ranking

- In 2019, after Algeria, the **4 countries in the African Region where people expected to live the longest in good health were islands** (Cabo Verde, Seychelles, Mauritius and Sao Tome and Principe).
- Nigeria, which was the most populous country in the African Region, was ranked 34th in HALE (54.4 years)** followed by the Democratic Republic of Congo (54.1 years).
- In 2019, African countries with the highest healthy life expectancies had high UHC indices.
- Chad with the smallest UHC-SCI (28.1) in the African Region in 2019 had a HALE of about 52 years.

1. Algeria, 66.4
2. Cabo Verde, 64.8
3. Seychelles, 64
4. Mauritius, 63.9
5. Sao Tome and Principe, 61.6
6. Rwanda, 60.2
7. Ethiopia, 59.9
•
11. United Republic of Tanzania, 58.5
•
19. South Africa, 56.2
•
34. Nigeria, 54.4
35. Democratic Republic of Congo, 54.1
•
45. Eswatini, 50.1
46. Central African Republic, 46.4
47. Lesotho, 44.2

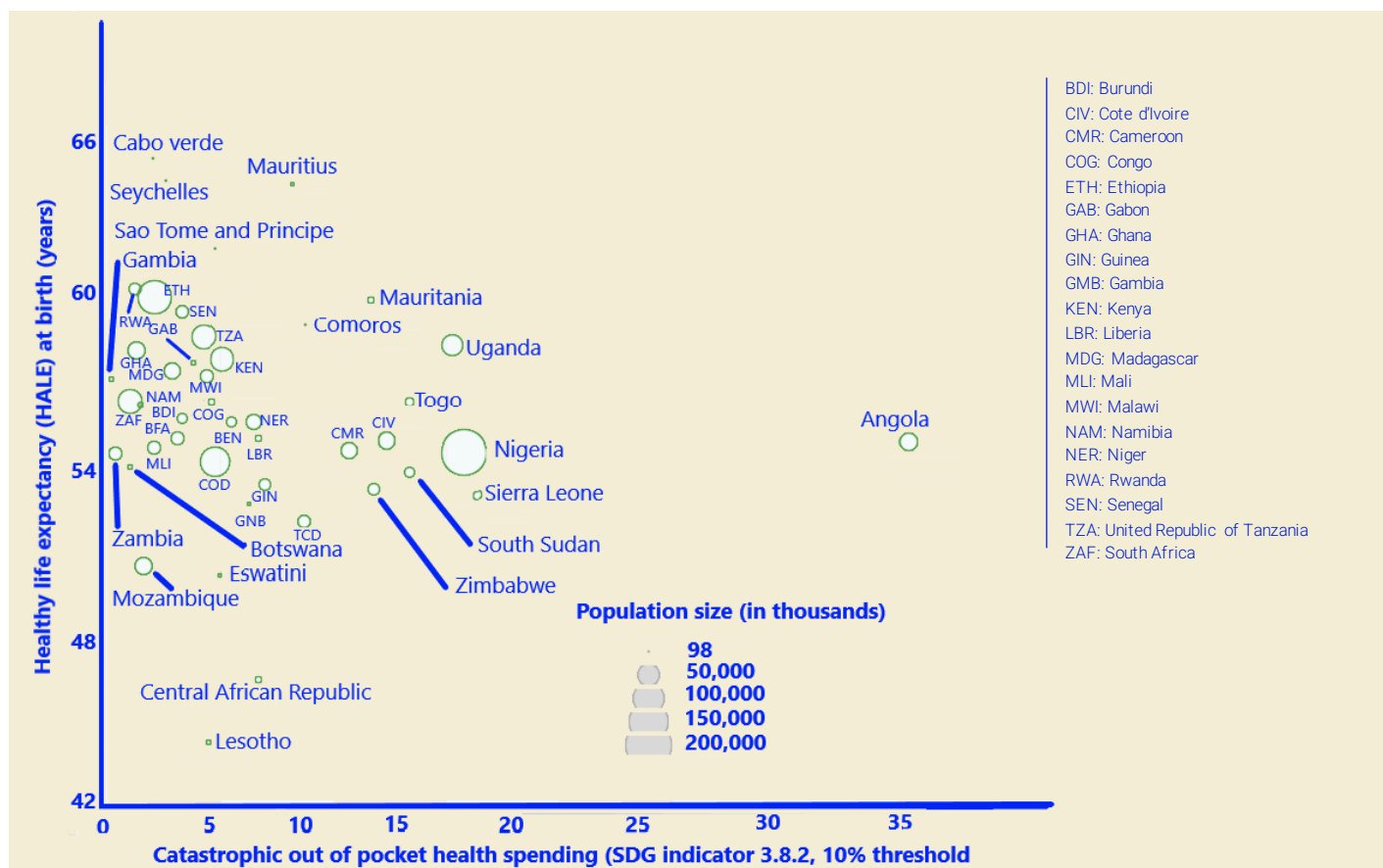
HALE (2019), UHC-SCI (2019) and Population size (2020)



4. Comparing levels of Healthy Life and catastrophic out of pocket health spending

HALE (2019), SDG indicator 3.8.2, 10% threshold (latest) and Population size (2020)

- In 2019, in Angola (HALE: 54.8 years), according to the latest estimates, **around 35% of its population spent more than 10%** of their household income on health care.
- In Gambia (HALE: 57 years) and Zambia (HALE: 54.4 years) around respectively 0.2% and 0.3% of their population had catastrophic out of pocket health spending.



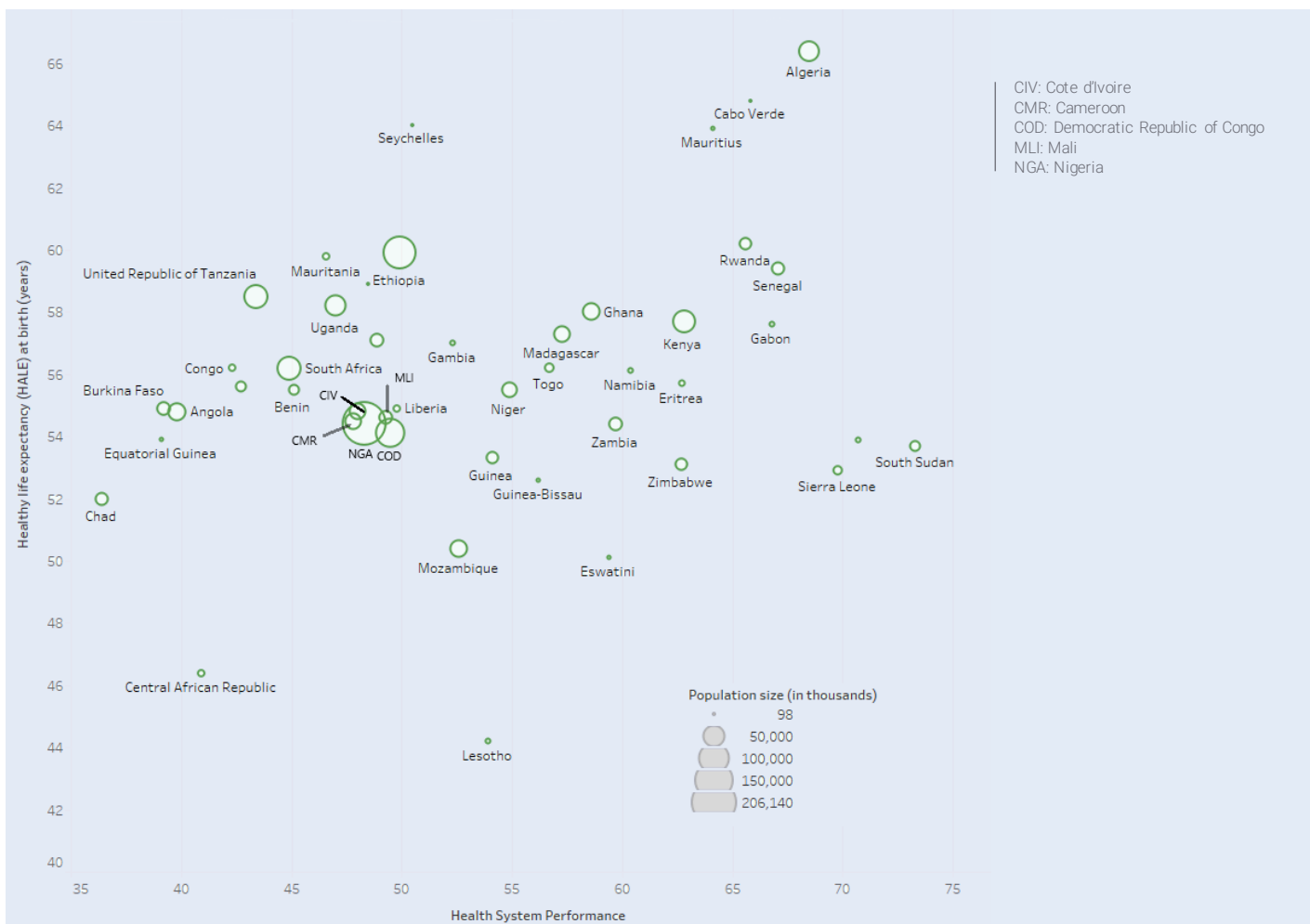
5. African countries: HALE change over time (2010–2019)

- Between 2010 and 2019, HALE in the African region saw tremendous improvements in countries like **Eswatini (+8.7 years)**, **Zimbabwe (+7.9 years)** and **Malawi (+7.5 years)**
- On the other hand, **HALE remained intact between 2010 and 2019 in Seychelles (69 years)**.
- HALE increased slightly in Cabo Verde (+0.3 years), Mauritius (+0.5 years) and Algeria (+0.9 years).
- Regarding HALE60, there was a **reduction in Cabo Verde between 2010 and 2019 (-1.6 years)**.
- In the rest of the African Region, notable increases in HALE60 were recorded in **South Africa (+1.6 years)**, Eswatini (+1.3 years) and Cote d'Ivoire (+1.1 years) in the same period.

6. Comparing levels of Healthy Life and Health system performance in the WHO African Region

HALE (2019) and Health System performance

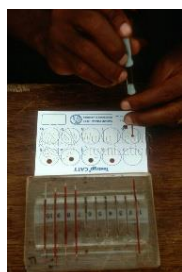
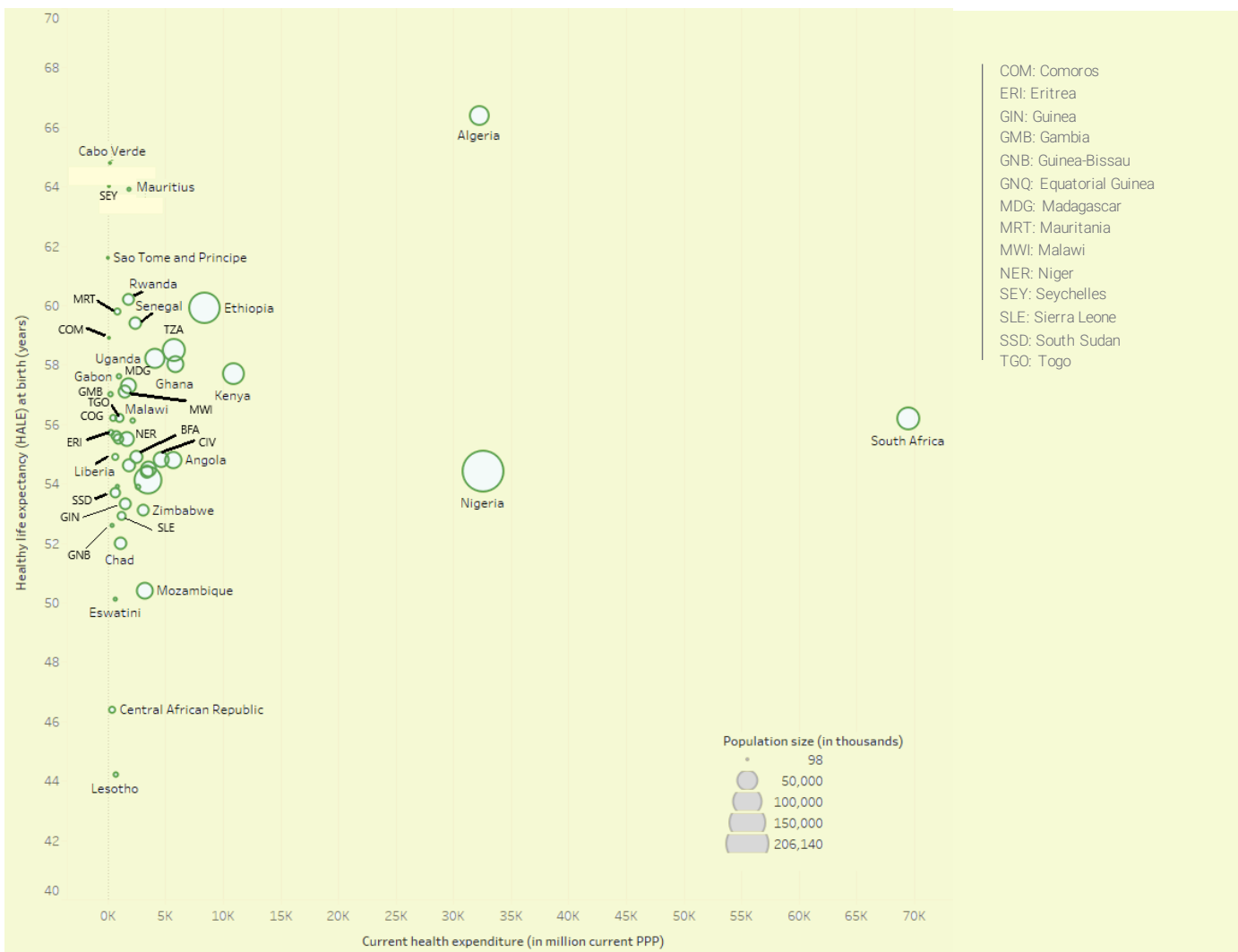
- South Sudan (HALE: 53.7 years) had the highest Health system performance index (73.3) in the African region in 2019.
- Chad (HALE: 52 years) had the lowest Health system performance index (36.4).



7. Comparing levels of Healthy Life and Current health expenditure in the WHO African Region

HALE (2019) and Current health expenditure (2019)

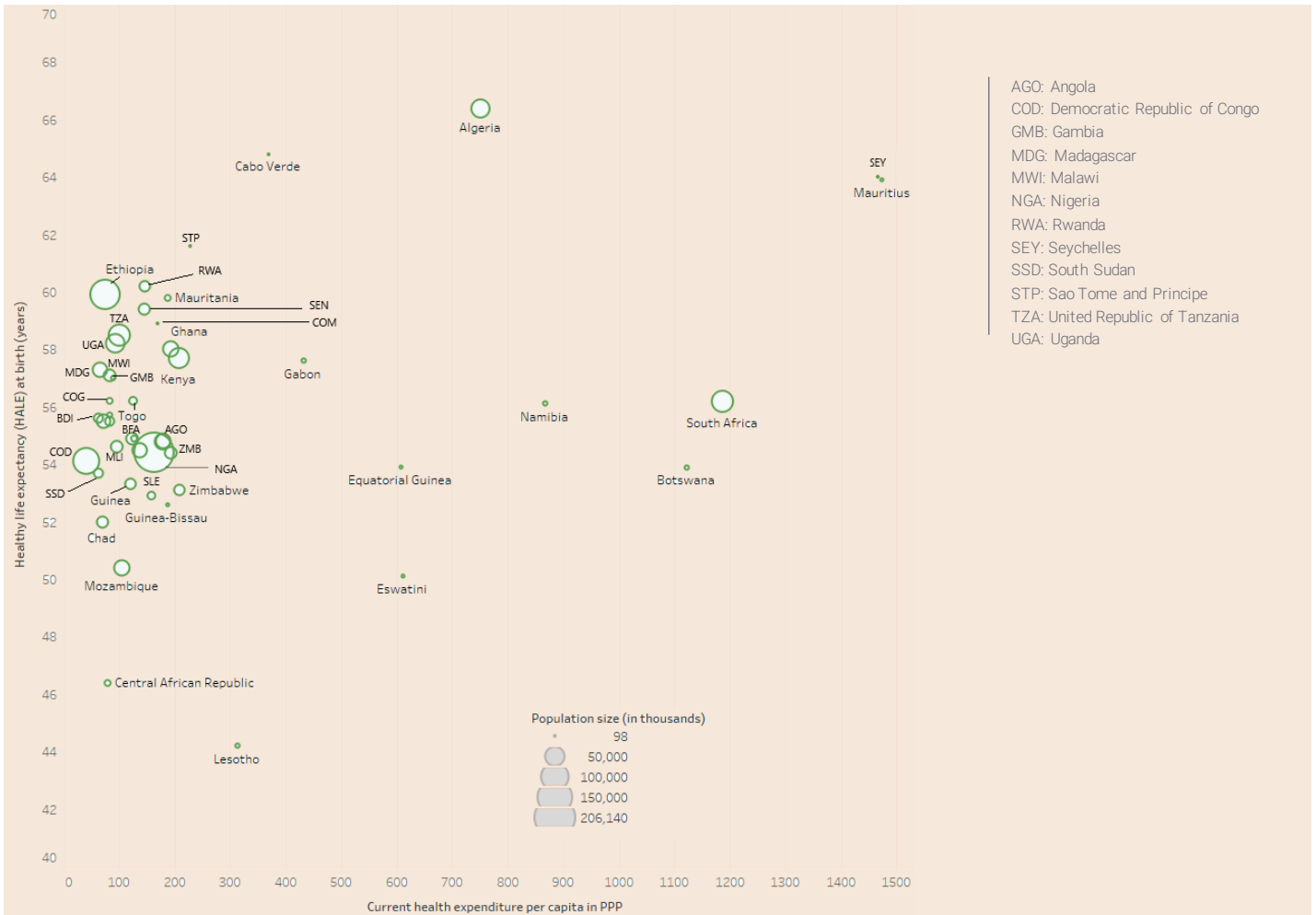
- In 2019, South Africa (HALE: 56.2 years) had the highest current health expenditure (around 69.5 billion us dollar in PPP).
- Sao Tome and Principe (HALE: 61.6 years) had the lowest current health expenditure (around 49 million us)
- Nigeria (HALE: 54.4 years) and Algeria (HALE: 66.4 years) each spent approximately \$32 billion on current health expenditures.



8. Comparing levels of Healthy Life and Current health expenditure per capita in the WHO African Region

HALE (2019) and Current health expenditure per capita (2019)

- In 2019, Mauritius (HALE: 63.9 years) and Seychelles (HALE: 64 years) had the highest current health expenditure per capita (1476 and 1469 us dollar respectively).
- Democratic Republic of Congo (HALE: 54.1 years) had the lowest current health expenditure per capita (41 us dollar).



Status of indicators life expectancy at birth, life expectancy at 60 years, healthy life expectancy and healthy life expectancy at 60 years for countries in the WHO African Region, 2019

	Life expectancy at birth (years)			Life expectancy at age 60 (years)			Healthy life expectancy (HALE) at birth (years)			Healthy life expectancy (HALE) at age 60 (years)		
	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male
Africa	64.5	66.6	62.4	17.9	19	16.7	56	57.1	55	13.3	13.9	12.6
Algeria	77.1	78.1	76.2	22	22.6	21.5	66.4	66.1	66.7	16	16.2	15.9
Angola	63.1	65.5	60.7	17	18.6	15.4	54.8	56.2	53.6	12.6	13.7	11.6
Benin	63.4	65.7	61.2	17.4	18.5	16.1	55.5	56.6	54.5	13	13.7	12.3
Botswana	62.2	65.5	58.9	16.2	18	14.2	53.9	55.8	51.9	11.8	13.1	10.3
Burkina Faso	62.7	65.2	60.1	16.8	18.1	15.2	54.9	56.3	53.4	12.6	13.4	11.6
Burundi	63.8	66.1	61.5	16.5	17.6	15.2	55.6	57.2	54	12.7	13.5	11.8
Côte d'Ivoire	62.9	65.8	60.5	17.1	18.7	15.8	54.8	56.5	53.4	12.7	13.7	11.9
Cabo Verde	74	77.9	69.9	19.7	21.8	16.8	64.8	67.2	62.2	14.9	16.3	13
Cameroon	62.4	64.5	60.3	17.1	18.3	15.8	54.5	55.6	53.5	12.8	13.5	12
Central African Republic	53.1	56.3	50.2	13.2	14.9	11.3	46.4	48.4	44.5	10	11.1	8.6
Chad	59.6	61.3	58	16.5	17.3	15.7	52	52.8	51.3	12.3	12.7	11.8
Comoros	67.4	68.9	65.9	18.1	18.8	17.4	58.9	59.6	58.3	13.7	14.1	13.2
Congo	64.7	65.6	63.8	16.4	17.1	15.7	56.2	56.1	56.4	12.2	12.5	11.9
Democratic Republic of the Congo	62.4	64.8	60	16.6	17.9	15.4	54.1	55.4	52.8	12.5	13.4	11.7
Equatorial Guinea	62.2	63.6	60.9	17.6	18.8	16.5	53.9	54.1	53.4	12.9	13.6	12.3
Eritrea	64.1	67.1	61.3	15.5	16.8	14.1	55.7	57.7	53.9	11.4	12.4	10.4
Eswatini	57.7	63.2	53.4	15.1	17.7	12.4	50.1	53.8	47.1	11	12.9	9
Ethiopia	68.7	70.5	66.9	18.4	19.4	17.4	59.9	60.8	59	13.9	14.4	13.3
Gabon	66.5	69.7	63.6	17.2	19.3	15.2	57.6	59.3	56	12.8	14.2	11.4
Gambia	65.5	67.7	63.4	16.9	18	15.8	57	57.7	56.4	12.6	13.2	12.1
Ghana	66.3	69.2	63.7	17.2	18.9	15.7	58	59.6	56.5	12.9	14	11.9
Guinea	61	62.3	59.5	16.5	17.2	15.6	53.3	53.7	52.9	12.3	12.6	11.8
Guinea-Bissau	60.2	63	57.4	15.5	16.7	13.9	52.6	54.1	51.1	11.4	12.1	10.5
Kenya	66.1	68.4	63.7	17.6	19.1	16	57.7	58.9	56.4	13.1	14	11.9
Lesotho	50.7	54.2	47.7	13.4	15.2	11.2	44.2	46.4	42.3	9.8	11	8.3
Liberia	64.1	65	63.2	17.7	18	17.4	54.9	55	54.9	12.9	12.9	12.8
Madagascar	65.3	66.6	64.1	16.8	17.3	16.1	57.3	57.7	56.9	12.6	12.9	12.3
Malawi	65.6	68.9	62.3	17.2	19	15.1	57.1	59	55.1	12.8	14	11.3
Mali	62.8	63.4	62.2	17.5	17.6	17.3	54.6	54.5	54.8	12.8	12.7	12.9
Mauritania	68.4	68.7	68.1	19	18.9	19.1	59.8	59.4	60.2	14.3	14.1	14.6
Mauritius	74.1	77.3	71	20.3	22	18.5	63.9	65.9	62	14.5	15.6	13.3
Mozambique	58.1	61.7	54.5	15.8	17.8	13.3	50.4	52.8	47.9	11.6	13	9.8
Namibia	64.6	68.4	60.6	17.2	19.3	14.7	56.1	58.6	53.4	12.7	14.2	10.8
Niger	63.3	64.6	62.1	17.2	17.8	16.6	55.5	55.8	55.3	13	13.3	12.7
Nigeria	62.6	64.1	61.2	18.2	18.9	17.6	54.4	54.9	53.9	13.5	13.8	13.3
Rwanda	69.1	71.2	66.9	18	19.2	16.6	60.2	61.4	59	13.6	14.4	12.7
Sao Tome and Principe	70.4	72	68.8	17.7	18.6	16.7	61.6	62.2	60.9	13.1	13.7	12.6
Senegal	68.6	70.1	66.8	18.1	18.9	17.2	59.4	59.9	58.8	13.1	13.5	12.6
Seychelles	73.3	77.1	70	19.5	21.5	17.5	64	66.4	61.9	14.1	15.4	12.7
Sierra Leone	60.8	61.9	59.6	17	17.4	16.4	52.9	53.3	52.5	12.6	12.8	12.4
South Africa	65.3	68.3	62.2	19.1	20.5	17.3	56.2	57.7	54.6	13.9	14.8	12.7
South Sudan	62.8	64.8	60.8	17.8	18.9	16.6	53.7	54.5	52.9	12.7	13.1	12.2
Togo	64.3	67.2	61.5	17	18.6	15.4	56.2	57.8	54.7	12.8	13.8	11.8
Uganda	66.7	70.1	63.2	17.7	19.4	15.7	58.2	60.4	56	13.4	14.6	12
United Republic of Tanzania	67.3	69.3	65.4	18.2	19.1	17.1	58.5	59.3	57.6	13.4	13.9	12.7
Zambia	62.5	65.4	59.5	16.5	18	14.7	54.4	56.3	52.5	12.6	13.7	11.3
Zimbabwe	60.7	63.6	57.5	15.6	17	13.6	53.1	54.8	51.2	11.5	12.4	10.2

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Sources

- Data on life expectancy and healthy life expectancy come from World Health Organization ([Integrated African Health Observatory](#)).
- Data on country national income level come from the World Bank's country classifications by income level.
- Production of this factsheet was supported by the Integrated African Health Observatory team.
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